National Survey of The Republic of Maldives

November-December 2023
The survey was conducted on behalf of the International Republican Institute’s Center for Insights in Survey Research by the Institute for Research and Innovation, Villa College.

Data was collected between November 21 and December 24, 2023 through face-to-face interviews in respondents’ homes administered by the Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) method.

The sample consisted of n=1,266 respondents aged 18 and older and is representative of resident Maldivian adults nationally. The sample excludes those living on resort islands (6% of the total adult population).

A multi-stage stratified probability sampling approach with clusters was used, and the sample was first stratified by atolls, then by urbanicity (urban, semi-urban, and rural). Islands within each stratum were randomly selected. In total, 42 islands were sampled, with 28 in the rural stratum, 9 in the semi-urban stratum, and 5 in the urban stratum (see next slide for definitions of urbanization levels.) The sample was drawn based on the 2022 census. The capital was further subdivided into wards and sampling points that were selected by probability proportionate to size (PPS). Other islands were subdivided into zones and sampling points were drawn at random. Within each sampling point, random walk was used to select the appropriate household and respondents were selected with the “last birthday” method.

The achieved sample was weighted for atoll, gender, age groups, and education level. The weighting targets were based on the 2022 census.

The response rate was 71 percent.

The margin of error for the mid-range of the full sample does not exceed ±2.7 points at the 95% confidence level.

The information in this report has been compiled in accordance with international standards for market and social research methodologies. Figures in charts and tables may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
### Frequently Cited Disaggregate Bases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disaggregate</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Base</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Groups</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Younger Youth (18-25)</td>
<td>n = 214</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Older Youth (26-35)</td>
<td>n = 359</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>n = 573</td>
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<td></td>
<td>36+</td>
<td>n = 693</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>n = 646</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>n = 620</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Urbanicity</strong></td>
<td>Urban (Islands designated with “City” status as per the Decentralization Act)</td>
<td>n = 748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semi-Urban (Atoll capital islands and islands with a population of 4000 and above, excluding islands designated with “City” status)</td>
<td>n = 179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rural (Islands with a population below 4000, excluding atoll capital islands)</td>
<td>n = 339</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Margin of error will vary with sample size n. Cited bases are weighted.*
General Outlook
In general, would you say that our country is heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?

**All Respondents**
- In the right direction: 46%
- In the wrong direction: 46%
- Don't know/Refused: 8%

**Age Group**
- Younger Youth (18-25)
  - In the right direction: 49%
  - In the wrong direction: 49%
  - Don't know/Refused: 3%
- Older Youth (26-35)
  - In the right direction: 49%
  - In the wrong direction: 43%
  - Don't know/Refused: 8%
- Youth (18-35)
  - In the right direction: 49%
  - In the wrong direction: 45%
  - Don't know/Refused: 6%
- 36+
  - In the right direction: 43%
  - In the wrong direction: 47%
  - Don't know/Refused: 10%

**Urbanicity**
- Urban
  - In the right direction: 49%
  - In the wrong direction: 45%
  - Don't know/Refused: 6%
- Semi-urban
  - In the right direction: 42%
  - In the wrong direction: 53%
  - Don't know/Refused: 5%
- Rural
  - In the right direction: 42%
  - In the wrong direction: 46%
  - Don't know/Refused: 13%
What is the most important problem facing our country today?
(Spontaneous response)

- Economy-cost of living, high prices: 20%
- Corruption: 17%
- Illicit drugs: 15%
- Economy-unemployment: 10%
- Housing: 7%
- Economy-other/general: 4%
- Insecurity: 3%
- Economy- small business opportunities/access to loans: 3%
- Crime/Public Safety: 2%
- Politics: 2%
- Gangs: 1%
- Internal conflicts, including ethnic and religious conflicts: 1%
- Healthcare: 1%
- No problem: <1%
- Other: 12%
- Don't know/Refused: 2%

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.
What is the most important problem facing our country today?

(Spontaneous response; disaggregated by age group; top 5 responses displayed)
What is the most important problem facing our country today?

(Spontaneous response; disaggregated by gender; top 5 responses displayed)

- Economy-cost of living, high prices
  - Men: 21%
  - Women: 19%

- Corruption
  - Men: 20%
  - Women: 13%

- Illicit drugs
  - Men: 12%
  - Women: 19%

- Economy-unemployment
  - Men: 9%
  - Women: 11%

- Housing
  - Men: 8%
  - Women: 6%
What is the most important problem facing our country today?

(Spontaneous response; disaggregated by urbanicity; top 5 responses displayed)

- Economy-cost of living, high prices
  - Urban: 20%
  - Semi-Urban: 8%
  - Rural: 26%
- Corruption
  - Urban: 17%
  - Semi-Urban: 18%
  - Rural: 15%
- Illicit drugs
  - Urban: 14%
  - Semi-Urban: 22%
  - Rural: 14%
- Economy-unemployment
  - Urban: 11%
  - Semi-Urban: 5%
  - Rural: 11%
- Housing
  - Urban: 9%
  - Semi-Urban: 6%
  - Rural: 4%
You mentioned the **economy**, specifically the cost of living or high prices, as the most important problem in the Maldives. Which aspect of cost of living or high prices is most important?

(Among those who said cost of living or high prices are the most important problem, n=252)

- High cost of food: 39%
- High cost of lodging, for example to buy or rent a home: 24%
- High cost of living compared to income from work: 21%
- High cost of heating, electricity, or water: 7%
- High cost of transportation such as fuel for car, boat fare etc.: 3%
- High cost for education: 2%
- High cost of living compared to income from pension: 2%
- High cost for healthcare: 1%
- Other*: 1%
- Don't know/Refused: 1%

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.*
You mentioned **corruption** as the most important problem in the Maldives. Which aspect of corruption is most important?

