



IFES Evaluation of the Yemen Voter Roll

October
2009

An evaluation of the voter list in Yemen through database testing and a Voter-to-List survey.



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I. OVERVIEW

Background

A chronic problem with voter registration in Yemen has been the incidence of multiple registrations and registration of people who have not reached the age of 18. Despite the SCER's checking and validation processes during voter registration update and review periods, there is a widespread impression that the registers are not accurate.

The 2006 voter list update in Yemen was marred by the opposition parties' boycott of the nomination of members for the sub-committees. As a result, the operation relied on poorly trained and inexperienced civil service applicants. There were numerous cases of registration of underage voters, improper confirmation of identity, and multiple registrations. All of this again cast serious doubts on the integrity of the voter list. At the end of the registration period, 1.5 million new registrants had been added to the 8 million registered voters of Yemen.

An exhaustive review of the voter list was carried out by the Supreme Commission for Election and Referendum (SCER) and the courts. This resulted in the removal of 300,000 multiple registrants and underage registrants. However, this review was not open and lacked transparency which caused the opposition Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) to suspect that it might have been influenced by partisanship. The JMP also demanded the inclusion in the June 18 Agreement signed by the ruling party and the opposition parties of provisions relating to the further review of the voter registers. The final voter list of approximately 9.17 million voters is considered reasonably accurate by the SCER. However, there has been no independent verification of the quality of the voter list.

Project Objectives

In order to independently assess the accuracy and quality of the voter list, IFES initially proposed two surveys: a List-to-Voter survey and a Voter-to-List survey. Following negotiations with the SCER, IFES was given access to conduct the Voter-to-List survey but not the List-to-Voter survey¹. The main objectives were the following:

- Estimating the overall accuracy of the voter registry
- Examining areas of concern in the voter registry
- Identifying structural deficiencies in the voter registration conducted to date

In particular, the Voter-to-List survey aimed to examine:

- If eligible voters living in Yemen are registered to vote
- If registered voters' information matches the information in the voter lists
- If there are duplicate IDs in the voter lists
- If people know voter registration procedures and have confidence in the process

¹ The SCER did not give IFES the needed access to conduct the List-to-Voter survey. This survey would have required randomly selecting names from the voter database at the SCER headquarters then visiting these sampled voters in their homes to verify their information. A List-to-Voter survey would have enabled IFES to examine whether there are people who are deceased but still figuring on the voter database, whether registered voters are registered at correct or invalid addresses, whether they are still in the country or have left and whether voters can be located by the information recorded in the voter list.

II. METHODOLOGY

Voter-to-List Survey Description

A sample of households was selected throughout Yemen for the voter-to-list survey. This sample was designed to be representative at the national level. The sample was thus distributed proportionally to the governorates of Yemen except for Al Maharah governorate due to its remoteness and low population size (0.5% of the total population). A base sample of 1,400 households was proportionally stratified by the 20 governorates covered in our survey. For 12 governorates that have a low population size, a boost sample of 199 was allocated to ensure that each governorate has a minimum of 53 sampled households. A regional weighting factor was subsequently introduced to correct for the minor over-sampling in these governorates. The total number of households covered in this survey is 1,599. In each household, the information of all voting-age household members (18 years or older) was recorded. This yielded a total sample size of 6,147 voting-age individuals in Yemen. See table below.

Governorate	Population	% in population	Base Household sample	Household oversample	Total Household sample	Number of captured adults	Number of Voting Centers
Capital Sanaa	2,006,619	9.4	131		131	542	9
Aden	654,099	3.1	43	11	54	222	4
Taiz	2,589,769	12.1	169		169	547	11
Lahj	784,412	3.7	51	3	54	166	4
Ibb	2,306,919	10.8	151		151	557	10
Abyan	468,420	2.2	31	23	54	195	4
Al-Baidha	623,793	2.9	41	13	54	201	4
Shabwah	509,748	2.4	33	21	54	322	4
Hadramout	1,126,355	5.3	74		74	249	5
Al-Maharah	0	0.0	0		0	553	0
Al-Hodeidah	2,370,444	11.1	155		155	382	10
Dhamar	1,455,280	6.8	95		95	334	6
Sana'a	987,056	4.6	64		64	257	4
Raymah	431,448	2.0	28	26	54	169	4
Al-Mahweet	539,219	2.5	35	19	54	375	4
Hajjah	1,618,858	7.6	106		106	190	7
Sa'ada	769,775	3.6	50	4	54	279	4
Al-Jawf	479,964	2.2	31	23	54	208	4
Marib	259,356	1.2	17	37	53	199	4
Amran	937,791	4.4	61		61	200	4
Al-Dhale'	519,945	2.4	34	20	54	542	4
Total	21,439,270		1,400	200	1,599	6,147	107

Survey and Questionnaire Specs

The survey questionnaire had two main sections (See Appendix). The *first section* was designed to capture the voter data of all adult household members. The information of all voting-age individuals was recorded even if these individuals were not registered to vote and even if they were not present at the time of the interview. Interviewers asked their family members to provide their voter information and,

whenever possible, to record their data from their voter IDs. The recorded voter information included the following fields (captured as in the voter ID):

- Full name
- Sex
- Date of birth
- Voter ID number
- Place of birth
- ID number
- Type of ID card
- Date of issue
- Issued by
- Voter ID registration number
- Voter ID registration date
- Governorate
- Administrative district
- Electoral constituency
- Voting center

The data collected in this section of the survey was subsequently entered into a separate dataset.

- The *sample size* of adult individuals captured in our Voter-to-List survey is 6,147.
- The *margin of error* for a purely random sample of this size is ± 1.25 .

The *second section* was designed to collect opinion data on various aspects of the voter registration process and on attitudes towards several aspects of the election process. In this section, only one adult respondent was randomly selected in each household. The data collected in this section was entered into a different dataset.

- The *sample size* of respondents to the opinion section of the survey is 1,599.
- The *margin of error* is ± 2.45 .

Fieldwork dates: July 30, 2009 till September 13, 2009.

Survey firm: IFES contracted the Yemen Polling Center—a Sana’a-based non-governmental, non-partisan research organization—to implement the survey in Yemen.

Data Matching

Following data collection and data entry, the information captured in the first dataset (voter data) was used to match registered voters’ records against the records in the voter database at the SCER headquarters in Sana’a. The matching of the voter data was conducted between October 4 and October 6 2009.

Report

This report contains an analysis of the voter data section and the corresponding matching results as well as the opinion data section.

III. SUMMARY OF MAIN SURVEY FINDINGS

Findings from the Voter Data Section

Voter registration

Findings from the IFES Voter-to-List Survey show that 89% of adults in Yemen are registered to vote. Adult women are less likely to be registered than men: 84% of women are registered vs. 94% of men. Overall, 69% of those who are not registered to vote are women.

The breakdown of registration data by region shows slight differences with rural areas having mildly higher registration rates than urban areas (90% vs. 88%). The breakdown of voter registration by governorates also shows some variation with some governorates having nearly universal registration rates such as Al Baidaa while Raimah and Dhamar have registration rates of 80%.

Of those who are registered to vote, two-thirds were able to produce valid ID numbers at the time of the survey interview while others either did not have the voter ID card available or had a lost or a damaged card.

Of those who are not registered, nearly half (48%) are voluntarily not registered and the rest have various other reasons for not being registered such as being absent during the time of registration (16%), being underage at the time of registration (15%), or being ineligible (4%). Seven percent tried to register but could not and the rest cited other different reasons for not being registered.

Matching of Survey Data against the SCER Voter Database

Assuming that a true match of a voter against the voter database requires that the ID number and at least three names (out of five names) have to match regardless of the position of names, we find that 84% of captured voters through the Voter-to-List survey can be found in the voter list. This includes registered voters whose ID numbers and all five names match in their correct positions (10%), voters whose ID numbers and four names match in their correct positions (39%), voters whose ID numbers and three names match in their correct positions (32%), and voters whose ID numbers and at least three names match regardless of position (3%).

Meanwhile, 16% of cases did not match against the voter database. These include cases where the ID matched an ID number but the name did not match (9%), and cases where the ID number matched against a deleted person (1%), and cases where neither the ID number nor the name matched 5%.

When breaking down the matching data by governorate, we find that there are some variations by regions. For instance, governorates such as Lahj, Al Jawf, and Raimah have higher-than-average non-match rates (36%, 26%, and 26% respectively) while governorates like Taiz, Al Baidaa, and Al Hodaibah display low non-match match rates (each at 11%).

It is noteworthy that in 4% of cases where the IDs were matched against the database, the ID numbers matched against duplicates, meaning that more than one similar ID number was found in the database, with each belonging to a different voter.

