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RASSED ISSUES A STUDY REGARDING THE TRENDS OF JORDANIAN YOUTH FOR THE UPCOMING 2020 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

- 28.4% of Jordanian youth intend to participate in the elections.
- 25.7% of Jordanian youth are yet to decide on their participation.
- 45.9% of Jordanian youth do not intend to participate in the elections.
- 69.2% of Jordanian youth will vote for young candidates.
- 74.6% of Jordanian youth's academic qualifications affect their voting behavior in the elections.
- 39% of Jordanian youth believe that tribal affiliation negatively affects their voting behavior.

* This work was carried out by long-term monitors as part of the process of monitoring the parliamentary elections 2020



هذا المشروع ممول من الاتحاد الأوروبي



- 53.1% of Jordanian youth do not take into consideration the party affiliation of the candidates when voting.
- 19.7% of Jordanian youth take into consideration the party affiliation of the candidates when voting.
- 70% of Jordanian youth believe that social media enhances their participation in the elections.
- 33.5% of Jordanian youth always take the opinions of their parents when voting.
- 47.4% of Jordanian youth believe that measures to confront the Covid-19 pandemic will negatively affect their participation in the elections.
- 16.8% of Jordanian youth are attracted by the use of patriotic slogans in the candidates' campaigns.
- 13% of Jordanian youth are attracted by the use of religious slogans in the candidates' campaigns.
- 77% of Jordanian youth see their financial independence as a liberation of their voting tendencies.
- 34% of Jordanian youth do not believe that the youth have sufficient political awareness while participating in the elections.
- 57% of Jordanian youth believe that setting the age for candidacy at 30 years will weaken their enthusiasm for elections.
- 53.1% of Jordanian youth will support electoral lists that have programs to support youth issues.
- 60.4% of Jordanian youth believe that the primary source of electoral information is social media.

September 7, 2020

Amman, Jordan

Hayat-RASED carried out a study on the trends of Jordanian youth for the upcoming 2020 parliamentary elections, where a sample of 2,500 young men and women was targeted, of whom 2,248 responded, and 252 refused to answer. The study adopted a methodology of direct telephone contact with young women and men. The sample was picked on the electoral districts' level and the percentage of those eligible to vote in an electoral district of the same age group, which was between 18 and 30 years old.

Dr. Amer Bani Amer, General director of Hayat-RASED, stated that the importance of the study is due to the time of its implementation, more than 60 days before the date of the 19th Parliament's elections, which is in order to know the trends of voters within this age group. The importance of the study also came to light after it was found that the initial voters' lists included: More than 550,000 new male and female voters, with most of them in the 18-22- age group.

Dr. Bani Amer also added that the study constitutes a beacon on which candidates rely in their electoral campaigns with the aim of focusing on youth and adopting their electoral programs for their issues and interests, pointing out that the study is an indicator for the government to find new work mechanisms to motivate and urge the group of hesitant youth to participate in the elections and thus create their future.

The results showed that 45.9% of youth do not intend to participate in the upcoming elections, while the percentage of those who wish to participate and cast their votes reached 28.4%, and the percentage of those who have not decided yet to participate reached 25.7% of the total respondents, which means that this percentage is still not resolved and can be worked on, and targeted to make them participate actively in the upcoming elections, which will contribute to increasing the percentage of votes on polling day.

Also, according to the results with regard to the impact of tribal affiliation, 39% of youth think that tribal affiliation affects them negatively in their voting behavior, while 32% of youth said that tribal affiliation affects them sometimes, 13% said that the influence «rarely» occurs and 16% of respondents do not believe that tribal affiliation affects their voting behavior.

53.1% of youth said that they do not take into account the party affiliation of the candidates when voting, while 19.7% of the youth said that they take into consideration the party affiliation of the candidates when voting. Respondents to the sample and the percentage of those who vote

“sometimes” for youth was 37.8%, while the percentage of youth who did not vote for young candidates was 17.3% of all respondents, and 13.6% said that they rarely vote for youth candidates in the elections.