(Among those who said corruption is the most important problem, n=211)

- Corruption with using government funding at the national level: 41%
- Corruption in obtaining jobs: 18%
- Corruption in obtaining national government contracts: 12%
- Lack of anti-corruption laws: 8%
- Lack of enforcement of anti-corruption laws: 8%
- Corruption in dealing with the justice or court system: 6%
- Corruption with using government funding at the local level: 6%
- Corruption in obtaining local government contracts: 4%
- Corruption in obtaining private business contracts: 2%
- Other*: 3%

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.
You mentioned illicit drugs as the most important problem in the Maldives. Which aspect of illicit drugs is most important?

(Among those who said illicit drugs is the most important problem, n=195)

- Insufficient punishment of drug dealers: 35%
- Children or youth exposed to illicit drugs: 19%
- Loved ones addicted to illicit drugs: 15%
- Safety concerns related to illicit drug trade: 9%
- Fighting illicit drugs is not a government priority: 5%
- Health concerns related to illicit drugs: 5%
- Not enough drug addiction treatment centers: 3%
- Low quality drug addiction treatment: 3%
- There is no help for drug addicts: 3%
- Petty crime related to illicit drugs: 1%
- Financial problems related to illicit drugs: 1%
- Other*: 1%

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.
You mentioned unemployment as the most important problem in the Maldives. Which aspect of unemployment is most important?

(Among those who said unemployment is the most important problem, n=128)

- Lack of jobs in general: 24%
- Lack of well-paying jobs: 22%
- Lack of jobs for those with higher education: 15%
- Lack of jobs for those without higher education: 15%
- Lack of jobs in specific fields: 7%
- Lack of jobs with career opportunities: 5%
- Lack of jobs in specific regions in the Maldives: 3%
- Lack of jobs for young people: 3%
- Lack of specific industries: 2%
- Lack of jobs for older people: 1%
- Other: 3%

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.
Values and Ideology
How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?

**All Respondents**
- Very good: 15%
- Somewhat good: 55%
- Somewhat bad: 19%
- Very bad: 9%
- Don't know/Refused: 1%

**Age Group**
- **Youth (18-35)**
  - Very good: 15%
  - Somewhat good: 55%
  - Somewhat bad: 22%
  - Very bad: 8%
  - Don't know/Refused: <1%
- **36+**
  - Very good: 15%
  - Somewhat good: 56%
  - Somewhat bad: 17%
  - Very bad: 11%
  - Don't know/Refused: 2%

**Urbanicity**
- **Urban**
  - Very good: 15%
  - Somewhat good: 52%
  - Somewhat bad: 22%
  - Very bad: 10%
  - Don't know/Refused: 1%
- **Semi-Urban**
  - Very good: 19%
  - Somewhat good: 55%
  - Somewhat bad: 16%
  - Very bad: 9%
- **Rural**
  - Very good: 13%
  - Somewhat good: 63%
  - Somewhat bad: 15%
  - Very bad: 7%
  - Don't know/Refused: 2%

Legend:
- Very good
- Somewhat good
- Somewhat bad
- Very bad
- Don't know/Refused
Do you believe that democracy is the best possible form of government for our country or not?

- Yes, it is the best possible form of government for our country. 46%
- No, there are other forms of government that could be equally good for our country. 25%
- No, there are other forms of government that are better than democracy. 22%
- Don’t know/Refused 8%

For comparison:
- Youth (18-35) 41%
- 36+ 29%
How important or unimportant are each of these elements in making any country a democracy?

- Free and fair elections, offering real choices to voters: 83%
- Citizens are protected against poverty: 82%
- Privacy of citizens is not violated: 81%
- Talent and merit of citizens are rewarded: 80%
- Citizens feel protected against crime and terrorism: 78%
- Government addresses the issue of social inequality: 72%
- Media freedom is respected: 66%
- Minorities are respected: 66%
- Citizens are free to demonstrate, contest, or petition the government: 64%
- National interest takes priority over individual interest: 62%

Very important: Green
Somewhat important: Yellow
Somewhat unimportant: Purple
Very unimportant: Grey
Don't know/Refused: Pink

12% of respondents marked the very important category for media freedom, while 6% marked the very unimportant category.
Institutions and Elections
To what extent do you trust or distrust each of the following institutions?

- Maldives National Defense Force: 38% Trust a great deal, 38% Somewhat trust, 11% Somewhat distrust, 11% Distrust a great deal, 2% Don't know/Refused
- Elections Commission of Maldives: 26% Trust a great deal, 43% Somewhat trust, 12% Somewhat distrust, 18% Distrust a great deal, 2% Don't know/Refused
- National government: 16% Trust a great deal, 44% Somewhat trust, 15% Somewhat distrust, 23% Distrust a great deal, 2% Don't know/Refused
- Maldives Police Service: 19% Trust a great deal, 39% Somewhat trust, 16% Somewhat distrust, 24% Distrust a great deal, 1% Don't know/Refused
- My island or city council: 15% Trust a great deal, 40% Somewhat trust, 15% Somewhat distrust, 29% Distrust a great deal, 1% Don't know/Refused
- Media: 12% Trust a great deal, 40% Somewhat trust, 16% Somewhat distrust, 30% Distrust a great deal, 2% Don't know/Refused
- Human Rights Commission: 13% Trust a great deal, 35% Somewhat trust, 17% Somewhat distrust, 30% Distrust a great deal, 6% Don't know/Refused
- Courts: 13% Trust a great deal, 34% Somewhat trust, 17% Somewhat distrust, 34% Distrust a great deal, 2% Don't know/Refused
- Anti-Corruption Commission: 10% Trust a great deal, 29% Somewhat trust, 17% Somewhat distrust, 39% Distrust a great deal, 5% Don't know/Refused
- Parliament: 10% Trust a great deal, 29% Somewhat trust, 15% Somewhat distrust, 45% Distrust a great deal, 1% Don't know/Refused
- Political parties: 5% Trust a great deal, 27% Somewhat trust, 16% Somewhat distrust, 50% Distrust a great deal, 1% Don't know/Refused
- Information Commission: 11% Trust a great deal, 37% Somewhat trust, 15% Somewhat distrust, 21% Distrust a great deal, 17% Don't know/Refused
How likely or unlikely are ordinary people able to influence decisions made in our country?

