



RASSED Statement on the Backgrounds and Constituents of Candidates Running for the Post of Mayor

23 / 07 / 2017

- %89 of candidates for the post of mayor have high school degree and above.
- 100 former mayors running for the upcoming elections.
- %79 of candidates do not know about the campaign financial ceiling.
- %15 of candidates will spend less than 1000 JOD on their electoral campaigns.
- 3 Former MPs running for the post of Mayor.
- %62 of candidates running for elections based on their tribal consensus.
- %17 of candidates will not announce any disseminate electoral programs.

RASSED team conducted a study on the background of male/female candidates running for the post of mayor elections 2017. The study was carried out by conducting personal interviews by RASSED`s team of field monitors. Interviews took place after candidates` registration or through phone calls with the candidates where they were asked a number of questions to fill a form designed for this analysis.

The results of the interviews in regards to professional background and work experience of the candidates before or during elections period showed that %37 of candidates are former military officers, %23 retired government employees, and %13 of candidates are business owners.

The interviews also indicated that %11 of candidates running for the post of mayor does not have high school degree, %31 have bachelor degree, and %11 of all candidates for the post of mayor have graduate degrees.

In terms of parties affiliation, it was found that the percentage of candidates running for the position of the mayor from Jordanian parties was only 1% of the total number of all candidates, and 1% of candidates were former members of parties, while according to the interviews with candidates, 98% of the total number of candidates running for post of mayor are independent.

The collected data shows that 3 former MPs are running for the post of mayor in the upcoming elections, while 100 candidates are former mayors, and 50 candidates are former municipal council members, and 385 candidates are running for the post of mayor for the first time.

The results indicated that 62% of the candidates are running based on their tribal consensus, %30 of candidates running based on regional consensus, and 7% of the total number of candidates did not answer the question of the candidacy bases or influence. Only 1% of the total number of candidates running for the post of mayor representing political parties.



RASSED Statement on the Backgrounds and Constituents of Candidates Running for the Post of Mayor

As for the electoral campaign, the results indicated that 57% of the candidates launched their campaign, and the percentage of those who launched their campaign on the internet has reached 54% of the total number of candidates who had begun campaigning. At the same time, 25% of the candidates are using brochures to promote themselves, and 74% of the candidates are using Facebook, while 71% of the candidates are using advertising banners during their campaigns.

According to the results of the interviews, 15% of the total number of candidates for the post of the mayor said that their estimated budget will not exceed 1000 Jordanian dinars, 42% said that their estimated budget for the electoral campaign will be between 1001-5000 Jordanian dinars, while 20% of candidates intend to spend 5001 - 10000 Jordanian dinars, and the percentage of those who intend to spend 10001 - 20000 Jordanian dinars reached 14% of the total candidates, and 2% will spend from 20001 - 50,000 Jordanian dinars during their electoral campaigns.

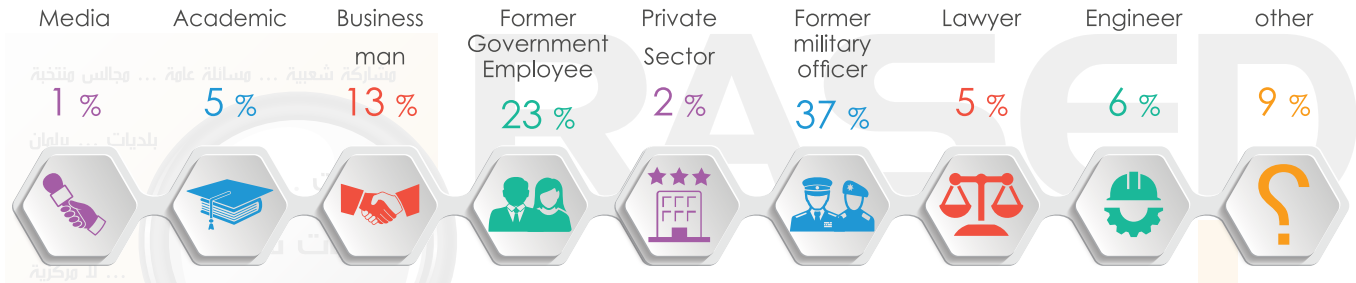
The interviews showed that 95% of the candidates would fund their own electoral campaign, while 3% of all candidates said that their tribes will fund their electoral campaign, and 1% of the candidates said that their electoral campaigns would be funded by the regional consensus on which they are based. 1% of the candidates said that private businesses would sponsor their campaign.

Within the context of the electoral campaigns and measuring the extent of knowledge of candidates running for the post of the mayor about the campaign financial ceiling based on the location of the municipality and the executive instructions for electoral campaigns that was published on the website of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), the results of the interviews showed that 79% of the candidates do not have knowledge about the campaign financial ceiling allocated to their municipalities.

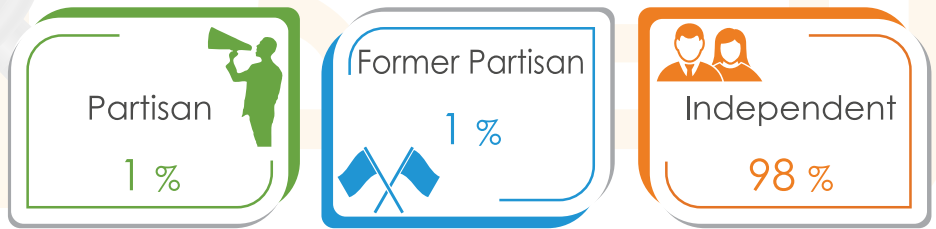
According to the results of the interviews with regard to the existence of an electoral program, 35% of the candidates have an electoral program which they have disseminated to the public, while 48% of the candidates said they will build their own electoral program and will publish it later, while 17% of candidates do not have an electoral program for their campaigns.

