

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V.

Gaza Opinion Polls

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DR. HANS MARIA HEYN
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11. November 2014

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The effect of the three Gaza wars on the opinion of the Palestinian population

The Konrad Adenauer Foundation conducts surveys since the year 2000 in the Palestinian Territories in cooperation with the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey (PSR) under the direction of Dr. Khalil Shikaki. Palestinians of the West bank and the Gaza Strip are asked for their opinion on questions concerning politics, safety, the future of the Palestinian State and life in the Palestinian Territories.

The following charts show the surveys conducted between summer 2008 and October 2014. Analyzed were only the answers given by residents of the Gaza Strip on questions related to the Gaza Strip.

For an easier overview, the three Gaza wars, which took place December 2008 until January 2009 (Operation Cast Lead), November 2012 (Operation Pillar of Defense) and July to August 2014 (Operation Protective Edge) are marked as red lines in the charts.

The answers shown are all in percent. Some questions which were very similar have been taken together for an easier overview. This paper is not intending to judge the results in any way – it only gives figures to better understand the political situation.

The comprehensive polls can be found on the website of PSR:
<http://www.pcpsr.org/en/index-psr-polls>

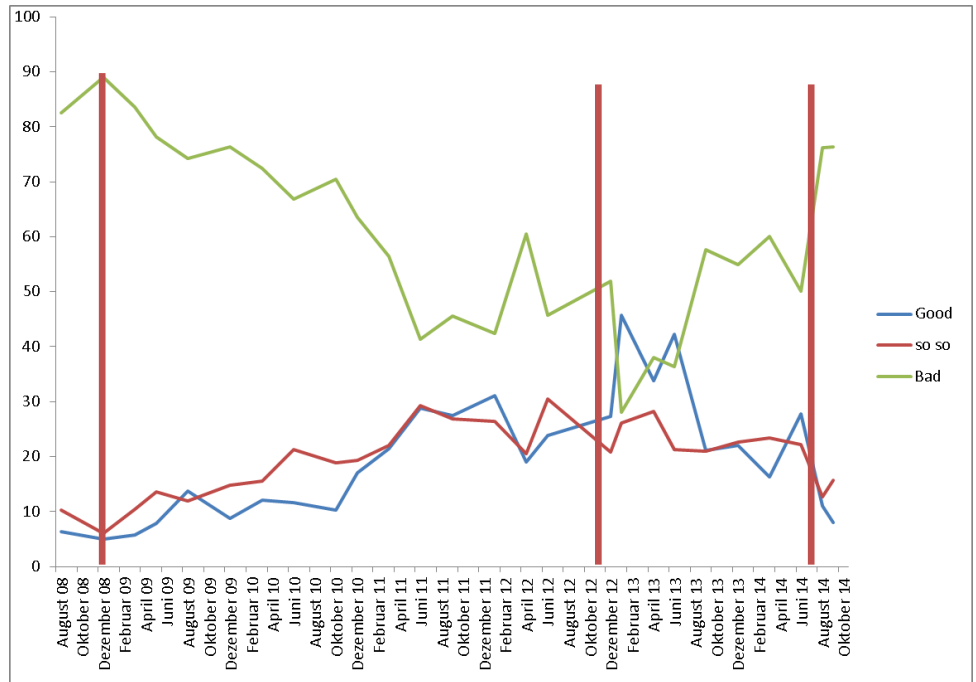
Question 1: "In General, how would you describe conditions of the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip these days?"