- **All Respondents**: 35% Very likely, 37% Somewhat likely, 11% Somewhat unlikely, 13% Very unlikely, 3% Don’t know/Refused

- **Age Group**
  - Youth (18-35): 33% Very likely, 41% Somewhat likely, 12% Somewhat unlikely, 12% Very unlikely, 2% Don’t know/Refused
  - 36+: 37% Very likely, 34% Somewhat likely, 11% Somewhat unlikely, 14% Very unlikely, 5% Don’t know/Refused

- **Gender**
  - Male: 33% Very likely, 39% Somewhat likely, 13% Somewhat unlikely, 12% Very unlikely, 3% Don’t know/Refused
  - Female: 38% Very likely, 35% Somewhat likely, 9% Somewhat unlikely, 15% Very unlikely, 4% Don’t know/Refused

- **Urbanicity**
  - Urban: 31% Very likely, 44% Somewhat likely, 11% Somewhat unlikely, 11% Very unlikely, 2% Don’t know/Refused
  - Semi-urban: 35% Very likely, 25% Somewhat likely, 17% Somewhat unlikely, 21% Very unlikely, 2% Don’t know/Refused
  - Rural: 43% Very likely, 29% Somewhat likely, 7% Somewhat unlikely, 13% Very unlikely, 7% Don’t know/Refused
How can ordinary people influence decisions made in our country?

(Spontaneous response, among those who are very or somewhat likely to believe that ordinary people can influence decisions made in their country, n=918)

- Vote: 53%
- Protest: 29%
- Join a political party: 27%
- Petition: 16%
- Run for office: 14%
- Talk to officials: 8%
- Engage in CSO: 6%
- Donate: 4%
- Social media: 1%
- Other: 4%
- Don't know/Refused: 5%

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.

*Engage in a civil society organization is a local, national or international group of people who organize to support a particular interest, group or issue.
Which statement about voting comes closest to your opinion?

- **Gives me some say about how the government runs things.**
- **Doesn’t really affect how the government runs things. But I still believe it’s important to vote.**
- **Doesn’t really affect how the government runs things, so for me it’s not really important to vote.**
- **Don't know/Refused**

### Age Group
- **Youth (18-35)**
  - 33%: Gives me some say
  - 50%: Doesn't really affect
  - 16%: Doesn't really affect, still important to vote
  - 1%: Don't know/Refused

- **36+**
  - 30%: Gives me some say
  - 54%: Doesn't really affect
  - 15%: Doesn't really affect, still important to vote
  - 1%: Don't know/Refused

### Gender
- **Men**
  - 35%: Gives me some say
  - 49%: Doesn't really affect
  - 15%: Doesn't really affect, still important to vote
  - 1%: Don't know/Refused

- **Women**
  - 31%: Gives me some say
  - 50%: Doesn't really affect
  - 17%: Doesn't really affect, still important to vote
  - 2%: Don't know/Refused

### Urbanicity
- **Urban**
  - 32%: Gives me some say
  - 54%: Doesn't really affect
  - 14%: Doesn't really affect, still important to vote
  - 1%: Don't know/Refused

- **Semi-Urban**
  - 35%: Gives me some say
  - 44%: Doesn't really affect
  - 21%: Doesn't really affect, still important to vote
  - 1%: Don't know/Refused

- **Rural**
  - 35%: Gives me some say
  - 44%: Doesn't really affect
  - 19%: Doesn't really affect, still important to vote
  - 3%: Don't know/Refused
Would you like to see new political parties in future elections or are there enough political parties right now?

**All Respondents**
- 20% would like to see new political parties
- 77% think there are enough political parties
- 4% don't know/refuse

**Age Group**
- **Younger Youth (18-25)**
  - 34% would like to see new political parties
  - 62% think there are enough political parties
  - 4% don't know/refuse
- **Older Youth (26-35)**
  - 23% would like to see new political parties
  - 74% think there are enough political parties
  - 2% don't know/refuse
- **Youth (18-35)**
  - 27% would like to see new political parties
  - 70% think there are enough political parties
  - 3% don't know/refuse
- **36+**
  - 14% would like to see new political parties
  - 82% think there are enough political parties
  - 4% don't know/refuse

**Urbanicity**
- **Urban**
  - 26% would like to see new political parties
  - 72% think there are enough political parties
  - 2% don't know/refuse
- **Semi-urban**
  - 7% would like to see new political parties
  - 91% think there are enough political parties
  - 2% don't know/refuse
- **Rural**
  - 12% would like to see new political parties
  - 81% think there are enough political parties
  - 8% don't know/refuse
If more people representing the following groups were elected to the government, do you think that would be good, bad or would it not make a difference?