48.6% of youth said that the academic qualification always affects the youth voting behavior, while the percentage of young people whose academic qualification «sometimes» affects their voting behavior was 26%, with the percentage of those who do not think that their qualification affects their voting behavior reached 17.8%, and he said 7.6 % of youth say that academic qualification «rarely» affects youth voting behavior.

Regarding the impact of the financial independence of young people on their voting behavior, it was found that 40.9% are «always» affected by that, 36% of youth are «sometimes» affected , while the percentage of youth who do not believe that financial independence has an effect on voting behavior reached 16.6%, and 6.5% said that financial independence «rarely» affects voting behavior.

53.2% of youth believe that the assumption of youth in leadership positions has a positive effect in mobilizing the vote in favor of young candidates for the elections, 33.1% are «sometimes» affected, while 7.5% do not believe this influence exists, while 6.1% believe that the presence of young people in leadership positions rarely affects their voting behavior.

37% of youth think that youth «sometimes» possess sufficient political awareness while participating in the elections, 29% believe that the youth «always» possess this awareness, and 20.7% of the youth do not believe that the youth possess sufficient political awareness.

Furthermore, The results showed that 37% of youth believe that civil society institutions play a permanent positive role in enhancing youth participation in the elections. On the other hand, the percentage of those who do not believe in a positive role is 15%, with 11.1% believing that the impact is «rare», while 36.9% see that Civil society institutions “sometimes” have a positive role.

70% of youth believe that social media has a positive effect on enhancing their participation in the elections, while 16.9% see it negatively and 13.2% believe that it has no effect.

With regard to the influence of parents on the behavior of youths in their voting behavior, it was found that 33.5% are affected, while 43.1% are affected “sometimes”, while the percentage of those not affected is 14.8%, and the percentage of those rarely affected is 8.6%.

47.4% of youth believe that measures to confront the Covid-19 pandemic will negatively affect the rate of youth participation in the elections and 39.6% believe that they have no effect, while 13% of youth believe that the impact will be positive.

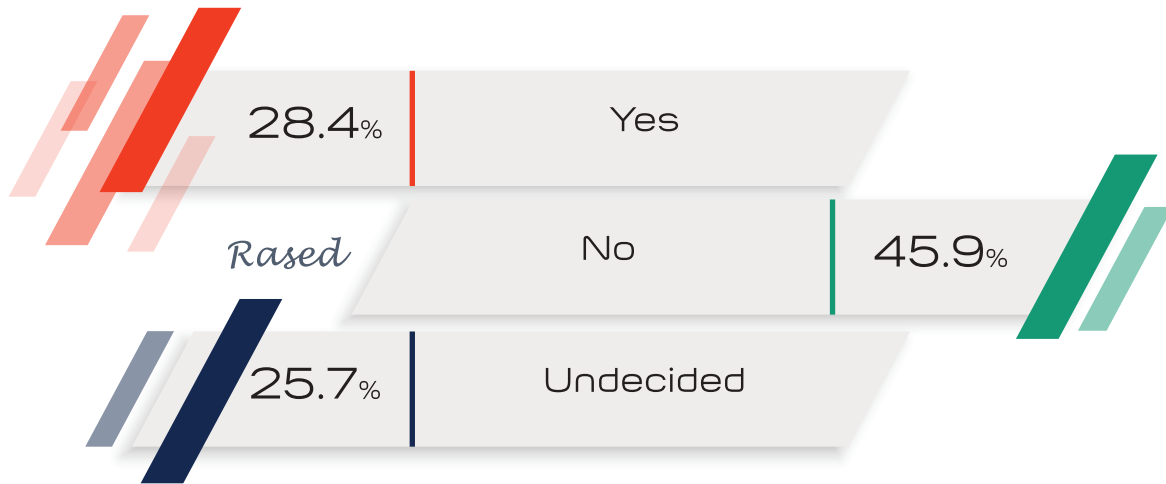
37.2% of youth think that setting the age for candidacy at 30 years weakens the enthusiasm of youth participation in the elections, while 35.6% do not acknowledge the existence of this influence, with 19.8% thinking that the effect sometimes weakens their enthusiasm, and 7.4% of the youth think that the effect is rare.