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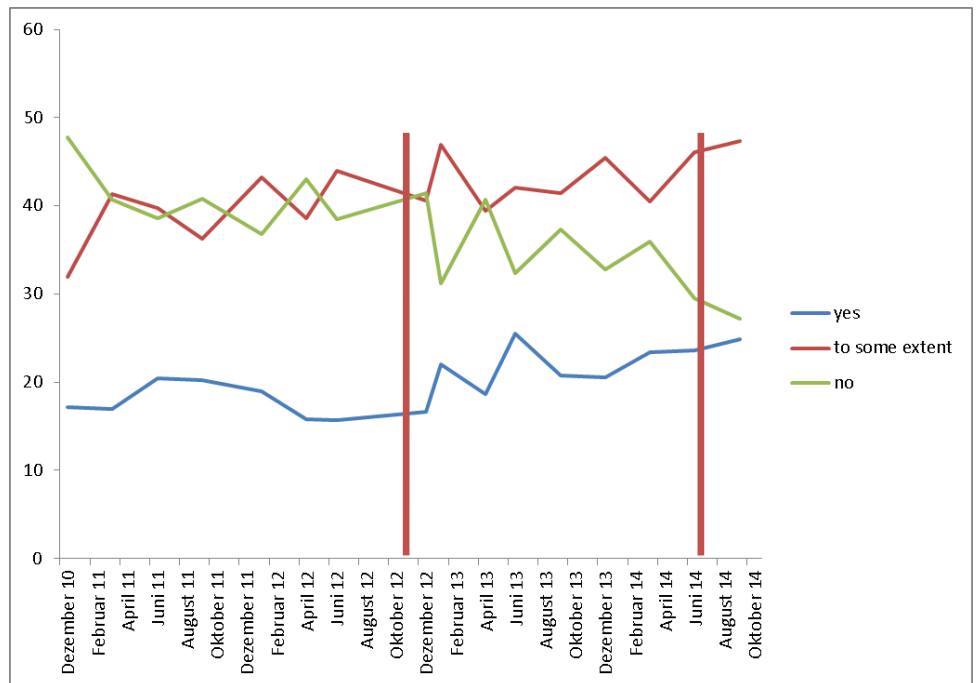
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Question 2: "In your view, is there a press freedom in the Gaza Strip?"



Question 3: "In your view, can people in the Gaza Strip criticize the authority without fear?"