- **Young people aged 35 and younger**
  - Good: 72%
  - Not make a difference: 13%
  - Bad: 14%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%

- **Women**
  - Good: 71%
  - Not make a difference: 13%
  - Bad: 14%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%

- **Persons with Disabilities**
  - Good: 61%
  - Not make a difference: 21%
  - Bad: 15%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 3%
If more people representing the following groups were elected to the government, do you think that would be good, bad or would it not make a difference?

Young people aged 35 and younger

**Age Group**
- **Youth (18-35)**
  - Good: 75%
  - Not make a difference: 14%
  - Bad: 10%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%
- **36+**
  - Good: 69%
  - Not make a difference: 13%
  - Bad: 17%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%

**Gender**
- **Men**
  - Good: 70%
  - Not make a difference: 14%
  - Bad: 15%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%
- **Women**
  - Good: 74%
  - Not make a difference: 13%
  - Bad: 12%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%

**Urbanicity**
- **Urban**
  - Good: 69%
  - Not make a difference: 14%
  - Bad: 15%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%
- **Semi-Urban**
  - Good: 75%
  - Not make a difference: 6%
  - Bad: 18%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%
- **Rural**
  - Good: 76%
  - Not make a difference: 14%
  - Bad: 8%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%
If more people representing the following groups were elected to the government, do you think that would be good, bad or would it not make a difference?

**Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Respondents</th>
<th>Good (71%)</th>
<th>Not make a difference (13%)</th>
<th>Bad (14%)</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused (1%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Urbanicity</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If more people representing the following groups were elected to the government, do you think that would be good, bad or would it not make a difference?

**Persons with Disabilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Not make a difference</th>
<th>Bad</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<td>Gender</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Men</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women</td>
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<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urbanicity</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
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<td>22%</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<td>Rural</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How likely or unlikely are you to vote in the 2024 Parliamentary elections?

### Age Group

- **All Respondents**: 60% *Very likely*, 20% *Somewhat likely*, 8% *Somewhat unlikely*, 11% *Very unlikely*, 1% *Don’t know/Refused*
- **Younger Youth (18-25)**: 45% *Very likely*, 28% *Somewhat likely*, 9% *Somewhat unlikely*, 16% *Very unlikely*, 2% *Don’t know/Refused*
- **Older Youth (26-35)**: 59% *Very likely*, 23% *Somewhat likely*, 9% *Somewhat unlikely*, 9% *Very unlikely*, 1% *Don’t know/Refused*
- **Youth (18-35)**: 53% *Very likely*, 25% *Somewhat likely*, 9% *Somewhat unlikely*, 12% *Very unlikely*, 1% *Don’t know/Refused*
- **36+**: 65% *Very likely*, 16% *Somewhat likely*, 7% *Somewhat unlikely*, 10% *Very unlikely*, 2% *Don’t know/Refused*

### Gender

- **Men**: 60% *Very likely*, 22% *Somewhat likely*, 7% *Somewhat unlikely*, 9% *Very unlikely*, 1% *Don’t know/Refused*
- **Women**: 59% *Very likely*, 18% *Somewhat likely*, 9% *Somewhat unlikely*, 12% *Very unlikely*, 2% *Don’t know/Refused*

### Urbanicity

- **Urban**: 52% *Very likely*, 27% *Somewhat likely*, 8% *Somewhat unlikely*, 11% *Very unlikely*, 1% *Don’t know/Refused*
- **Semi-Urban**: 70% *Very likely*, 8% *Somewhat likely*, 12% *Somewhat unlikely*, 9% *Very unlikely*, 1% *Don’t know/Refused*
- **Rural**: 70% *Very likely*, 10% *Somewhat likely*, 7% *Somewhat unlikely*, 10% *Very unlikely*, 2% *Don’t know/Refused*
Why are you very unlikely to vote in the 2024 Parliamentary elections?

(Spontaneous response, among those who are very unlikely to vote in the 2024 parliamentary elections, n=134)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The election is not important for me</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of the parties or candidates inspire me</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My vote will not matter anyway</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not have confidence in the electoral process</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t trust that my vote is anonymous</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I will not have the time to do it</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of the parties or candidates represent my view</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I boycott the election</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is no benefit in voting; nothing good will come of it.</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The voting station is too far away</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/Refused</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.*
Inclusion and Civic Engagement
How important or unimportant is it that [...] are included in political decision making?

Young adults
- Very important: 75%
- Somewhat important: 19%
- Somewhat unimportant: 4%
- Very unimportant: 1%
- Don't know/Refused: 1%

Women
- Very important: 62%
- Somewhat important: 27%
- Somewhat unimportant: 6%
- Very unimportant: 5%
- Don't know/Refused: 1%

People with disabilities
- Very important: 46%
- Somewhat important: 39%
- Somewhat unimportant: 8%
- Very unimportant: 6%
- Don't know/Refused: 2%
How important or unimportant is it that young adults are included in political decision making?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Somewhat important</th>
<th>Somewhat unimportant</th>
<th>Very unimportant</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Respondents</strong></td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Urbanicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- Green: Very important
- Yellow: Somewhat important
- Pink: Somewhat unimportant
- Red: Very unimportant
- Grey: Don't know/Refused
- Purple: <1%
How important or unimportant is it that women are included in political decision making?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Somewhat important</th>
<th>Somewhat unimportant</th>
<th>Very unimportant</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>6% 5% 1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>7% 5% 1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>4% 5% 1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>7% 6% 1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>4% 4% 1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbanicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>7% 2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>6% 8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>2% 8% 3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How important or unimportant is it that people with disabilities are included in political decision making?