Findings from the Opinion Section of the Survey

Knowledge of the Voter Registration Process

Only a slim majority of respondents (56%) admit having a great deal or a fair amount of knowledge about the voter registration process versus 44% who have little or no knowledge about it. The gender gap in knowledge is substantial: only 39% of women say they know about the process versus 70% of men. Moreover, three in 10 Yemenis do not know how to change their information on the voter list versus 60% who say they know and 9% who say maybe when asked if they knew where to go to change their information on the voter list.

Confidence in the Voter Registration Process & Voter List Accuracy

According to survey findings, at least six in 10 Yemenis have a great deal or a fair amount of confidence in the voter registration versus 20% who do not and 10% who hold a neutral stance. Similarly, 60% trust that the voter list is accurate to some or to a great extent versus 25% who believe it is inaccurate and 15% who don't know. Opinions on the confidence in the registration process and accuracy of the list are highly influenced by political affiliation. Supporters of the ruling GPC party are much more likely to hold positive views about the voter registration process and the list when compared to opposition party supporters.

Views of the Voter Registration & Election Committees

Opinions of the registration committee's knowledge of the voter registration process are generally favorable: 83% believe it is fully or somewhat knowledgeable versus 9% who think it is completely or somewhat ignorant. Again, GPC party supporters hold more favorable views than opposition party supporters yet both maintain a solid majority that believes the committee is knowledgeable.

Similarly, a large majority (83%) is very or somewhat satisfied with the services provided by the election committee at the voting center on election day.

On a separate note, of those families who have a physically disabled adult, only half of them have voted in a previous election. This compares to a reported national average voter turnout rate of 80% in the 2006 election.

Opinions on Postponement of Elections

Sixty-four percent of surveyed respondents fully or somewhat support the postponement of the parliamentary elections from April 2009 until 2011 compared with 20% who oppose the postponement and 16% who don't know. More GPC supporters are in favor of the postponement (71%) than opposition party supporters (62%).

IV. FINDINGS FROM THE VOTER-TO-LIST SURVEY

Voter Registration

Fewer women than men report being registered to vote

Data from the IFES Voter-to-List survey shows that 89% of surveyed adults in Yemen are registered to vote and have received voter IDs compared with 11% who have not. The percentage of women who report being registered to vote is lower than that of men. Indeed, 16% of women report not being registered to vote: this is more than twice the level of men who are not registered (6%). Nearly 69% of those who are not registered to vote are women.

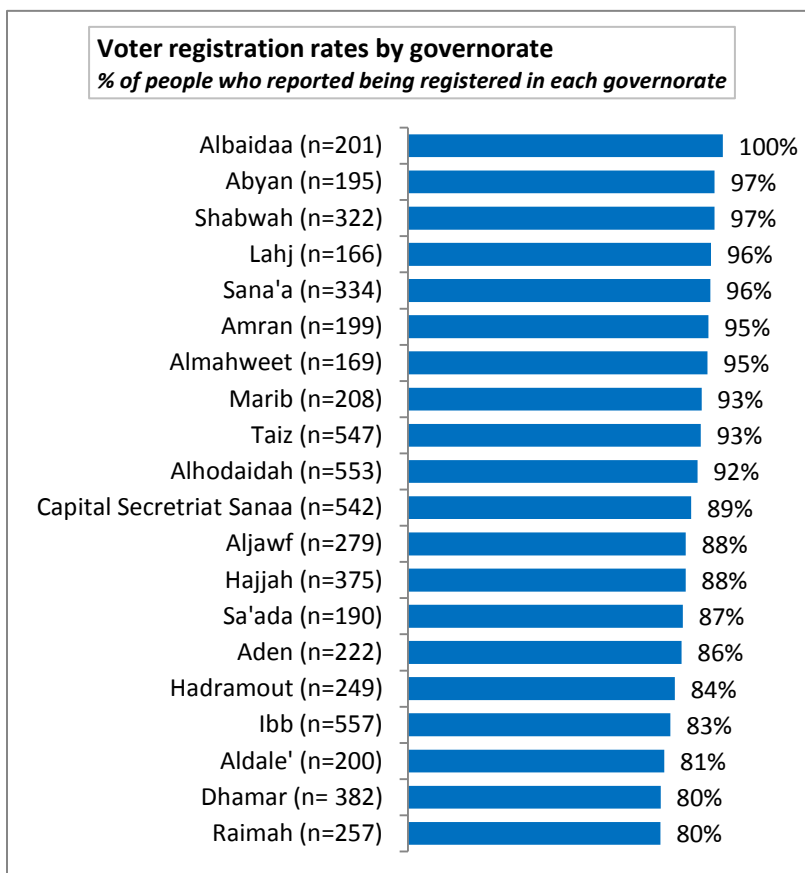
	Total (n=1,647)	Male (n=3,232)	Female (n=2,915)	Urban (n=1,920)	Rural (n=4,227)
YES, registered	89%	94%	84%	88%	90%
NO, not registered	11%	6%	16%	12%	10%

Voter registration patterns show differences across regions

In terms of the distribution of registration data by urban and rural settlements, we observe that of those who live in rural areas, 90% report being registered to vote compared with 88% of those who reside in urban areas.

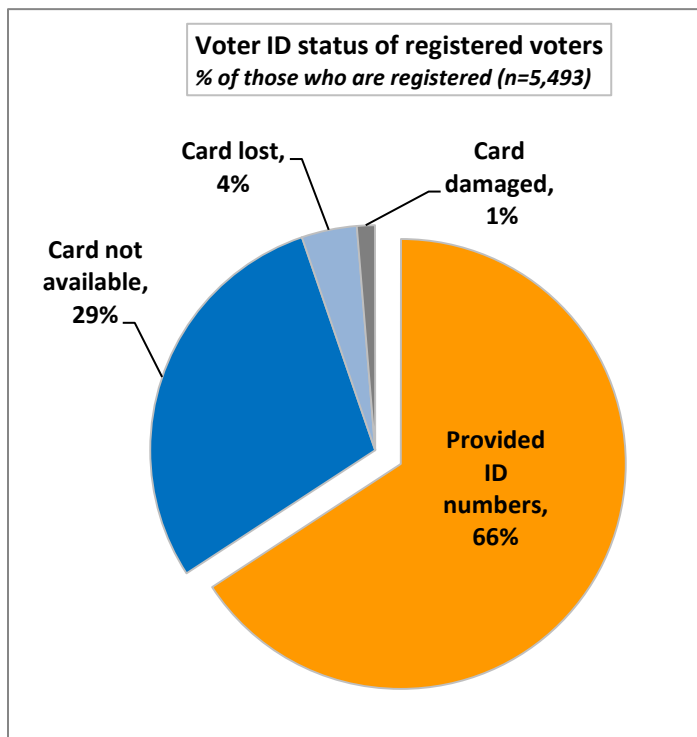
The regional breakdown of this data reveals some differences in patterns of voter registration by governorates: higher-than-average voter registration rates are observed in Al-Baidaa (~100%), Abyan and Shabwah (both at 97%), Lahj and Sana'a (both at 96%), and Amran and Al-Mahweet (both at 95%).

Meanwhile, lower-than-average registration rates are found in Dhamar and Reymah (both at 80%), Al-Dale' (81%), Ibb (83%), and Hadramout (84%).



One-third of registered voters unable to produce voter IDs during survey interview

When asked to provide their voter IDs in order for interviewers to record their voter data, a relatively high proportion of surveyed voters were unable to provide ID numbers. Among those who reported being registered to vote, 66% were able to provide voter IDs and their voter ID numbers were recorded. Twenty-nine percent of registered voters said their voter ID card was not available at the time of the survey interview. These include cases where people have misplaced their voter IDs or where the person filling out the information on behalf of other household members who are eligible to vote does not know where their IDs are placed. Four percent of respondents said their voter ID card was lost. Over 1% of registered voters had a damaged ID card or had a card where the voter ID number field was recorded unclearly. The matching process that was subsequently performed was based on 3,518 cases where voters submitted valid ID numbers.²



Of those who are registered to vote, 80% are registered at their place of normal residence, 9% are registered at the place where the family is based and 1% are registered at their place of work. The remaining 10% did not specify or did not know the type of domicile where the voter is registered.