Moreover, youths tend to vote for candidate lists that have programs that support youth issues at a rate of 53.1%, followed by voting for lists that include candidates from the same youth tribe at a rate of 22.6%, then lists supported by the family with 12.5%, then by candidate lists that spend generously at 7% and lists that include candidates affiliated with political parties at 4.8%.

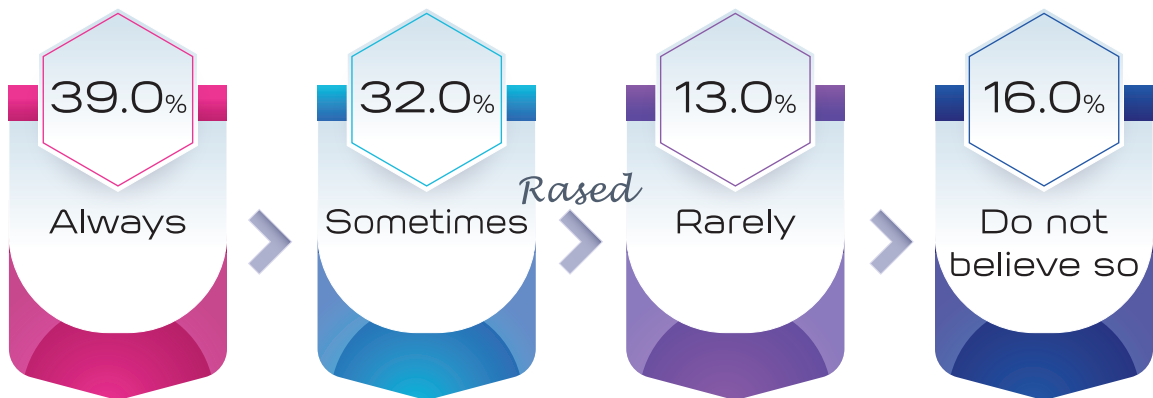
Social media came in first place in terms of the most sources from which young people derive their information about the elections, at a rate of 60.4%, the site of the Independent Election Commission came in second place, at a rate of 22.0%, the family came in third place with 8.7%, television came in fourth place with 4.5%, friends in fifth by 3.5%, and in sixth place paper newspapers came with 0.7%, and radio stations ranked last with 0.2%.

With regard to the challenges that Jordanian youth see as limiting to their political participation, the challenges have varied in their impact, but most of the challenges that have been repeated revolve around the economic situation of young people, the lack of confidence of youth in the performance of the Parliament, and the inconsistency of parliamentary work with the requirements of Jordanian youth. In addition, the youth also reported that the age of candidacy limits youth participation and involvement in elections, and that customs and traditions limit their political participation, with the youth also expressing a challenge related to their lack of confidence in the performance of governments, which caused them to move away from the political scene.

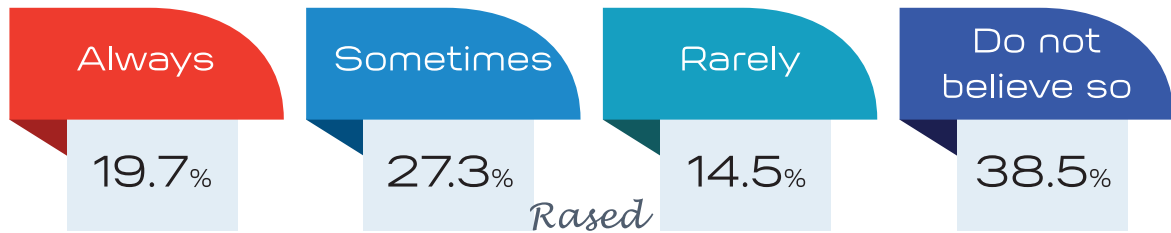
Voting in the upcoming parliamentary elections