All Respondents: 46% Very important, 39% Somewhat important, 8% Somewhat unimportant, 6% Very unimportant, 2% Don't know/Refused

Age Group:
- Youth (18-35): 44% Very important, 41% Somewhat important, 9% Somewhat unimportant, 4% Very unimportant, 1% Don't know/Refused
- 36+: 46% Very important, 38% Somewhat important, 7% Somewhat unimportant, 7% Very unimportant, 2% Don't know/Refused

Gender:
- Men: 45% Very important, 39% Somewhat important, 9% Somewhat unimportant, 6% Very unimportant, 2% Don't know/Refused
- Women: 46% Very important, 40% Somewhat important, 7% Somewhat unimportant, 6% Very unimportant, 2% Don't know/Refused

Urbanicity:
- Urban: 42% Very important, 41% Somewhat important, 10% Somewhat unimportant, 5% Very unimportant, 2% Don't know/Refused
- Semi-Urban: 46% Very important, 39% Somewhat important, 8% Somewhat unimportant, 5% Very unimportant, 1% Don't know/Refused
- Rural: 53% Very important, 36% Somewhat important, 2% Somewhat unimportant, 7% Very unimportant, 1% Don't know/Refused
In the past 12 months have you personally felt discriminated against in our country on the basis of one or more of the following grounds? By discrimination, we mean when somebody is treated less favorably than others because of a specific personal feature.

- Your political views: 34% Yes, 63% No, 3% Don't know/Refused
- Your economic status: 24% Yes, 73% No, 3% Don't know/Refused
- Your age: 19% Yes, 79% No, 2% Don't know/Refused
- Your gender: 16% Yes, 83% No, 2% Don't know/Refused
In the past 12 months have you personally felt discriminated against in our country on the basis of one or more of the following grounds? By discrimination, we mean when somebody is treated less favorably than others because of a specific personal feature.

Your age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Younger Youth (18-25)</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Youth (26-35)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the past 12 months have you personally felt discriminated against in our country on the basis of one or more of the following grounds? By discrimination, we mean when somebody is treated less favorably than others because of a specific personal feature.

Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Decentralization
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Very effective</th>
<th>Somewhat effective</th>
<th>Somewhat ineffective</th>
<th>Very ineffective</th>
<th>Don’t know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waste management</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall maintenance of public infrastructure, such as roads, etc.*</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing social security services, such as for victims etc**</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing a sense of community</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing public health concerns</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic empowerment opportunities</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting natural resources</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Management</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Full text: Overall maintenance of public infrastructure, such as roads, jetty, social centers, cemeteries, historical sites, library etc.

**Full text: Providing social security services, such as for victims of domestic violence, senior citizens and those with special needs, etc.
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

### Waste Management

#### Dec. 2023
- Very effective: 37%
- Somewhat effective: 33%
- Somewhat ineffective: 14%
- Very ineffective: 16%
- Don’t know/Refused: 1%

#### Sept. 2022
- Very effective: 33%
- Somewhat effective: 34%
- Somewhat ineffective: 12%
- Very ineffective: 20%
- Don’t know/Refused: 2%

### Urbanicity

#### Urban
- Very effective: 34%
- Somewhat effective: 36%
- Somewhat ineffective: 16%
- Very ineffective: 14%
- Don’t know/Refused: <1%

#### Semi-Urban
- Very effective: 47%
- Somewhat effective: 24%
- Somewhat ineffective: 12%
- Very ineffective: 17%

#### Rural
- Very effective: 39%
- Somewhat effective: 30%
- Somewhat ineffective: 10%
- Very ineffective: 21%
- Don’t know/Refused: 1%
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Overall maintenance of public infrastructure, such as roads, jetty, social centers, cemeteries, historical sites, library etc.

Urbanicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very effective</th>
<th>Somewhat effective</th>
<th>Somewhat ineffective</th>
<th>Very ineffective</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dec. 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very effective</th>
<th>Somewhat effective</th>
<th>Somewhat ineffective</th>
<th>Very ineffective</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sept. 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very effective</th>
<th>Somewhat effective</th>
<th>Somewhat ineffective</th>
<th>Very ineffective</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Providing social security services, such as for victims of domestic violence, senior citizens and those with special needs, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urbanicity</th>
<th>Very effective</th>
<th>Somewhat effective</th>
<th>Somewhat ineffective</th>
<th>Very ineffective</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dec. 2023:
- Very effective: 21%
- Somewhat effective: 41%
- Somewhat ineffective: 17%
- Very ineffective: 19%
- Don't know/Refused: 3%

Sept. 2022:
- Very effective: 9%
- Somewhat effective: 28%
- Somewhat ineffective: 16%
- Very ineffective: 37%
- Don't know/Refused: 9%
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Developing a sense of community

**Urbanicity**

- **Urban**
  - Very effective: 24%
  - Somewhat effective: 40%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 15%
  - Very ineffective: 19%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 2%

- **Semi-Urban**
  - Very effective: 24%
  - Somewhat effective: 31%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 15%
  - Very ineffective: 27%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 2%

- **Rural**
  - Very effective: 29%
  - Somewhat effective: 28%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 13%
  - Very ineffective: 28%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 2%

- **Dec. 2023**
  - Very effective: 25%
  - Somewhat effective: 36%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 14%
  - Very ineffective: 23%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 2%

- **Sept. 2022**
  - Very effective: 14%
  - Somewhat effective: 37%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 15%
  - Very ineffective: 29%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 4%
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

*Addressing public health concerns*

### Urbanicity

**Urban**
- Very effective: 19%
- Somewhat effective: 39%
- Somewhat ineffective: 19%
- Very ineffective: 21%
- Don't know/Refused: 1%

**Semi-Urban**
- Very effective: 18%
- Somewhat effective: 27%
- Somewhat ineffective: 18%
- Very ineffective: 35%
- Don't know/Refused: 2%