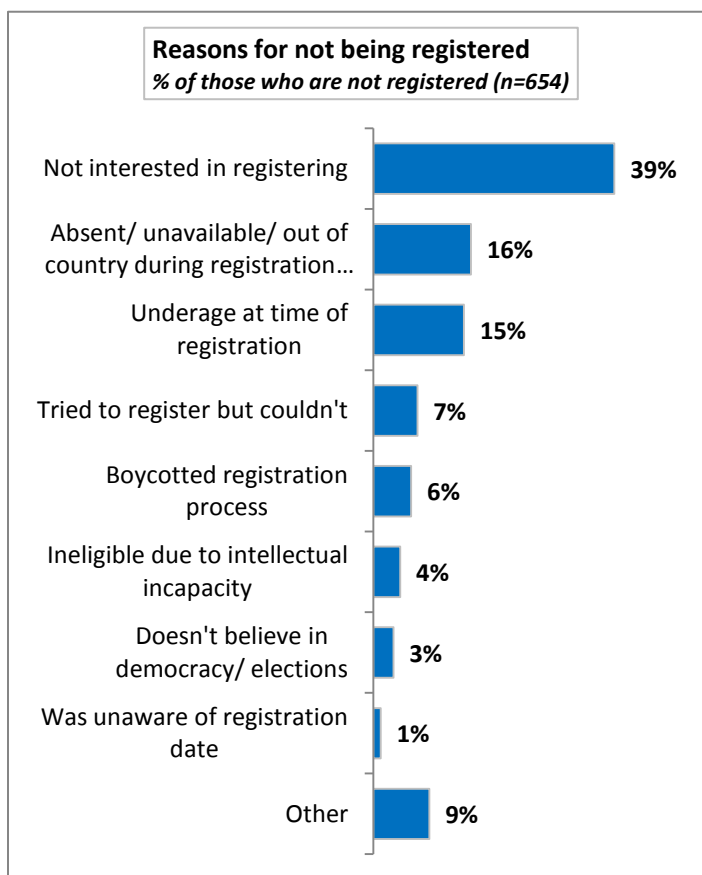
Of those eligible voters who submitted voter IDs and who were present during the survey interview, in almost all cases (99%), interviewers noted that the photo ID could identify the voter. In less than 1% of the cases, interviewers noted that the photo was in bad quality and could not identify the voter or that it displayed a different person. There were many cases where the interviewer was not able to assess the quality of the photo due to several reasons, these include cases where the card is not available (27%), or when the person is not available (5%), or because of gender issues (5%), i.e. when the registered voter is a female and the interviewer is a male, which means that the interviewer is not able to see the face of the voter to assess the quality of the photo ID.

² The matching process was conducted on ID numbers that have been initially collected by the survey firm and then verified to be valid following a data cleaning and back-checking process. The total number of cases for which the matching process was performed is 3,518, which represents 64% of registered voters.

Lack of interest is main reason for not registering

Respondents who are not registered to vote were asked why it was the case. Most of those who are not registered had willingly chosen not to register. Indeed, a plurality of those who are not registered (39%) simply said they were not interested in registering. Another 6% said they had boycotted the voter registration process and 3% said they did not believe in democracy and elections. This puts the share of those who deliberately chose not to register at a full 48%.

Others were not registered because of different types of situations such as being absent, unavailable, or out of country during the registration process (16%), being underage at the time of registration (15%), or being ineligible due to an intellectual incapacity (4%). It is noteworthy that 7% of respondents said they had tried to register but could not and 1% said they were unaware of the registration date. Some 9% of respondents gave other reasons for not registering, including families that are opposed to the registration of female family members or certain tribes whose traditions do not permit voter registration.



Matching of Survey Voter Data against the SCER Voter Database

Methodology of matching ID numbers with names electronically

The collection of registered voters' data through the household survey was followed by a process of electronically matching ID numbers and names with the voter database at the SCER headquarters. In the following analysis, we use strict definitions as well as looser ones to assess the accuracy of the voter list while taking into account the complexity of the particular way of recording names in Yemen³. Each person is supposed to have five names: a first name, a father's name, a grandfather's name, a fourth name and a family name. The fact that each person has five names but that not every person has all five names recorded on the list can create a source of discrepancy with the data collected through the household survey. As such, when one of the five names is missing, what is considered a family name in the household survey (in position five) might be recorded as a fourth name in the voter list. Consequently, the strict matching of names with their expected positions becomes problematic and warrants the introduction of additional scripts that can take into consideration shifts in name positions.

Another major source of discrepancy in the process of matching names are the many different ways in which names can be written in Arabic. If a purely automated matching process were to be carried out, only a tiny fraction of registered voters would be found on the list. Consequently, in the matching process, we had to introduce several protocols to control for such name spelling differences by, for instance, creating a list of what we referred to as "equal names." For each common name, we created a list of equal names, i.e. different ways of writing the same name. Based on the equal name protocol, similar names that just happen to be written differently become matches rather than non-matches.

Additionally, for all non-match cases, i.e. cases where fewer than two names matched in any position, we conducted a process of manual matching. The manual matching process consisted of looking at all these non-match cases one-by-one and assessing whether this is a match or not by identifying similar names written differently and examining if name shifts were the cause of the non-match. We asked ourselves the following questions:

- Are there misspellings that are causing the mismatch?
- Are there simply shifts in name positions that are causing the mismatch?
- Are the names similar but just written differently, which is causing the mismatch?

The following analysis starts by a matching process based on ID numbers and different name combinations and is followed by a stricter definition that looks at ID numbers, names, voting centers, gender and dates of birth matches.

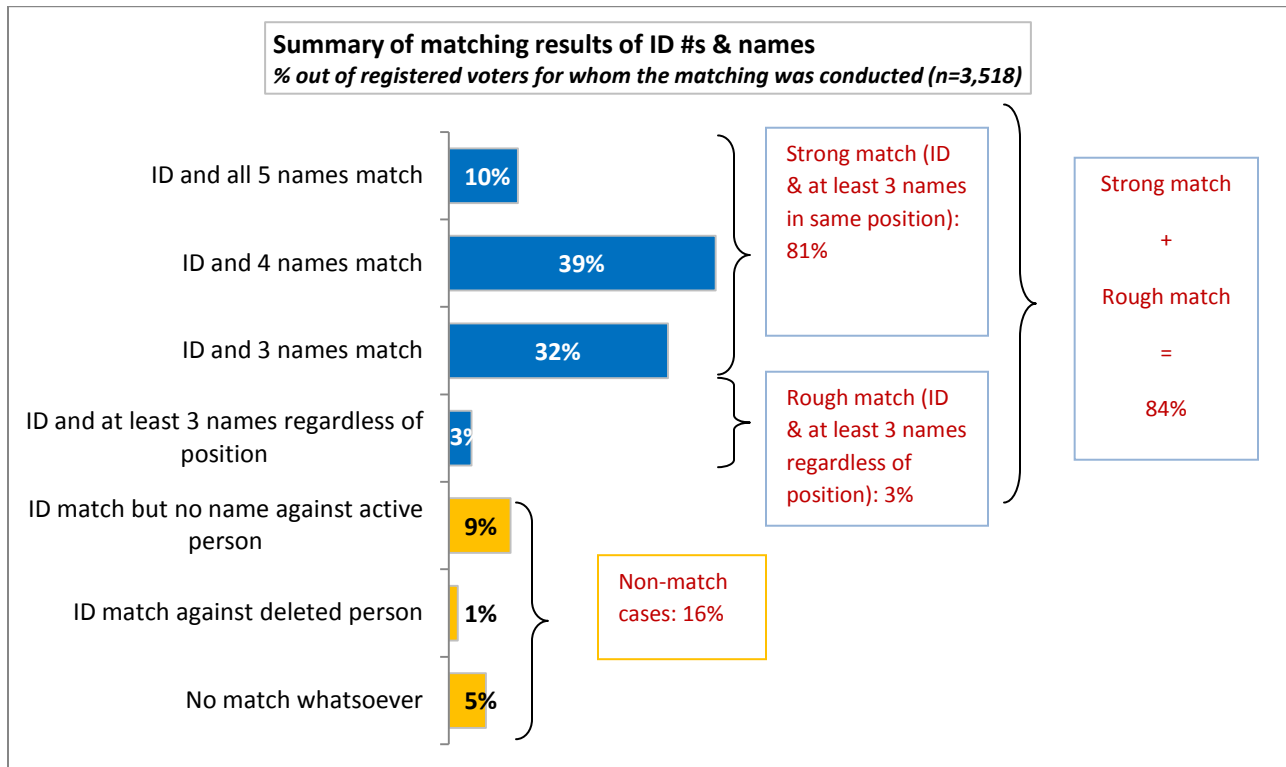
³ In the subsequent analysis, strict definitions for matching assume that names have to match in their same positions and loose definitions relax the condition of matching in same positions and assume that a match is true even if the position of names is not the same.