The influence of tribal affiliation on youth during elections



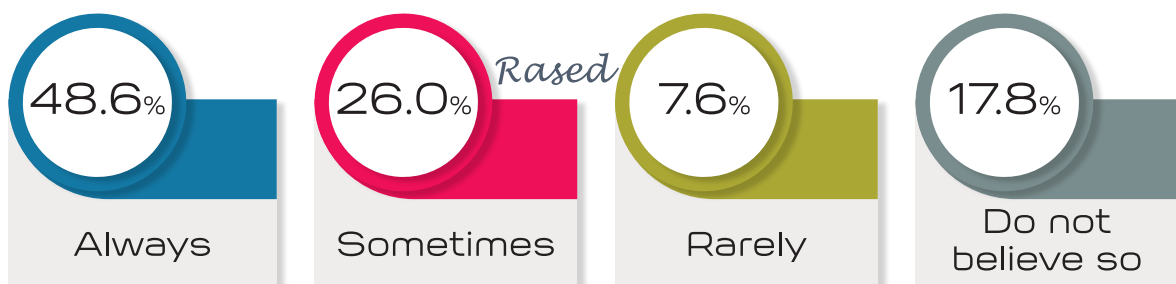
The influence of the candidate's political affiliation when voting in the elections



The tendencies of youth to vote for other youth in the elections



The influence of the academic qualification of youth on their voting behavior in the elections



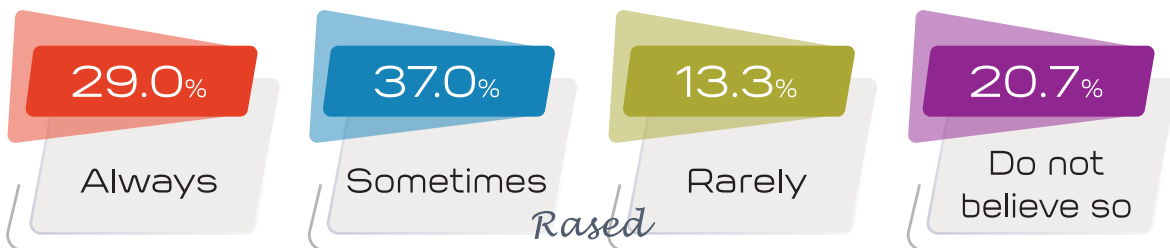
The influence of the financial independence of youth on their voting behavior in the elections



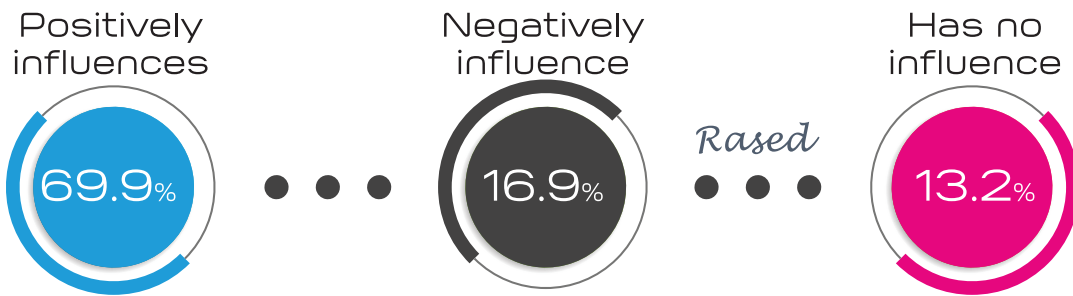
The influence of appointing youth in leadership positions on garnering votes for youth in the elections



Youth's opinions on the level of political awareness in Jordan of youths when participating in the election process



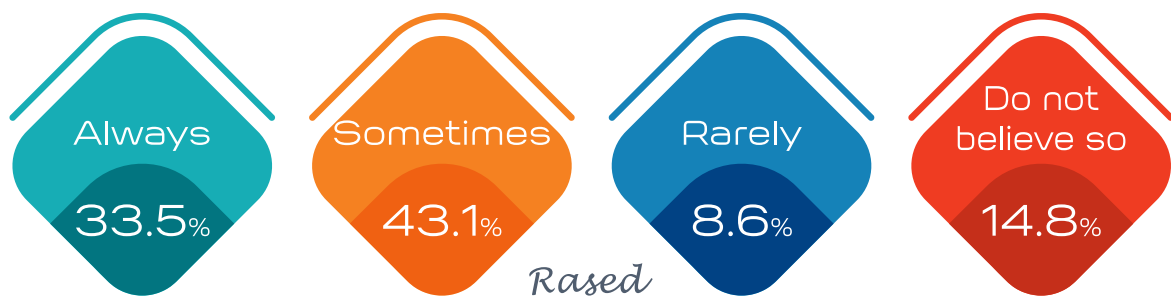
The influence of social media on enhancing youth participation in the elections