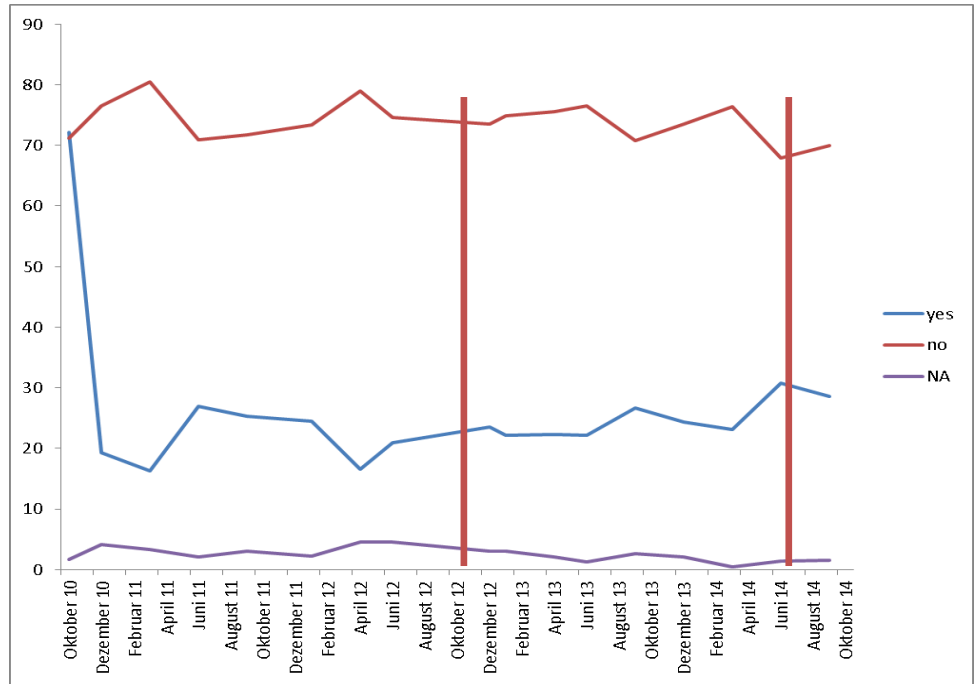
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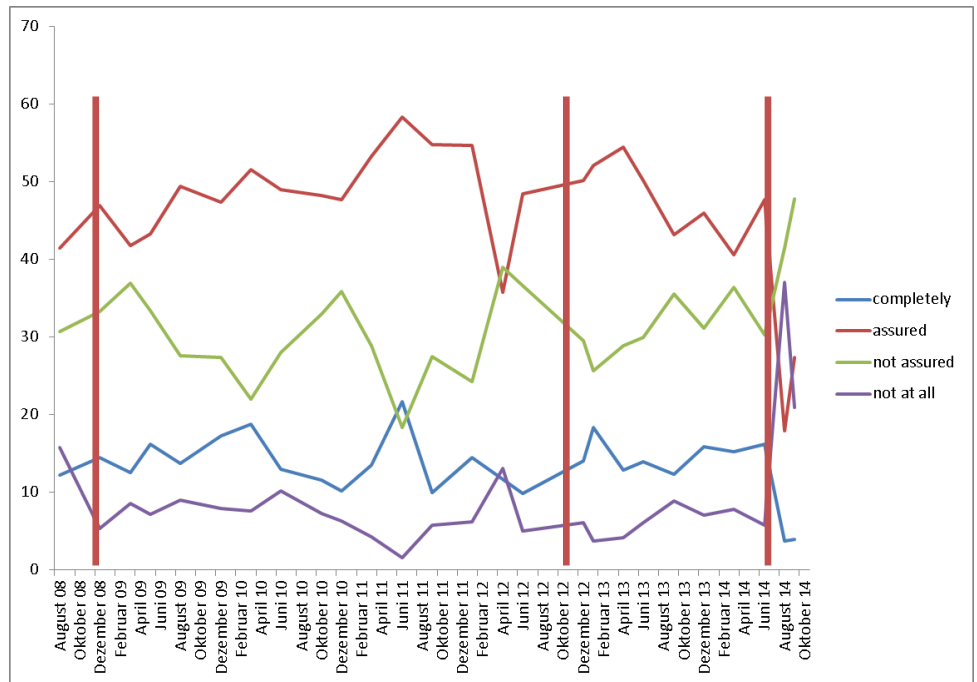
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Question 4: "Would you say that these days your security and safety, and that of your family is assured?"