Matching voter IDs with different name combinations finds 84% of surveyed voters are on list

The table below lists the detailed results of the matching of voter ID numbers with names. The list starts with a strict definition of matching and loosens the definition gradually.

Detailed results of matching ID numbers with different name combinations	% out of registered voters for whom the matching process was conducted (n=3,518)
ID match and all 5 names match	10.1%
ID match and name matches except 5th name	31.5%
ID match and name matches except 4 th name	3.0%
ID match and name matches except 3 rd name	1.0%
ID match and name matches except 2 nd name	1.2%
ID match and name matches except 1 st name	2.2%
ID match but 4th & 5th don't match	14.8%
ID match but 5th & 3rd don't match	3.4%
ID match but 5th & 2nd don't match	3.2%
ID match but 5th & 1st don't match	7.7%
ID match but 4th & 3rd don't match	0.8%
ID match but 4th & 2nd don't match	0.5%
ID match but 4th & 1st don't match	0.7%
ID match but 3rd & 2nd don't match	0.2%
ID match but 3rd & 1st don't match	0.3%
ID match but 1st & 2nd don't match	0.2%
ID match with any 5 names match regardless of position	0.1%
ID match with any 4 names match regardless of position	1.1%
ID match with any 3 names match regardless of position	2.1%
ID match but no name match against active person	9.0%
ID match against deleted person	1.3%
No match at all	5.4%
Total	100.0%

The following chart summarizes the main findings listed in the previous table. The matching of ID numbers and names finds that, in only 10% of cases, there was a complete match where the ID number and all five names matched in their same positions. In 39% of cases, the ID number and four names matched in their same positions and in 32% of cases, the ID number and three names matched in their same positions. When defining a strong match as being one where the ID number and at least three names have to match in their same positions, the percentage of matches out of all voters for whom the matching process was conducted amounts to 81%. If we add a looser definition for matching, where the ID and at least three names match regardless of position, the total percentage of matches increases to 84%.



Meanwhile, non-match cases make up 16% of voters for whom the matching process was conducted. These include cases where the recorded ID number matched an ID number in the database but the name did not match at all (9%), and cases where the ID number matched against a deleted person (1%) and cases where there was no match whatsoever, meaning that neither the ID number was found nor the name was found in the voter database (5%).

Analysis of non-match cases

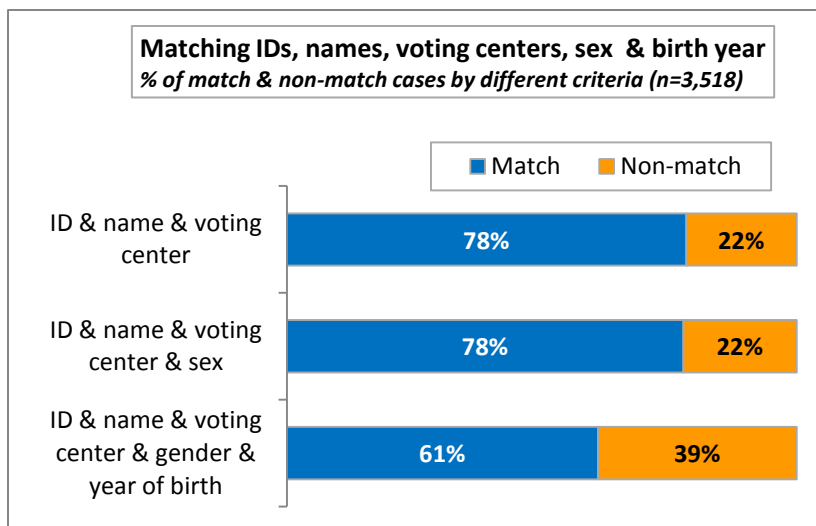
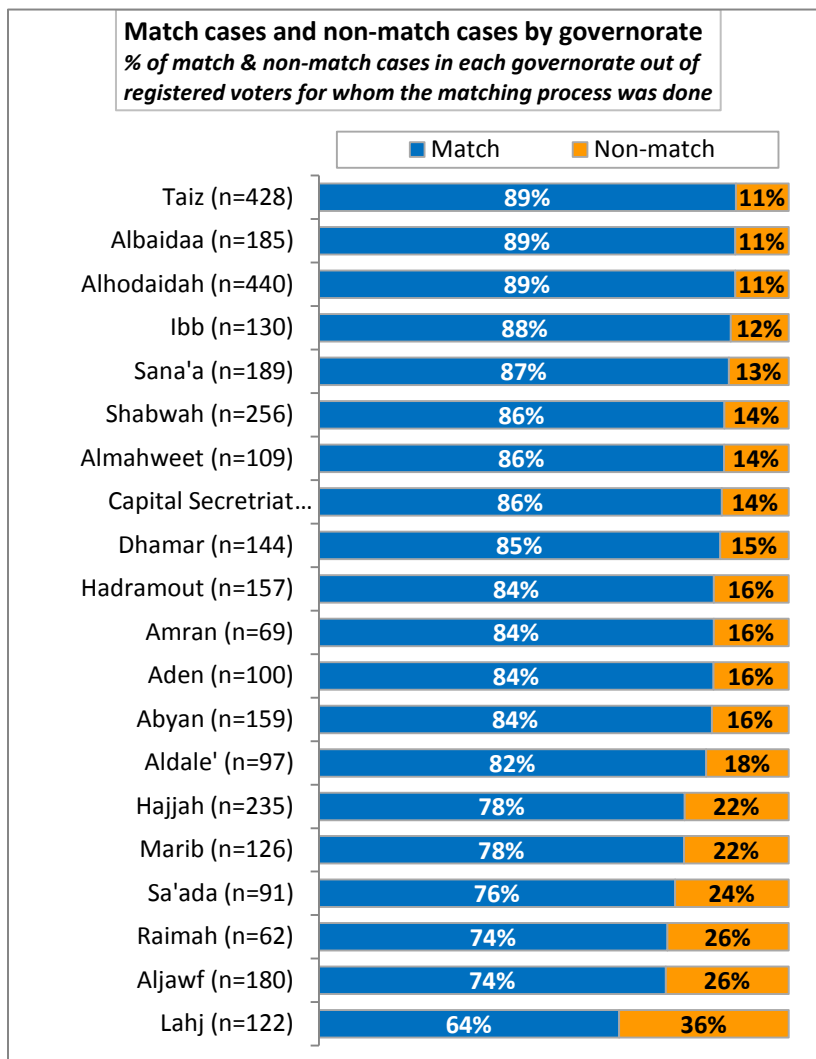
Cases where ID numbers and names did not match any information on the voter list (5% of all the cases that were subject to the matching process) were subsequently revisited in the field by the local survey firm. For each person, the survey firm first attempted contact by phone, then, if a phone contact was not conclusive, interviewers revisited these people in their homes to verify their voter information. Of these cases, about half were verified and showed that the ID numbers were recorded correctly, which means that the non-match result holds. For the other half, it was not possible to conclusively verify their voter information for several reasons including refusal to cooperate on behalf of respondents or inability to reach respondents (81%), problems with the voter ID card such as a damaged, lost, unavailable or unclear ID (18%), and voter cards that are replacements and have temporary ID numbers (1%).

Matching results show some variation across governorates

When breaking down the share of matched vs. non-matched cases by region (assuming that a match consists of an ID number match and at least 3 names matching regardless of position), we detect some variation across governorates. Governorates where non-match cases are particularly pronounced are Lahj (36%), Al Jawf and Raimah (each at 26%), and Sa'ada (24%). Governorates where match cases are significantly higher-than-average are Taiz, Al Baidaa, Al Hodaidah (each at 89%), and Ibb (88%).