Referring to the information published on the website of the (IEC), 18 candidates including one woman left elections race by withdrawing their candidacy applications and these were distributed as follows: (Karak: 2 candidates), (Mafraq: 3 candidates), (Irbid: 4 candidates), (Madaba: one candidate), (Amman : two candidates), (Ajloun : one candidate) and (Ma'an: one candidate); 5 candidacy applications for the post of mayor were rejected by the IEC, distributed to the governorates as follows: (Zarqa: 2 candidates), (Mafraq: one candidate), (Karak: one candidate), and (Jerash: one candidate).

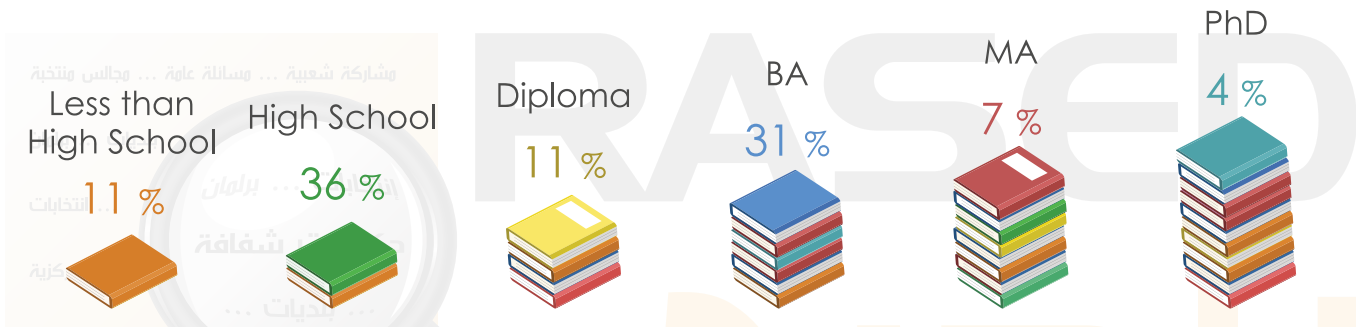
Professional Background



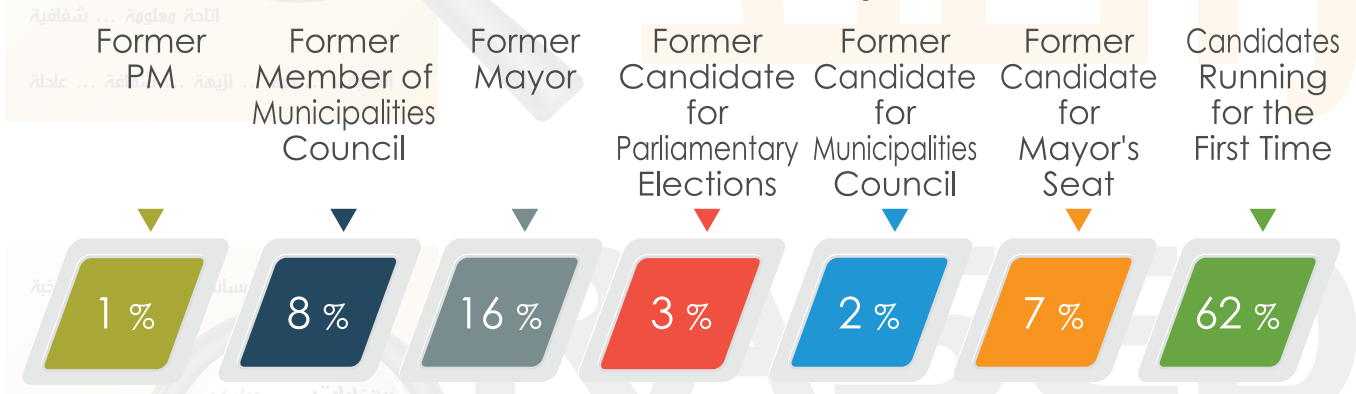
Partisan Background



Education



Candidate`s Past Elections Experiences



Electoral Program



Candidate`s Availability on Facebook

Personal Account Only

37%



Personal Account and Public Account

37%



None Applicable

26%



Candidate`s Awareness of Financial Ceiling that is allowed



Yes

21%



No

79%

The Process of



Yes

57%



No

43%

Financial Sources for the Electoral Campaign

Self-financed

95%



Tribal Support

3%



Based on Regional Support

1%



Business

1%



Tools for the Electoral Campaigns

Websites

54%



Meetings

51%



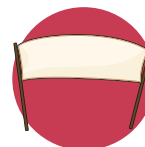
Brochures

25%



Banners

71%



Facebook

74%



Financial Ceiling of the Electoral Campaign

Less than 1000 JD

15%

1001- 5000 JD

49%

5001-10000 JD

20%

10001 - 20000 JD

14%

20001 - 50000 JD

2%

Candidate`s Base

Tribal`s Base

62%



Party`s Base Area/ Region Based

1%



30%



No Answer

7%