Question 5: "Do current political, security and economic conditions lead you to seek emigration abroad?"

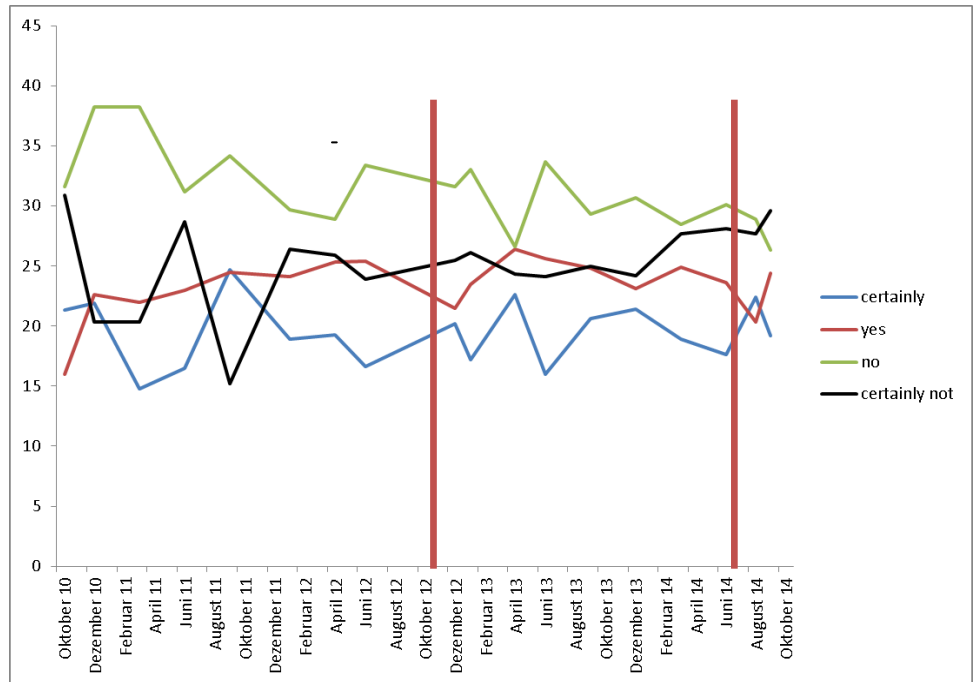
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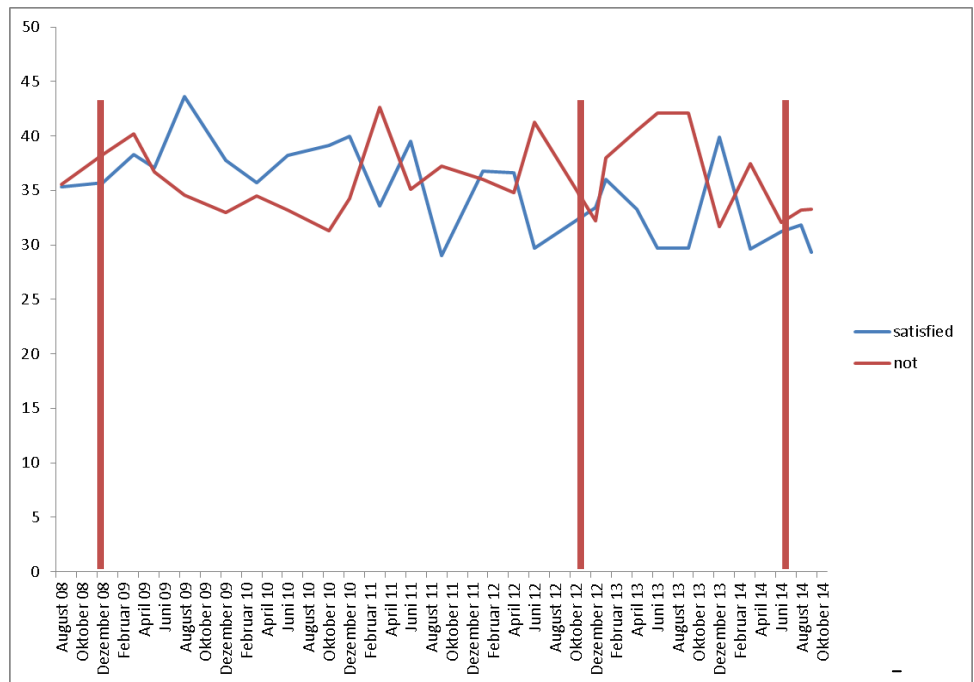
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Question 6: "Are you satisfied or not satisfied with the performance of Mahmud Abbas since his election as President of the PA?"



Question 7: "If new presidential elections are to take place today, and Mahmud Abbas was nominated by Fateh and Ismail Haniyeh was nominated by Hamas, whom would you vote for?"