Matching voter IDs with names and additional criteria

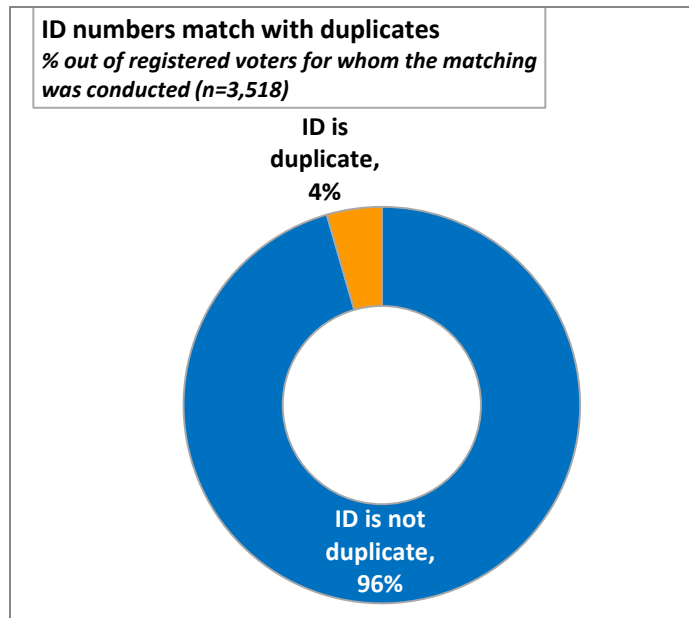
Following the matching of ID numbers and names, we added additional criteria to examine the percentage of cases that would still match against the voter database. We found that in 78% of the cases, ID numbers match with names (at least 3 names in any position) and with the correct voting center. When adding the criteria of the sex of the voter, we found that the same percentage (78%) of cases still matches with the information in the voter registry. When adding the criteria of year of birth, the percentage of match cases drops drastically: in only 61% of cases do voter ID numbers, names, voting center, sex and year of birth match



with the information in the database versus 39% of non-matches. This highlights a serious problem in Yemen where many people do not get registered at birth and thus are unaware of their true year of birth, let alone their full date of birth.

Four percent of captured ID numbers match against duplicates in the voter database

The matching process of ID numbers with ID numbers in the database revealed that there are cases of duplicate IDs in the database. Out of the voters who submitted voter ID numbers during the survey interview, 4% have matched with duplicate IDs in the database, i.e. they have matched with more than one similar ID number but each ID number is for a different individual. While this percentage seems small in absolute terms, it is large when projected to the size of the registered population and it highlights a serious problem that could potentially, if it remains unresolved, create possibilities for voter fraud during the upcoming election.



V. OPINIONS ON VOTER REGISTRATION & OTHER ELECTION PROCEDURES

Knowledge of the Voter Registration Process

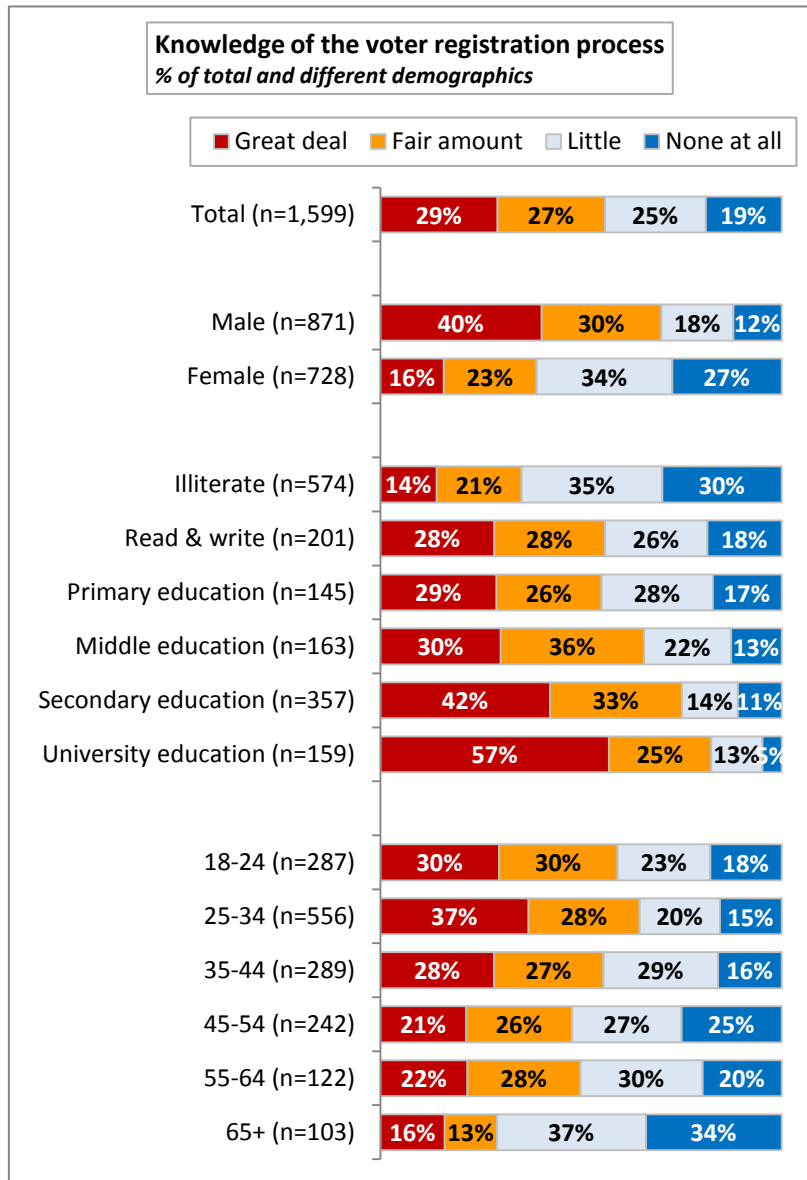
Slim majority reports knowing about the voter registration process

When asked how much they knew about the voter registration process in Yemen, a slim majority of 56% of respondents reported having a great deal (29%) or a fair amount (27%) of knowledge compared with 44% who reported having only a little knowledge (25%) or no knowledge at all (19%) about it.

The gender gap in knowledge about the voter registration process is quite significant: a large majority of men (70%) said they had a great deal or a fair amount of knowledge about the process compared with only 39% of women.

Evidently, as respondents' level of education increases, the reported level of knowledge about the voter registration process increases as well. Among respondents who are illiterate, only 35% report a great deal or a fair amount of knowledge about the voter registration process, this compares with 56% among those who can read and write, 55% among those with a primary education, 66% among those with a middle school education, 75% among those with a secondary education, and 82% among those with university education or higher.

In terms of age groups, the 25-34 age group is the most knowledgeable about the voter registration process with 65% reporting having a great deal or a fair amount of knowledge about it. Respondents

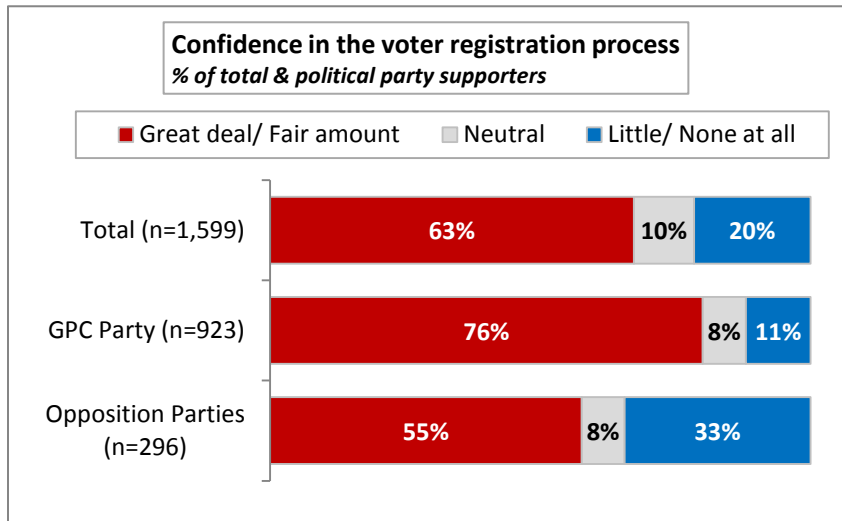


with the least knowledge about the voter registration process are those aged 65 or older with 71% reporting little or no knowledge at all about the process.

Confidence in the Voter Registration Process & Voter List Accuracy

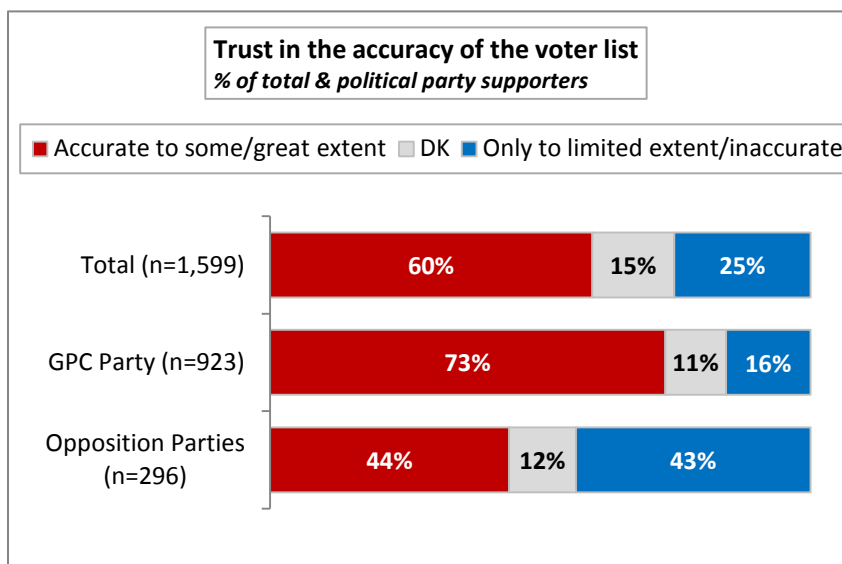
Perceptions of voter list accuracy largely influenced by political affiliation

When asked about their confidence in the voter registration process, about six in 10 Yemenis said they had a great deal (37%) or a fair amount (26%) of confidence in the voter registration process. This compares with 20% who have little (11%) or no confidence at all (9%) and 10% who hold a neutral position. Supporters of the ruling General People Congress (GPC) party have a much higher degree



of confidence in the voter registration process than opposition party supporters (76% vs. 55% respectively). About one-third of opposition party supporters have little or no confidence in the voter registration process versus a much lower 11% among GPC supporters.