**Rural**
- Very effective: 20%
- Somewhat effective: 38%
- Somewhat ineffective: 12%
- Very ineffective: 27%
- Don't know/Refused: 2%
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Economic empowerment opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urbanicity</th>
<th>Dec. 2023</th>
<th>Sept. 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Very effective | Somewhat effective | Somewhat ineffective | Very ineffective | Don't know/Refused

- Urban: 17% Very effective, 38% Somewhat effective, 19% Somewhat ineffective, 21% Very ineffective, 4% Don't know/Refused
- Semi-Urban: 14% Very effective, 32% Somewhat effective, 19% Somewhat ineffective, 30% Very ineffective, 4% Don't know/Refused
- Rural: 21% Very effective, 28% Somewhat effective, 16% Somewhat ineffective, 30% Very ineffective, 4% Don't know/Refused
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

**Protecting natural resources**

**Urbanicity**

- Urban
  - Very effective: 18%
  - Somewhat effective: 43%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 14%
  - Very ineffective: 22%
  - Don't know/Refused: 3%

- Semi-Urban
  - Very effective: 13%
  - Somewhat effective: 21%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 20%
  - Very ineffective: 43%
  - Don't know/Refused: 2%

- Rural
  - Very effective: 18%
  - Somewhat effective: 26%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 16%
  - Very ineffective: 35%
  - Don't know/Refused: 5%
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Fiscal management

Dec. 2023:
- Very effective: 14%
- Somewhat effective: 31%
- Somewhat ineffective: 16%
- Very ineffective: 28%
- Don't know/Refused: 12%

Sept. 2022:
- Very effective: 7%
- Somewhat effective: 22%
- Somewhat ineffective: 19%
- Very ineffective: 37%
- Don't know/Refused: 16%

Urbanicity:
- Urban:
  - Very effective: 14%
  - Somewhat effective: 34%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 17%
  - Very ineffective: 25%
  - Don't know/Refused: 10%
- Semi-Urban:
  - Very effective: 10%
  - Somewhat effective: 28%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 21%
  - Very ineffective: 31%
  - Don't know/Refused: 11%
- Rural:
  - Very effective: 15%
  - Somewhat effective: 24%
  - Somewhat ineffective: 11%
  - Very ineffective: 32%
  - Don't know/Refused: 18%
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

A decentralized system of governance is important for the country

- Agree: 54%
- Somewhat agree: 25%
- Somewhat disagree: 8%
- Disagree: 9%
- Don't know/Refused: 4%

My local council represents the interests of the political parties

- Agree: 43%
- Somewhat agree: 27%
- Somewhat disagree: 12%
- Disagree: 14%
- Don't know/Refused: 4%

My local council is effective in engaging the public when making important decisions and represents the interests of my community

- Agree: 25%
- Somewhat agree: 34%
- Somewhat disagree: 12%
- Disagree: 26%
- Don't know/Refused: 3%
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

A decentralized system of governance is important for the country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbanicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

*My local council represents the interests of the political parties*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Respondents</strong></td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Urbanicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0% | 10% | 20% | 30% | 40% | 50% | 60% | 70% | 80% | 90% | 100%
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

*My local council is effective in engaging the public when making important decisions and represents the interests of my community*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Respondents</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urbanicity</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Which among the following is the greatest obstacle local councils face in functioning effectively?

- Councils lack capacity: 21%
- Party politics: 19%
- Friction between civil service staff and elected officials of the council: 15%
- Councils lack financial resources: 14%
- Councils lack vision: 10%
- Central government doesn’t allow enough space to govern locally: 9%
- Inconsistencies in policies & laws governing local governments: 8%
- Councils lack will: 5%
- Other: <1%
- Don't know/Refused: 2%

*Among those who rated their local council as ineffective in engaging the public when making important decisions and representing the interests of their community, n=484.
How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the pace of decentralization in the country?

### Age Group
- **Youth (18-35)**
  - Very satisfied: 11%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 49%
  - Somewhat unsatisfied: 21%
  - Very unsatisfied: 15%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 4%

- **36+**
  - Very satisfied: 12%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 44%
  - Somewhat unsatisfied: 18%
  - Very unsatisfied: 20%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 6%

### Gender
- **Men**
  - Very satisfied: 13%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 43%
  - Somewhat unsatisfied: 19%
  - Very unsatisfied: 21%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 5%

- **Women**
  - Very satisfied: 10%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 50%
  - Somewhat unsatisfied: 20%
  - Very unsatisfied: 15%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 6%

### Urbanicity
- **Urban**
  - Very satisfied: 12%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 46%
  - Somewhat unsatisfied: 20%
  - Very unsatisfied: 18%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 5%

- **Semi-Urban**
  - Very satisfied: 13%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 40%
  - Somewhat unsatisfied: 22%
  - Very unsatisfied: 22%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 3%

- **Rural**
  - Very satisfied: 9%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 50%
  - Somewhat unsatisfied: 17%
  - Very unsatisfied: 16%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 7%
Of the following areas, which do you think your local councilor should prioritize?

Community wellbeing, which means safe environments for children and women, accessibility, sustainable environment policies, management of waste, improving education etc. 48% 26% 14% 8% 3% 48% 26% 15% 9% 2%

Infrastructure development, such as the development of roads, harbors, recreational areas, airports, etc. 28% 26% 14% 12% 3% 42% 31% 14% 12% 3%

Open/Transparent Governance, which means access to information and/or inclusion of all community members in the decision-making process 14% 15% 14% 12% 8% 9% 12%

Party policy, which means a Councilor should prioritize his/her party’s policy or agenda 8% 9% 12% 3% 3% 2% 1%

Don't know/Refused 2% 1% 7% 0% 0% 0% 0%
When thinking about community involvement in development projects, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citizens of the community should have a say in how development projects are conceptualized and implemented</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development projects should be managed or implemented by citizens of the community</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development projects should be monitored and evaluated by the citizens of the community</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To what degree do local councils involve the following parties in their decision-making processes?