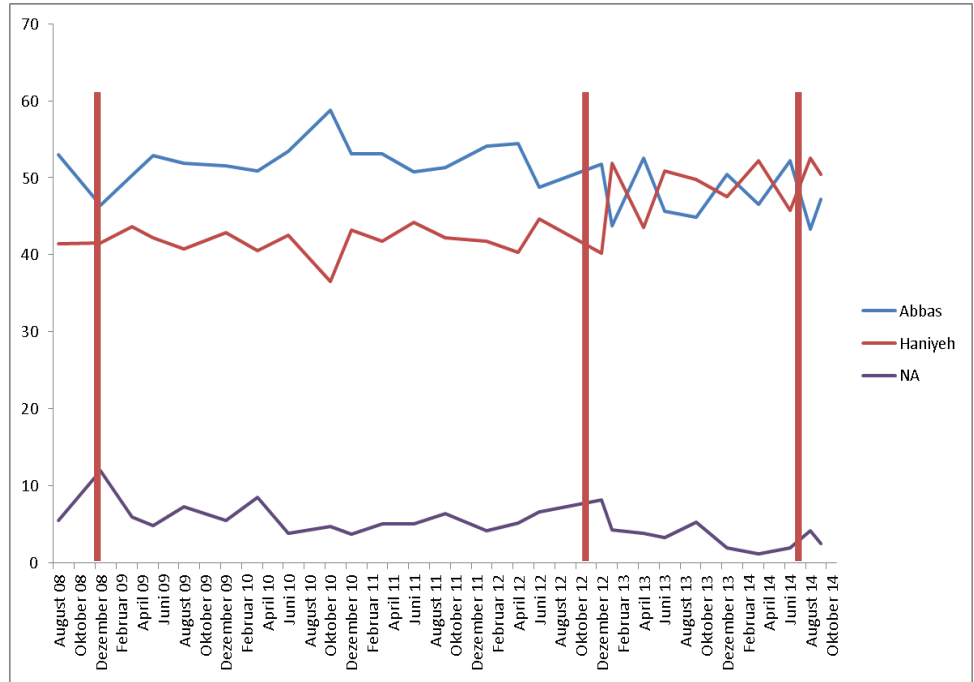
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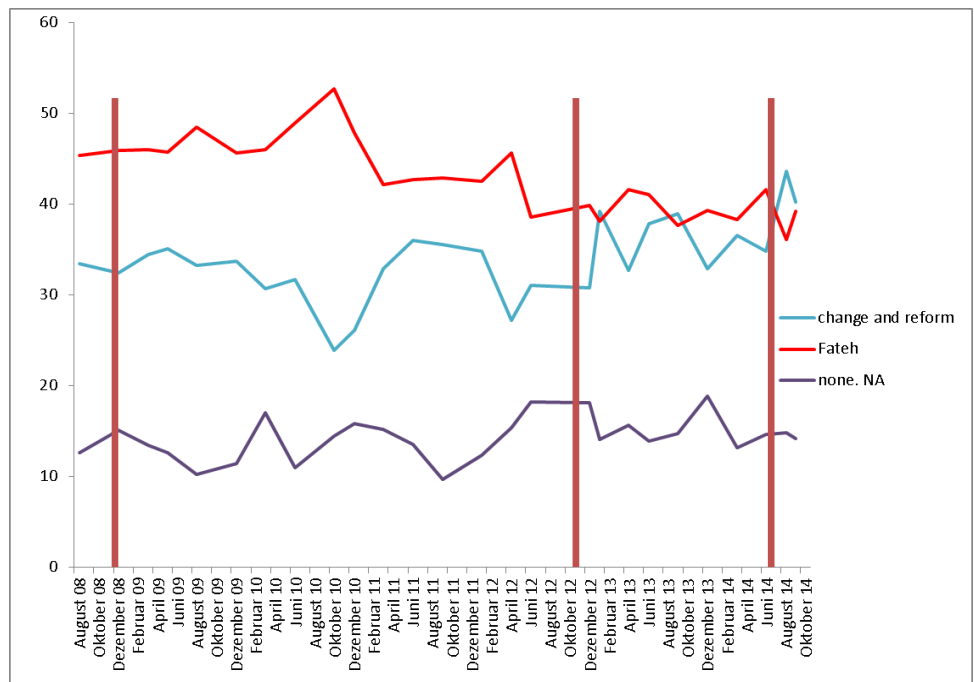
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Question 8: "If new elections agreed to by all factions are held today, and the same lists that took part in the last PLC elections were nominated, for whom would you vote?" (Only the two major Parties, Change and Reform and Fateh are shown in the graph, together with the NA answers. The Change and reform list was the name under which Hamas ran the 2006 parliamentary elections)