Similarly, 60% of respondents believe the voter list is accurate to some (28%) or to a great extent (32%) compared with a quarter of respondents who think it is only accurate to a very limited extent (15%) or inaccurate (10%). While a majority believes that the voter list is accurate, the share of those who judge it as inaccurate is significant and could be a cause of concern for the next election. Opinions on the accuracy of the voter list are greatly influenced

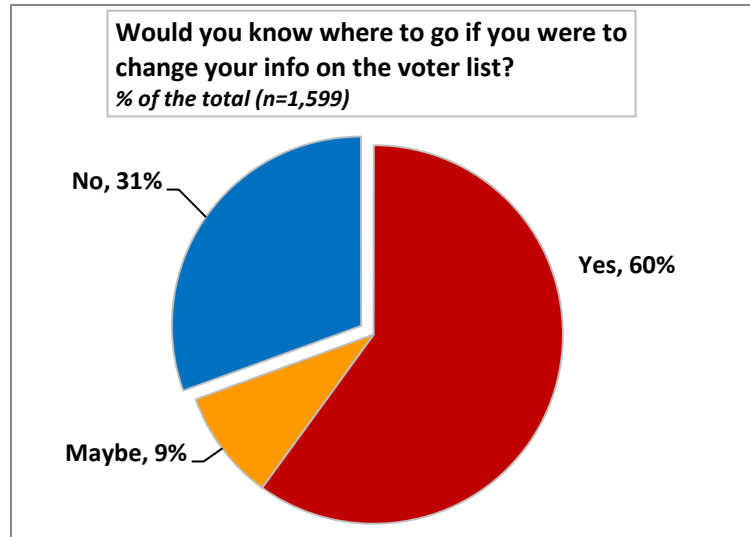


by respondents' political affiliation. A sizable majority (73%) of GPC supporters essentially believe that the voter list is accurate to a great (44%) or to some (29%) extent. In contrast, opposition party supporters are split with 44% saying the voter list is accurate to some or great extent and 43% saying it

is only accurate to a limited extent or that it is inaccurate. In particular, supporters of the Islah Party are very likely to believe that there are problems with the voter list: 45% believe the voter list inaccurate versus a smaller percentage of 39% who say it is accurate and 16% who say they do not know.

At least three in 10 Yemenis do not know how to change their information on the voter list

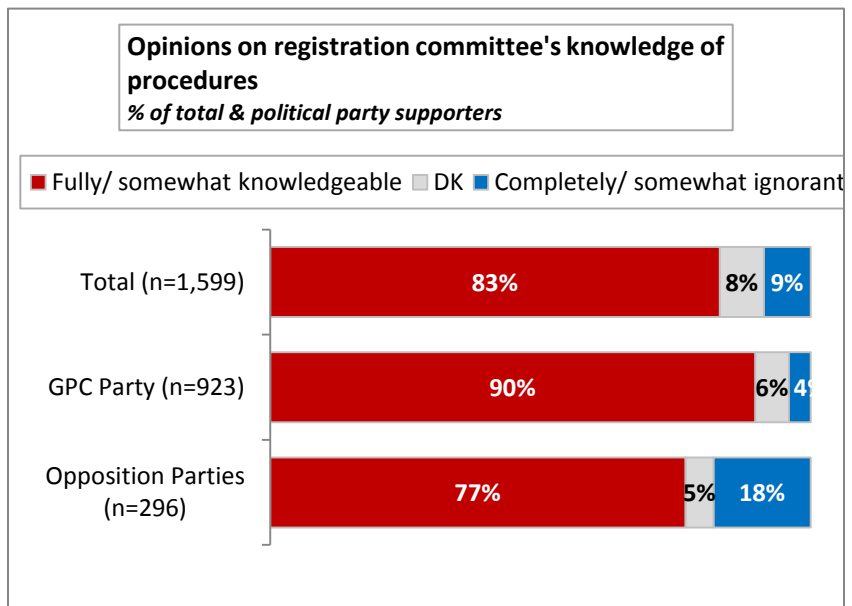
When asked if they knew where to go if they were to change their information or a family member’s information on the voter list, a 60% majority said they knew, 9% said maybe yet a sizable 31% of respondents said they did not know. Next, respondents were asked about their personal experience with the voter registration process. Seventy-seven percent said they had tried to personally register themselves or family members in the past.



Views of the Voter Registration and Election Committees

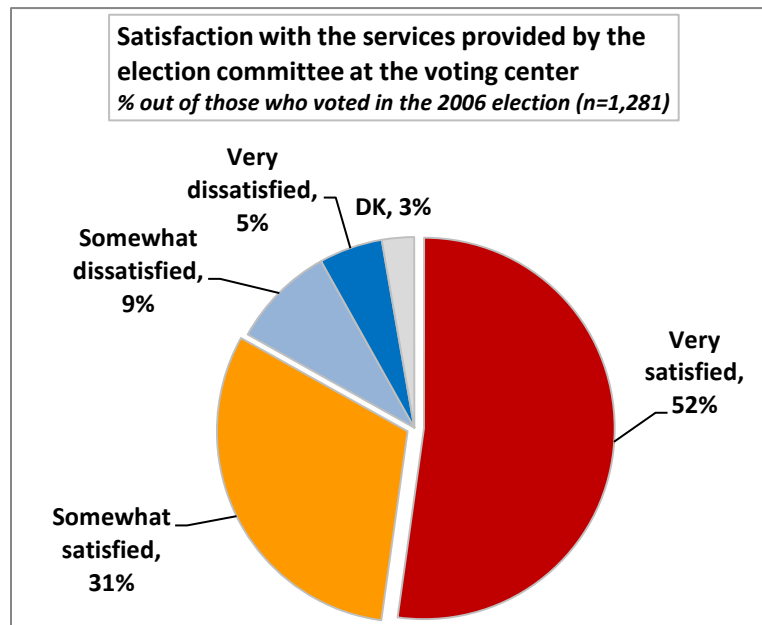
Registration committee believed to be knowledgeable about procedures

On whether they thought the committee seemed knowledgeable about voter registration procedures, 54% said the committee seemed fully knowledgeable about procedures and 29% thought the committee seemed somewhat knowledgeable about procedures. This compares with a much lower 9% who believed the committee seemed somewhat (2%) or completely ignorant (8%) about procedures. The remaining 8% said they did not know. While large majorities of both GPC party supporters and opposition party supporters believe the committee is fully or somewhat knowledgeable about voter registration procedures, GPC supporters are more likely to believe it is knowledgeable (90%) than opposition party supporters (77%).



Majority satisfied with services provided by election committee

Of those respondents who had voted in the 2006 election, 83% are either very (52%) or somewhat (31%) satisfied with the services provided by the election committee that was present at the voting center versus 14% who are either very (5%) or somewhat (9%) dissatisfied. As is the case with opinions on the committee’s knowledge of voter registration procedures, while majorities of both GPC supporters and opposition party supporters are satisfied with the services of the election committee on election day, satisfaction levels are lower among opposition parties supporters (70%) than GPC supporters (91%).



When asked if they had noticed the presence of security forces inside the voting center, almost nine in 10 people said that they have. Among those who have noticed security forces, a 56% majority said they felt secure due to the presence of security forces and 15% felt intimidated. Meanwhile, some 29% said the presence of security forces inside the center did not affect them in one way or another.