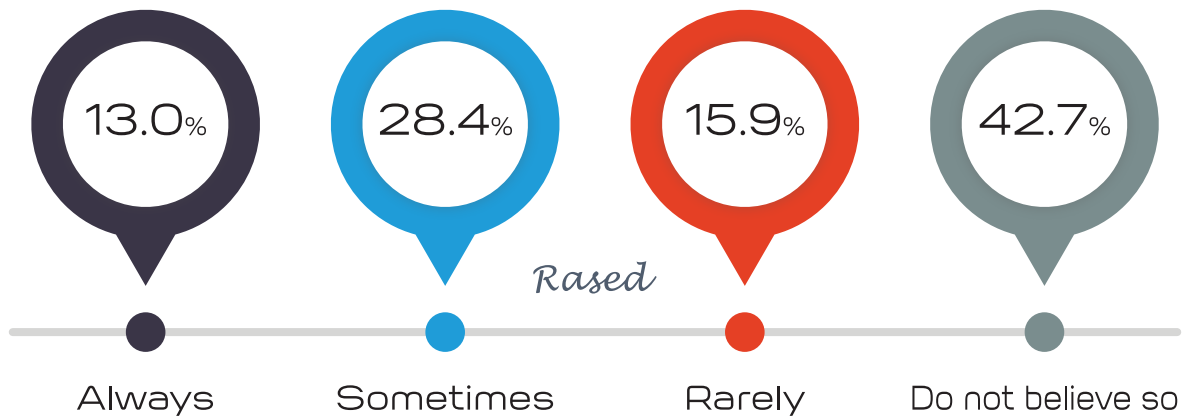
The influence of facing the Covid19- pandemic on the percentage of youth participation in the elections



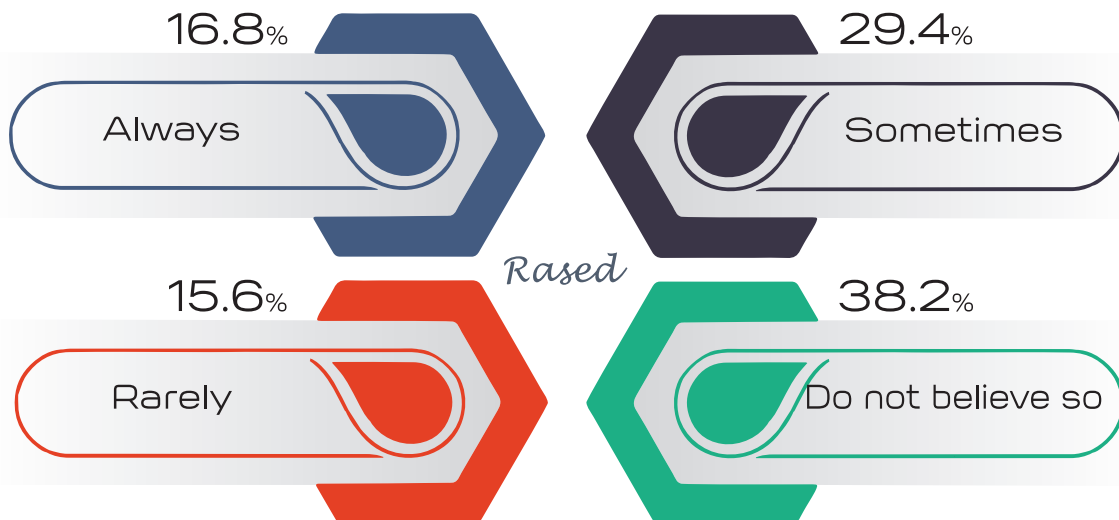
Parents influence on youth when voting in the elections