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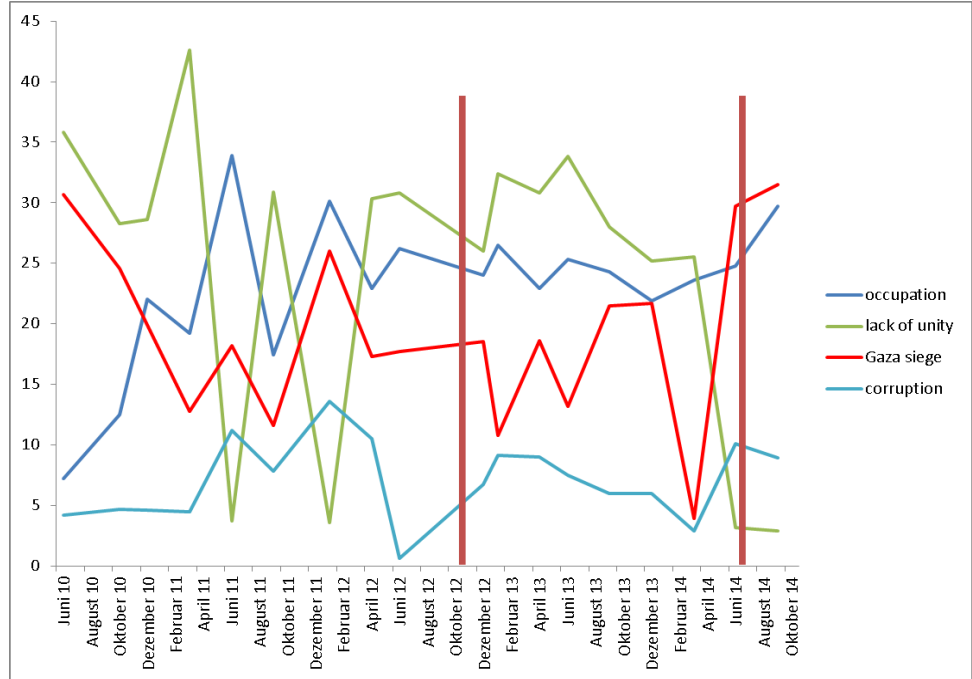
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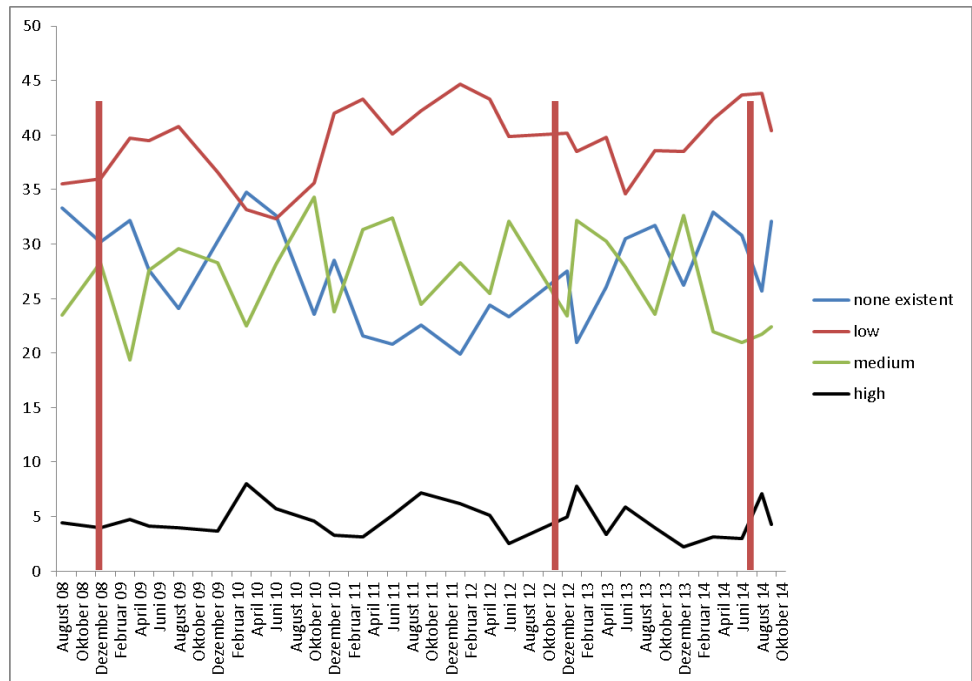
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Question 9: "The Palestinian society confronts today various problems, like the continuation of occupation and settlements, the spread of unemployment and poverty, the lack of national unity due to the spilt between the West Bank and the Gaza strip, the continuation of the siege and blockade of the Gaza Strip and the closure of its border crossings, the spread of corruption in public institutions, and others. Tell us, what in your opinion, is the problem you see as the most fundamental, the one that must be on the top priority of the Palestinian Authority?"