Only half of the physically disabled adults had voted in a previous election

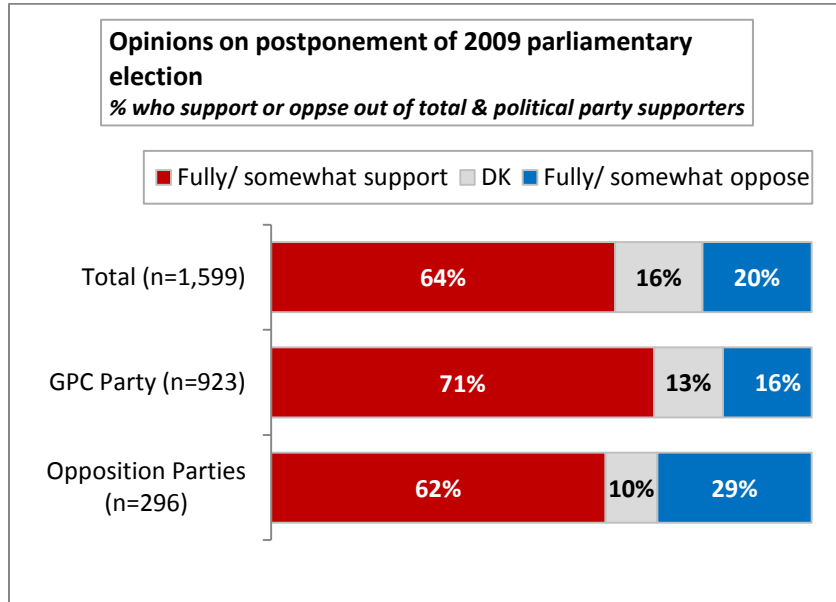
Respondents who had any adult members of their family who are physically disabled were asked questions about their experience in voting in the election. Four percent of respondents said they had family members who are physically disabled. Among those, half of them voted in a previous election and the other half did not. When compared to the percent of surveyed respondents who admitted voting in the 2006 election (80%), this shows a 30% deficit in participation rates and indicates that it is very difficult for this segment of the population to take part in the democratic process. Indeed, even among the physically disabled people who managed to vote in a previous election, 21% said it was somewhat (7%) or very (14%) hard for them to access the voting center and vote versus 79% who said it was very (50%) or somewhat (29%) easy.

Opinions on Postponement of Elections

Six in 10 Yemenis support the postponement of parliamentary elections

The postponement of the parliamentary election that was supposed to take place in April of 2009 until 2011 was another subject that was covered in the survey. When respondents were asked if they supported or opposed this decision to defer the election by two years, 64% said they fully (42%) or somewhat (22%) supported this decision versus 20% who somewhat (9%) or strongly (11%) opposed it. The remaining 16% did not have an opinion or refused to answer. Majorities of both GPC supporters and opposition party supporters supported the postponement of the election. However, a larger majority

(71%) of GPC supporters were in favor of postponing the election than the majority that favored this decision among opposition party supporters (62%). Meanwhile, 29% of opposition party supporters opposed this decision versus a much lower 16% of GPC supporters.



APPENDIX: VOTER-TO-LIST SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire #	Project #	Project Name	Interviewer name and #
	45	IFES Voter Roll Audit Voter-to-List Survey	

Section A: Administrative Data

A. GOVERNORATE	B. ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT		C. PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY		D. OUZLA/ AREA														
E. VILLAGE/ NEIGHBORHOOD	F. VOTING CENTER		G. TYPE OF SETTLEMENT		H. HOUSEHOLD #														
			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: left;">URBAN</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: left;">RURAL</td> </tr> </table>		1	URBAN	2	RURAL											
1	URBAN																		
2	RURAL																		
I. Interview Completed on:	G. Date of Interview			K. Beginning of interview			L. End of interview			M. Reason for Substitution									
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: left;">First visit</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: left;">Second visit</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: left;">Third visit</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: left;">Substituted</td> </tr> </table>	1	First visit	2	Second visit	3	Third visit	4	Substituted	Day	Month	Year	M/N	Min	Sec	M/N	Min	Sec	1	Refused interview
1	First visit																		
2	Second visit																		
3	Third visit																		
4	Substituted																		
										2	Not within sample								
										3	No one home								
										4	Not available								

Number of doors knocked before conducting interview	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----

Quality Control Steps		Employee/Supervisor name	Number	Date Questionnaire Checked			Signature
N	Supervisor check			Day	Month	Year	
O	YPC check						
P	Data entry check						

General Interviewer Instructions:

- Do not read responses unless there are instructions to do so.
- In all cases, never read response options “don’t know” and “refused.”
- In the first part of the questionnaire, there are interviewer instructions on the left-hand side of the questions that explain question skips and filters. Follow these instructions carefully and accurately.
- In the second part of the questionnaire, you’ll find instructions on the right-hand side of the questions.
- Record all information in clear handwriting and in the specified space. Any questionnaire form that includes unclear handwriting or struck-out responses will be canceled.

Section B: Household Data

- IN B2, RECORD THE INFORMATION OF ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS 18+ STARTING FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD, SO THAT EACH PERSON HAS A NUMBER. IN THE NEXT PAGES, COPY THE NAME OF EACH HOUSEHOLD MEMBER UNDER THE CORRESPONDING NUMBER JUST LIKE IN THE FIRST PAGE.
- ASK THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD OR ANY ADULT RESPONSIBLE MEMBER OF THE FAMILY. FIRST WRITE THE NAME OF HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD IN THE CORRESPONDING COLUMN 1 THEN ALL OTHERS 18+ HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (TURNED 18 BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2009).
- IN CASE THERE ARE MORE THAN 7 PEOPLE IN THE HOUSE ABOVE 18 YEARS OF AGE, USE THE ADDITIONAL FORM AND ATTACH IT TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE.
- DO NOT INCLUDE FOREIGN CITIZENS IN THE HOUSEHOLD GRID.
- IN CASES WHERE THE RESPONDENT DOES NOT KNOW THE ANSWER, ENTER CODE 98 IN THE CORRESPONDING CELL.

B1 Total number of all 18+ members of this household: Male: Female: Total:

[INTERVIEWER: CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER WHO IS ANSWERING THE QUESTIONS]

Interviewer Instructions	Question	Responses	1 (Head of Household)	2	3	4	5	6	7
[RECORD NAMES FULLY]	B2	1. First name							
		2. Father's name							
		3. Grandfather's name							
		4. Forth name							
		5. Family name							

	B3 Sex	1. Male	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		2. Female	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

	B4 What is [NAME]'s relationship to the head of the household?	1. Head of the household	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		2. Spouse	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3. Child	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4. Parent	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		5. Brother/ Sister	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
		6. Other relative	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
		7. Not related	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

[IF UNKNOWN; ENTER CODE 98]	B5 What is [NAME]'s	1. Day							
		2. Month							

	birthday?	3. Year							
--	-----------	---------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Interviewer Instructions	Question	Responses	1 (Head of Household)	2	3	4	5	6	7
[IF NOT REGISTERED, GO TO B13]	B6 Is [NAME] registered to vote?	1. Yes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		2. No	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

	B7 Did [NAME] receive voter ID card?	1. Yes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		2. No	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

[FOR THOSE WHO HAVE A VOTER ID CARD, ASK TO SEE THE CARD AND RECORD THE INFORMATION AS IT APPEARS ON THE CARD.]	B8	1. Voter ID number							
		2. Place of birth							
		3. ID number							
		4. Type of ID card							
		5. Date of issue							
		6. Issued by							
		7. Voter ID registration number							
		8. Voter ID registration date							
		9. Voter ID not available	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
		99. Voter ID is missing	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
		100. Comment							

[ASK OF THOSE WHO ARE REGISTERED: ANSWERED YES IN	B9 Is [NAME] registered to vote	1. Yes, registered at this address	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		2. No, not registered at this address	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

B6]	at this address?	98. Don't know	98	98	98	98	98	98	98
-----	------------------	----------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Interviewer Instructions	Question	Responses	1 (Head of Household)	2	3	4	5	6	7
[ASK OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED 2 IN B9; CHECK THE INFORMATION OF THOSE REGISTERED AT CURRENT ADDRESS IF IT MATCHES ADDRESS IN SECTION A; IF NOT RECORD IT HERE]	B10 What address is [NAME] registered at?	1. Governorate							
		2. Administrative district							
		3. Electoral constituency							
		4. Voting center							
		98. Don't know	98	98	98	98	98	98	98

[ASK OF THOSE WHO ARE REGISTERED (ANSWERED 1 IN B6) AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE A CARD, DOUBLE CHECK THE INFORMAITON]	B11 What type of domicile is [NAME] registered at?	1. Place of normal residence	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		2. Place of work	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3. Place family is based	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4. Not specified	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		98. Don't know	98	98	98	98	98	98	98