- Young adults: 49% to a very large degree, 34% to a somewhat large degree, 9% to a somewhat small degree, 4% to a very small degree, 3% not at all, 2% don't know/refused.
- Women: 42% to a very large degree, 37% to a somewhat large degree, 10% to a somewhat small degree, 5% to a very small degree, 4% not at all, 2% don't know/refused.
- Political party activists: 38% to a very large degree, 31% to a somewhat large degree, 11% to a somewhat small degree, 7% to a very small degree, 6% not at all, 6% don't know/refused.
- Local businesses: 27% to a very large degree, 37% to a somewhat large degree, 14% to a somewhat small degree, 9% to a very small degree, 6% not at all, 6% don't know/refused.
- Non-Governmental Organizations: 23% to a very large degree, 35% to a somewhat large degree, 16% to a somewhat small degree, 10% to a very small degree, 8% not at all, 9% don't know/refused.
- People with disabilities: 16% to a very large degree, 30% to a somewhat large degree, 19% to a somewhat small degree, 15% to a very small degree, 15% not at all, 5% don't know/refused.
To what degree do local councils involve the following parties in their decision-making processes? **Women**

### Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>To a very large degree</th>
<th>To a somewhat large degree</th>
<th>To a somewhat small degree</th>
<th>To a very small degree</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Urbanicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>To a very large degree</th>
<th>To a somewhat large degree</th>
<th>To a somewhat small degree</th>
<th>To a very small degree</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-urban</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- **Green** To a very large degree
- **Light Green** To a somewhat large degree
- **Light Purple** To a somewhat small degree
- **Purple** To a very small degree
- **Gray** Not at all
- **Dark Gray** Don't know/Refused
To what degree do local councils involve the following parties in their decision-making processes? **Young Adults**

**All Respondents**
- To a very large degree: 49%
- To a somewhat large degree: 34%
- To a somewhat small degree: 9%
- To a very small degree: 4%
- Not at all: 3%
- Don't know/Refused: 2%

**Age groups**

- **Younger youth (18-25)**
  - To a very large degree: 48%
  - To a somewhat large degree: 36%
  - To a somewhat small degree: 11%
  - To a very small degree: 1%
  - Not at all: 1%
  - Don't know/Refused: 3%

- **Older Youth (26-35)**
  - To a very large degree: 49%
  - To a somewhat large degree: 35%
  - To a somewhat small degree: 9%
  - To a very small degree: 4%
  - Not at all: 2%
  - Don't know/Refused: 1%

- **Youth (18-35)**
  - To a very large degree: 49%
  - To a somewhat large degree: 35%
  - To a somewhat small degree: 10%
  - To a very small degree: 3%
  - Not at all: 3%
  - Don't know/Refused: 2%

- **36+**
  - To a very large degree: 49%
  - To a somewhat large degree: 33%
  - To a somewhat small degree: 8%
  - To a very small degree: 5%
  - Not at all: 3%
  - Don't know/Refused: 3%
Courts
Have you ever been personally involved in a court case?

- **All Respondents**: 30% Yes, 68% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
- **Age Group**
  - **Youth (18-35)**: 28% Yes, 70% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
  - **36+**: 32% Yes, 67% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
- **Gender**
  - **Men**: 34% Yes, 65% No, 2% Don’t know/Refused
  - **Women**: 27% Yes, 72% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
- **Urbanicity**
  - **Urban**: 29% Yes, 70% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
  - **Semi-Urban**: 34% Yes, 64% No, 2% Don’t know/Refused
  - **Rural**: 31% Yes, 68% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
Do you consider the Maldivian courts to be efficient or inefficient?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Very efficient</th>
<th>Somewhat efficient</th>
<th>Somewhat inefficient</th>
<th>Very inefficient</th>
<th>Don’t know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbanicity</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you consider the Maldivian courts to be efficient or inefficient?

- All Respondents
  - Very efficient: 8%
  - Somewhat efficient: 42%
  - Somewhat inefficient: 21%
  - Very inefficient: 27%
  - Don't know/Refused: 3%

- Previously involved in court case
  - Been involved (n=384)
    - Very efficient: 9%
    - Somewhat efficient: 40%
    - Somewhat inefficient: 17%
    - Very inefficient: 33%
    - Don't know/Refused: 1%
  - Never been involved (n=866)
    - Very efficient: 7%
    - Somewhat efficient: 43%
    - Somewhat inefficient: 22%
    - Very inefficient: 25%
    - Don't know/Refused: 4%

- Trust in courts
  - Trust somewhat/a great deal (n=595)
    - Very efficient: 13%
    - Somewhat efficient: 58%
    - Somewhat inefficient: 18%
    - Very inefficient: 9%
    - Don't know/Refused: 3%
  - Distrust somewhat/a great deal (n=648)
    - Very efficient: 4%
    - Somewhat efficient: 27%
    - Somewhat inefficient: 23%
    - Very inefficient: 44%
    - Don't know/Refused: 2%
Do you consider the Maldivian courts to be responsive or unresponsive to citizens’ needs?