Question 10: "Now more than 45 years after the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, what in your view are the chances for the establishment of an independent Palestinian State next to the State of Israel in the next five years?"



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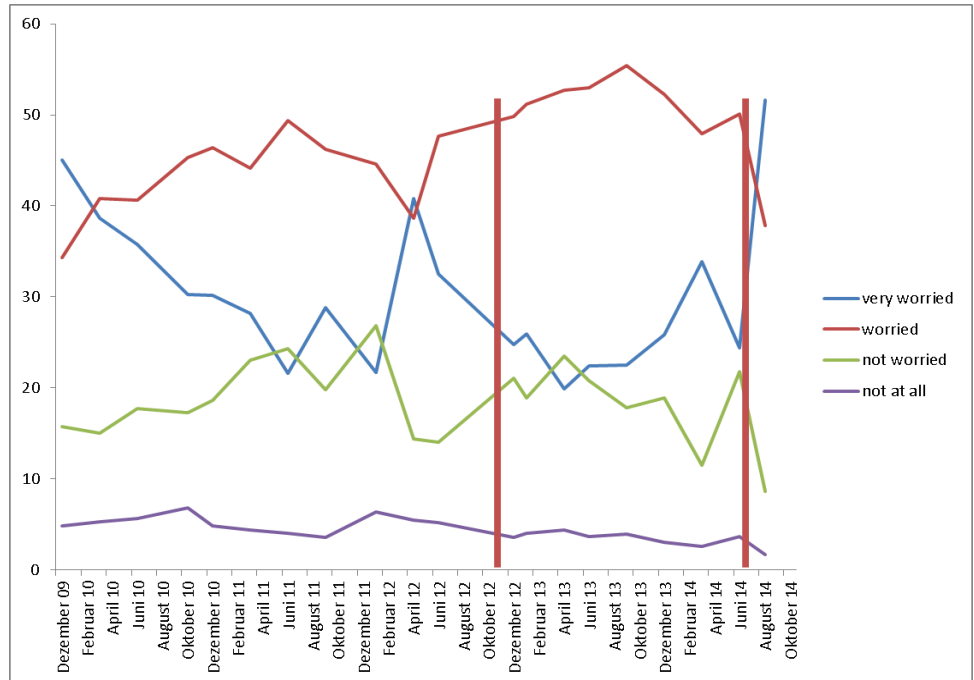
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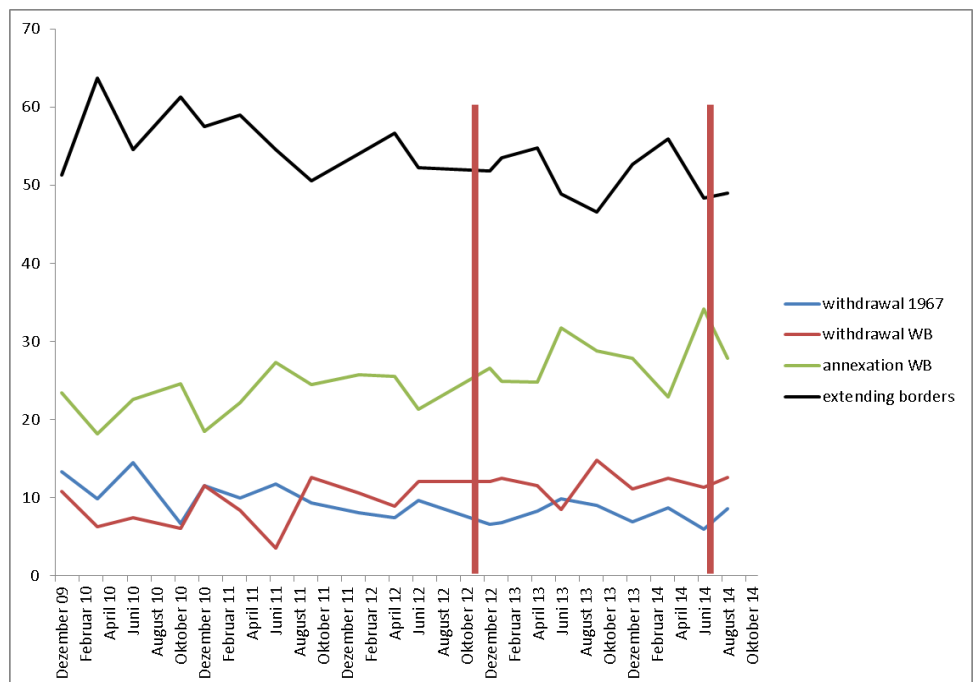
Question 11: "To what extend are you worried or not worried that you or a member of your family could be hurt by Israel in your daily life, or that your land would be confiscated or home demolished?"