[FOR THOSE WHO RECEIVED A VOTER ID (ANSWERED YES IN B7) AND ID IS AVAILABLE]	B12 [ASSESS PHOTO QUALITY]	1. Photo can identify voter	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		2. Photo is in bad quality; cannot identify voter	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3. Photo is wrong; shows another person	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4. Cannot verify due to gender issues	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		5. Cannot verify because card is not available	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
		6. Cannot verify because person is	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

		not available							
		7. Other, specify:							

Interviewer Instructions	Question	Responses	1 (Head of Household)	2	3	4	5	6	7
[ASK OF EACH MEMBER WHO IS NOT REGISTERED (ANSWERED NO IN B6)]	B13 Why is [NAME] not registered?	1. Not interested in registering	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		2. Was absent/ unavailable/ out of country during registration process	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3. Tried to register but couldn't	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4. Boycotted registration process	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		5. Doesn't believe in democracy/ elections	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
		6. Ineligible due to being underage at time of registration	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
		7. Ineligible due to intellectual incapacity	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
		8. Ineligible due to criminal conviction	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
		9. Was unaware of registration date	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
		10. Other, specify:							

B14 Are there any members of this household registered to vote and are below 18 years of age? *Interviewer Instructions*

1	Yes	
2	No	GO TO B17
99	Refused	GO TO B17

B15 How many? _____

1	[RECORD NUMBER OF UNDERAGE REGISTRANTS]:
99	Refused

B16 Please provide their names and their Voter ID numbers: _____

	Name	Voter ID number	
1			[ASK TO SEE THEIR IDS AND CAREFULLY RECORD NUMBERS HERE; ADD LINES AS NEEDED.]
2			
3			
4			
5			
99	Refused to provide voter IDs.		

B17 Are there any members of this household who are registered to vote and are mentally challenged? *Interviewer Instructions*

1	Yes	
2	No	GO TO SECTION C
99	Refused	GO TO SECTION C

B18 How many? _____

1	[RECORD NUMBERS OF INELIGIBLE MEMBERS WHO ARE REGISTERED]:
99	Refused

Thank you for your cooperation. Now I will ask you a few questions about the voter registration process.

Section C: Questions on registration process

- Tell the head of the household that you'll be randomly selecting one of the family members above 18 to continue the interview.
- Male interviewers: write down the names of male members only in the Kish grid. Female interviewers: write down only females.

Method of selecting respondent:

1. Write down the first letter of each household member's name (18+) starting from the older person in Table A: Household Members.
2. Go to the first row of numbers in Table B, circle the number that equals the last number you wrote a number and an age next to it in Table A then draw a vertical line (from top to bottom) from the circle you drew to the bottom of table B.
3. In the same Table B, go to the first column (Questionnaire code) and circle the number that equals the last digit in the questionnaire number (if the questionnaire serial number is 00128, we circle number 8 in the column (Questionnaire form) in Table B). Then we draw a horizontal line from this circle until the end of the table.
4. The two lines will cross at a specific number in Table B, for example number 5, this means that the interview will be conducted with the person whose age is recorded next to number 5 in Table A, and remember to put a check mark (✓) in the column (selected respondent) next to the age of the selected person.

Table A: Household Members			
Number	First initial and age starting from oldest		Selected Respondent
	First initial	Age	
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			

Table B: Respondent Selection											
Questionnaire Code	The number representing the total number of people in the household (18+).										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	1	2	1	2	4	4	2	5	7	8	8
2	1	1	2	3	5	5	3	6	8	9	9
3	1	2	3	4	1	6	4	7	9	10	10
4	1	1	1	1	2	1	5	8	1	1	11
5	1	2	2	2	3	2	6	1	2	2	1
6	1	1	3	3	4	3	7	2	3	3	2
7	1	2	1	4	5	4	1	3	4	4	3
8	1	1	2	1	1	5	2	4	5	5	4
9	1	2	3	2	2	6	3	5	6	6	5
0	1	1	1	3	3	1	4	6	7	7	6

C1 How much do you know about the voter registration process in Yemen?

Interviewer Instructions

1	I have a great deal of knowledge about it
2	I have a fair amount of knowledge about it
3	I have little knowledge about it
4	I have no knowledge at all about it

C2 How much confidence do you have in the voter registration process in Yemen?

1	I have a great deal of confidence
2	I have a fair amount of confidence
3	Neutral
4	I have little confidence
5	I have no confidence at all
98	Don't know

C3 Do you trust that the voter list is accurate and includes eligible voters in Yemen?
Please select one of these answers.

1	The voter list is accurate to a great extent
2	The voter list is accurate to some extent
3	The voter list is only accurate to a very limited extent
4	The voter list is inaccurate
98	Don't know
99	Refused

*Interviewer
Instructions*

C4 If you were to register yourself or a family member or change your information or a family member's information on the voter list, would you know where to go?

1	Yes
2	Maybe
3	No
98	Don't know
99	Refused

C5 Have you personally tried to register yourself or a family member(s) in the voter list in the past?

1	Yes	
2	No	GO TO C7
99	Refused	GO TO C7

C6 Thinking back about your experience at the registration center, to what extent did the voter registration committee seem knowledgeable about voter registration procedures?

1	Committee seemed fully knowledgeable about procedures	
2	Committee seemed somewhat knowledgeable about procedures	
3	Committee seemed somewhat ignorant about procedures	
4	Committee seemed completely ignorant about procedures	READ RESPONSES
98	Don't know	
99	Refused	

C7 Did you participate in the 2006 elections?

1	Yes	
2	No	IGNORE C8
99	Refused	IGNORE C8

C8 How would you rate your level of satisfaction with the services provided by the election committee present at the voting center?

1	Very satisfied
2	Somewhat satisfied
3	Somewhat dissatisfied
4	Very dissatisfied
98	Don't know
99	Refused

[ASK THOSE WHO ANSWERED YES IN EITHER C5 OR C7; OTHERWISE GO TO C11]

C9 [IF VISITED VOTING CENTER BEFORE, ASK:] Whenever you have visited a voting center in the past, did you notice the presence of security forces inside the center?

1	Yes	
2	No	GO TO C11
98	Don't know	GO TO C11
99	Refused	GO TO C11

C10 Which of the following statements best describes your reaction to these security forces?

1	I felt intimidated by the presence of security forces	
2	I felt secure due to the presence of security forces	READ RESPONSES
3	The presence of security forces did not affect me in one way or another	
98	Don't know	
99	Refused	

C11 Are any adult members of this household physically disabled?

1	Yes	
2	No	GO TO C14
99	Refused	GO TO C14

C12 Did they vote in a previous election?

1	Yes	
2	No	GO TO C14
99	Refused	GO TO C14

C13 How easy or difficult was it for them to access the voting center and vote?

1	Very easy	
2	Somewhat easy	
3	Somewhat hard	READ RESPONSES
4	Very hard	
99	Refused	

C14 As you may know, the parliamentary elections that were supposed to take place in April of this year have been postponed until 2011. To what extent do you support or oppose this decision to defer the elections by 2 years?

1	Fully support
2	Somewhat support
3	Somewhat oppose
4	Fully oppose
98	Don't know
99	Refused

Thank you. And now I just have a few more questions for statistical purposes.

Section D: Demographic data of respondent to questions in Section C

D1 [RECORD FULL NAME OF RESPONDENT]:

D2 [RECORD SEX OF RESPONDENT]

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1 | Male |
| 2 | Female |

D3 Age of respondent [ENTER AGE IN YEARS]:

D4 What is the highest level of education you received?

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Illiterate |
| 2 | Reads and writes |
| 3 | Primary school education |
| 4 | Middle school education |
| 5 | Secondary school education |
| 6 | University education or higher |

D5 Which political party do you mostly support?

- | | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | General People Congress |
| 2 | Joint Meeting Parties |
| 3 | Islah Party |
| 4 | Yemeni Socialist Party |
| 5 | Unionist Nasserist Party |
| 6 | Socialist Arab Ba'ath Party |
| 7 | Popular Forces Union |
| 8 | Al-Haq Party |
| 9 | Other party (please specify) |
| 10 | I don't support any party |

D6 What is your employment status?

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Works in the public sector |
| 2 | Works in the private sector |
| 3 | Private enterprise/ store owner |
| 4 | Agriculture |
| 5 | Fishing |
| 6 | Retired |
| 7 | Doesn't work: unemployed |
| 8 | Doesn't work: housewife (for women) |
| 9 | Doesn't work: student |

D7 Please provide me with your phone number (mobile or landline) if you have one. We would only use it for verification purposes:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Personal cellular phone: |
| 2 | Head of household's phone: |
| 3 | Home phone number: |