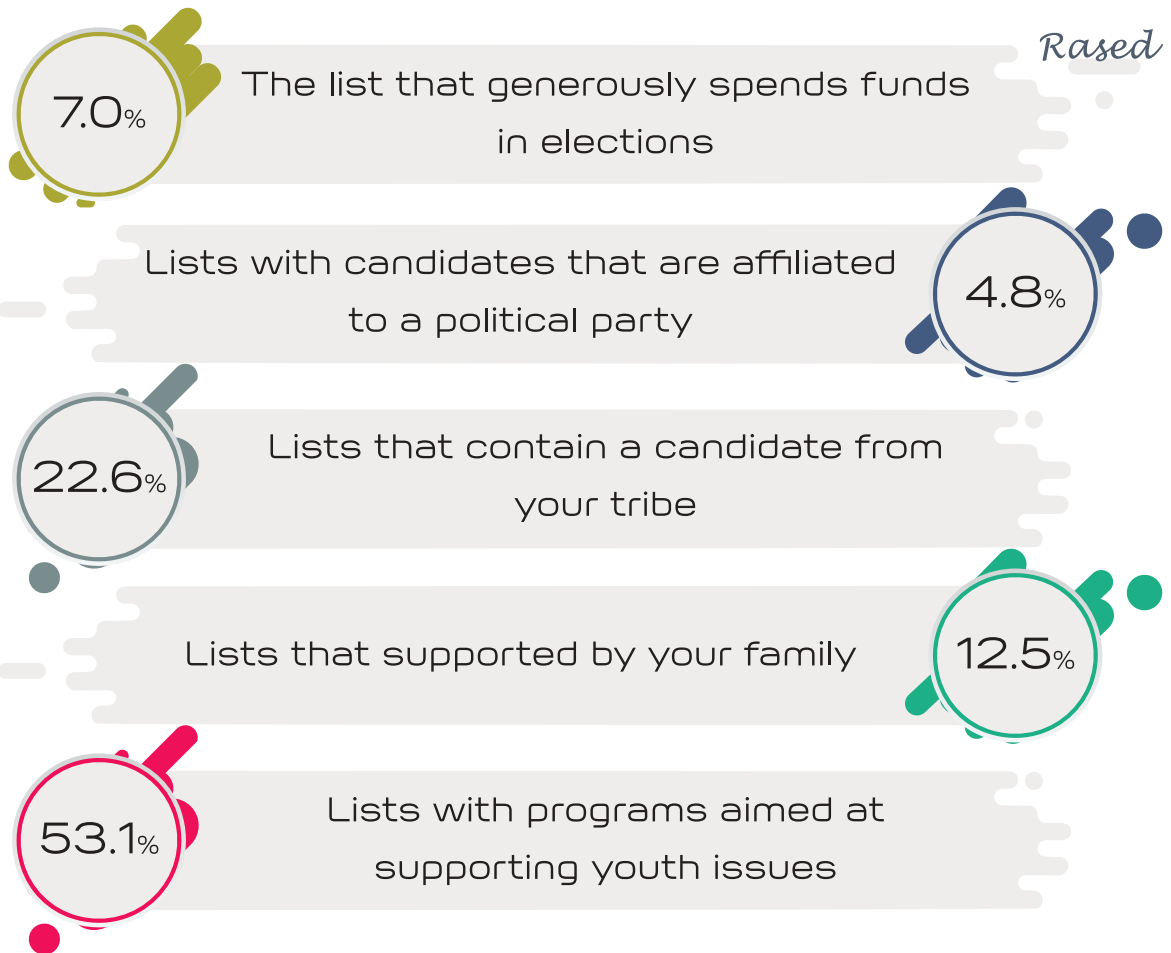
**The influence of the usage of religious slogans for
candidates' lists to bring youth votes**



**The influence of the usage of patriotic slogans specifically
(The Palestinian cause) by candidate lists to bring youth votes**



Which of the following lists do you feel like voting for in the upcoming parliamentary elections



The source of your election information