Question 12: "What do you think are the aspirations of Israel for the long run?"

The following options were given:

- Withdrawal from the territories it occupied in 1967 after guaranteeing its security
- Withdrawal from part of the occupied territories after guaranteeing its security
- Annexation of the West Bank while denying political rights of Palestinian Citizens
- Extending the borders of the state of Israel to cover all the area between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea and expelling its Arab citizens



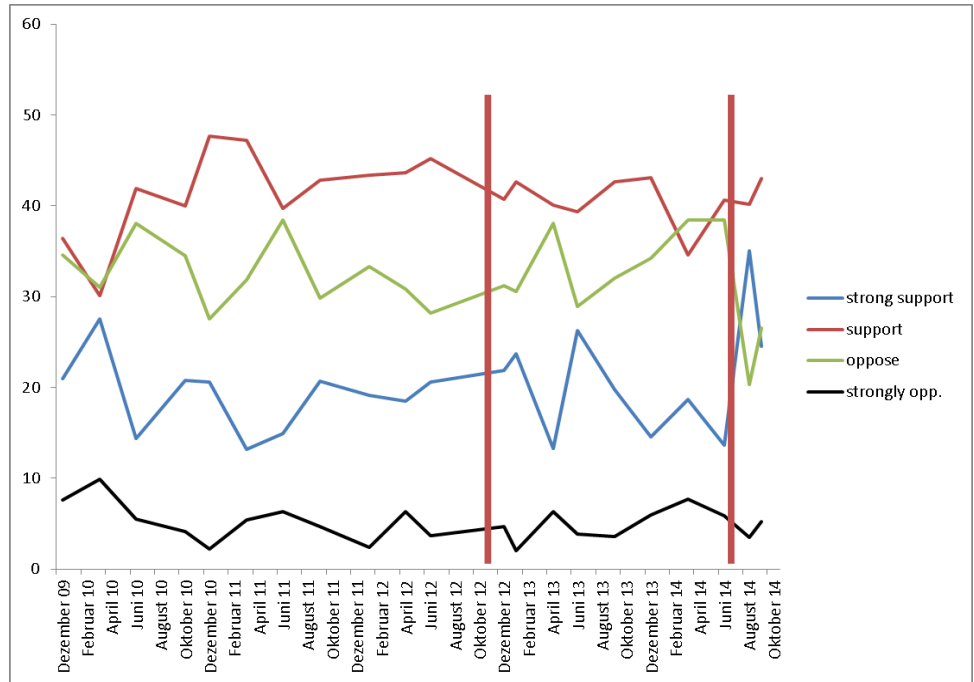
Question 13: "I support or oppose armed attacks against Israeli civilians in Israel."

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Question 14: "Which of the following political parties do you support?"

(Depicted in the Chart are only Hamas, Fateh and those who support none of the above. Most other parties were below 5 Percent at all times.)