**All Respondents**
- Very responsive: 40%
- Somewhat responsive: 24%
- Somewhat unresponsive: 27%
- Very unresponsive: 6%
- Don't know/Refused: 4%

**Age Group**
- Youth (18-35)
  - Very responsive: 7%
  - Somewhat responsive: 42%
  - Somewhat unresponsive: 25%
  - Very unresponsive: 23%
  - Don't know/Refused: 3%
- 36+
  - Very responsive: 5%
  - Somewhat responsive: 38%
  - Somewhat unresponsive: 23%
  - Very unresponsive: 30%
  - Don't know/Refused: 4%

**Gender**
- Men
  - Very responsive: 6%
  - Somewhat responsive: 39%
  - Somewhat unresponsive: 23%
  - Very unresponsive: 29%
  - Don't know/Refused: 3%
- Women
  - Very responsive: 5%
  - Somewhat responsive: 41%
  - Somewhat unresponsive: 25%
  - Very unresponsive: 24%
  - Don't know/Refused: 5%

**Urbanicity**
- Urban
  - Very responsive: 4%
  - Somewhat responsive: 39%
  - Somewhat unresponsive: 28%
  - Very unresponsive: 25%
  - Don't know/Refused: 3%
- Semi-Urban
  - Very responsive: 13%
  - Somewhat responsive: 37%
  - Somewhat unresponsive: 19%
  - Very unresponsive: 30%
  - Don't know/Refused: 2%
- Rural
  - Very responsive: 5%
  - Somewhat responsive: 42%
  - Somewhat unresponsive: 17%
  - Very unresponsive: 29%
  - Don't know/Refused: 6%
Do you consider the Maldivian courts to be responsive or unresponsive to citizens’ needs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very responsive</th>
<th>Somewhat responsive</th>
<th>Somewhat unresponsive</th>
<th>Very unresponsive</th>
<th>Don’t know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previously involved</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in court case</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Been involved (n=384)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never been involved (n=866)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust in courts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust somewhat/a great deal (n=595)</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distrust somewhat/a great deal (n=648)</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sources of Information
Which media platform do you use most frequently to gain political news and information?

- **Social Media, such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.** (50%)
- **Television** (31%)
- **Internet (other than social media)** (9%)
- **Messaging Apps, such as Viber, Whatsapp etc.** (4%)
- **Radio** (3%)
- **Print Media** (1%)
- **Other** (<1%)
- **None** (2%)
- **Don't know/Refused** (1%)
Which media platform do you use most frequently to gain political news and information?

- **Social Media, such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.**
  - Younger youth (18-25): 69%
  - Older youth (26-35): 65%
  - Youth: 64%
  - 36+: 37%

- **Television**
  - Younger youth (18-25): 19%
  - Older youth (26-35): 18%
  - Youth: 18%
  - 36+: 10%

- **Internet (other than social media)**
  - Younger youth (18-25): 7%
  - Older youth (26-35): 9%
  - Youth: 10%
  - 36+: 9%

- **Messaging Apps, such as Viber, Whatsapp etc.**
  - Younger youth (18-25): 3%
  - Older youth (26-35): 6%
  - Youth: 5%
  - 36+: 3%

- **Radio**
  - Younger youth (18-25): 1%
  - Older youth (26-35): 1%
  - Youth: 1%
  - 36+: 5%

- **Print Media**
  - Younger youth (18-25): 1%
  - Older youth (26-35): 1%
  - Youth: 1%
  - 36+: 1%

- **Other**
  - Younger youth (18-25): <1%
  - Older youth (26-35): <1%
  - Youth: <1%
  - 36+: <1%

- **None**
  - Younger youth (18-25): 1%
  - Older youth (26-35): 1%
  - Youth: 1%
  - 36+: 2%

- **Don't know/Refused**
  - Younger youth (18-25): <1%
  - Older youth (26-35): <1%
  - Youth: <1%
  - 36+: <1%
Which media platform do you use most frequently to gain political news and information?

- **Social Media, such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.**
  - All Respondents: 50%
  - Men: 49%
  - Women: 51%

- **Television**
  - All Respondents: 31%
  - Men: 31%
  - Women: 31%

- **Internet (other than social media)**
  - All Respondents: 9%
  - Men: 11%
  - Women: 7%

- **Messaging Apps, such as Viber, Whatsapp etc.**
  - All Respondents: 4%
  - Men: 4%
  - Women: 4%

- **Radio**
  - All Respondents: 3%
  - Men: 2%
  - Women: 4%

- **Print Media**
  - All Respondents: 1%
  - Men: 1%
  - Women: 1%

- **Other**
  - All Respondents: <1%
  - Men: 1%
  - Women: 1%

- **None**
  - All Respondents: 2%
  - Men: 1%
  - Women: 3%

- **Don’t know/Refused**
  - All Respondents: 1%
  - Men: <1%
  - Women: 0%
Which specific media outlets, such as a specific TV channel, radio station, newspaper, website etc. do you consider most trustworthy for political news and information?
(Spontaneous response)

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.*
To what extent is misleading or false information in the media problematic for elections in our country?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Very problematic</th>
<th>Somewhat problematic</th>
<th>Somewhat unproblematic</th>
<th>Very unproblematic</th>
<th>Don’t know/Refused</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Group</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (18-35)</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>36+</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>1%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbanicity</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
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<td>17%</td>
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<td>1%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
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<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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Demographics
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Age 18-35</td>
<td>No formal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Age 36+</td>
<td>Pre School and Primary</td>
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<td>Certificate/Diploma</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Degree and above</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Don't know/Refused</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Gender**: 51% Men, 49% Women
- **Age**: 45% Age 18-35, 55% Age 36+
- **Education**: 11% No formal, 7% Pre School and Primary, 16% Secondary, 7% Higher Secondary, 14% Certificate/Diploma, 11% Degree and above, 5% Don’t know/Refused