Methodology

• Between February and April 2010, Gallup polled more than 17,600 nationals across 19 countries that are members of the League of Arab States and the Somaliland region of Somalia. Of those polled, more than 10,000 are country nationals aged 15 to 29. Gallup conducted two previous waves of data collection in 2009, covering more than 36,000 nationals (including more than 19,000 young people between the ages of 15 and 29).

• In this report, scores for the Silatech Index are based on the February-April 2010 wave of data collection. All other survey data reported, unless noted, are based on averages across the three waves of data collection.
Are Entrepreneurs viewed positively or negatively by young Arabs?

- Young Arabs: %67
- Aspiring Entrepreneurs: %70

Current Climate for Entrepreneurs
Do young Arabs see their local communities as good places for entrepreneurs?

- Young Arabs: 63%
- Aspiring Entrepreneurs: 74%
Who are Aspiring Entrepreneurs?

• 15% of young Arabs say they plan to start their own business in the next 12 months

• 12% reside in high-income countries
  • 57% reside in middle-income countries
  • 32% reside in low-income countries

• 34% of aspiring entrepreneurs are employed full-time

• 21% of non-aspiring entrepreneurs are employed full-time

• 10% of aspiring entrepreneurs are employed part-time

• 5% of non-aspiring entrepreneurs are employed part-time
Who are Aspiring Entrepreneurs?

of young Arabs say they plan to start their own business in the next 12 months
Who are Aspiring Entrepreneurs?

• Are they civically engaged?

  – 6% of aspiring entrepreneurs say they plan to start a business to help their community

  – Compared to non-aspiring entrepreneurs, aspiring entrepreneurs are…
    • Two times as likely to report voicing their opinion to an official
    • Three times as likely to disapprove of their city or local leadership
Do Aspiring Entrepreneurs Differ From Other Youth on a Government or Business Sector job Preference?

- All young people: 52% business, 21% government, 4% either, 23% either/Don't know/Refused
- Aspiring entrepreneurs: 45% business, 20% government, 2% either, 33% either/Don't know/Refused
- Non-entrepreneurial youth: 53% business, 22% government, 4% either, 21% either/Don't know/Refused

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Barriers to Entry

When examining business-entry concerns, the picture is less optimistic. Most young Arabs say loan access and the difficulty of paperwork in processes licenses are permits are barriers to success.
Barriers to Entry

• Young people across the region, generally have more optimistic views on business-outcome factors than on business-entry variables in their countries
  
  – 59% of young Arabs say they can trust their assets and property will be safe at all times within the country.

  – 52% of entrepreneurial young people say they can trust the government to allow their business to make a lot of money
Opportunity Versus Necessity

• Opportunity-driven entrepreneurs
  – Those who say they plan to start a business in the next year and who describe their current financial situation as comfortable.

• Necessity-driven entrepreneurs
  – Those who plan to start a business in the next year and who say they are getting by on their present income or finding it difficult, or very difficult, to do so.
Most Young Arabs Have never Used Job-Hunting Services or Organizations

- **Non-entrepreneurial youth:**
  - Yes: 1%
  - No: 75%
  - Don't know/Refused: 25%

- **Opportunity-driven aspiring entrepreneurs:**
  - Yes: 1%
  - No: 72%
  - Don't know/Refused: 27%

- **Necessity-driven aspiring entrepreneurs:**
  - Yes: 1%
  - No: 58%
  - Don't know/Refused: 42%
No Group has Monopoly on Innovation

Opportunity-driven aspiring entrepreneurs
- %15 Wants to market/sell a new product
- %6 Has a good idea

Necessity-driven aspiring entrepreneurs
- %3 Wants to market/sell a new product
- %8 Has a good idea
Perspectives on Migration
Desire to Emigrate by Country Income Level

Would like to move permanently to another country

- High-income countries: 6%
- Middle-income countries: 30%
- Low-income countries: 40%

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Who Desires to Emigrate

- United Arab Emirates: 2%
- Kuwait: 2%
- Bahrain: 4%
- Saudi Arabia: 7%
- Iraq: 18%
- Egypt: 20%
- Syria: 28%
- Djibouti: 31%
- Algeria: 32%
- Palestinian Territories: 32%
- Yemen: 33%
- Jordan: 35%
- Lebanon: 36%
- Libya: 37%
- Morocco: 37%
- Sudan: 39%
- Mauritania: 42%
- Tunisia: 44%
- Somaliland Region: 52%
- Comoros: 58%

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Most Desired Regions for Emigration

- Arab League: 38%
- European Union: 38%
- United States and Canada: 18%
- All other countries: 6%

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Young Arabs’ Most Desired Countries for Emigration

- **Saudi Arabia**: 15%
- **United States**: 14%
- **France**: 11%
- **United Arab Emirates**: 10%
- **United Kingdom**: 6%
- **Italy**: 5%
Desired Destinations by Country GDP

- **Arab League**: 33% (Middle-income countries), 53% (Low-income countries)
- **European Union**: 12% (Middle-income countries), 49% (Low-income countries)
- **United States and Canada**: 16% (Middle-income countries), 24% (Low-income countries)
- **All other countries**: 2% (Middle-income countries), 12% (Low-income countries)
- **Saudi Arabia**: 11% (Middle-income countries), 26% (Low-income countries)
- **United States**: 10% (Middle-income countries), 22% (Low-income countries)
- **France**: 15% (Middle-income countries)
- **United Arab Emirates**: 9% (Middle-income countries), 12% (Low-income countries)
- **United Kingdom**: 7% (Middle-income countries)
- **Italy**: 7% (Middle-income countries)
- **Spain**: 6% (Middle-income countries)
- **Egypt**: 6% (Middle-income countries)
- **Canada**: 5% (Middle-income countries)

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Getting a Job or Better Job Is Biggest Factor in Keeping Young Arabs From Emigrating

- Get a job/better job: 43%
- Improvements in the economy: 33%
- More freedoms: 7%
- Better educational opportunities: 5%
- Less of a need for connections to succeed: 3%
- Increased safety: 2%
- Improvements in the political situation: 2%
- My family/relatives would come home: 1%

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Attitudes Toward the Job Environment

- Satisfied with number of jobs
- Satisfied with current job
- Current work is ideal

Potential emigrating men: %22, %44
Non-emigrant men: %27, %29, %72, %52
Potential emigrating women: %24, %32
Non-emigrant women: %28, %63, %44
Reasons to Make Them Stay
(among those who express the desire to emigrate)

- Get a job/better job: 48% for young men, 36% for young women
- Improvements in the economy: 32% for young men, 35% for young women
- More freedoms: 5% for young men, 8% for young women
- Improvements in the political situation: 4% for young men, 7% for young women
- Better educational opportunities: 3% for young men, 2% for young women
- Less of a need for connections to succeed: 2% for both young men and women
- Don't know: 3% for young men, 2% for young women

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Young Arab Women
Gender Gap in Education Increases as Economic Status Decreases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Living comfortably</th>
<th>Getting by</th>
<th>Finding it difficult</th>
<th>Finding it very difficult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>%31</td>
<td>%42</td>
<td>%50</td>
<td>%70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>%33</td>
<td>%36</td>
<td>%42</td>
<td>%54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>%59</td>
<td>%49</td>
<td>%43</td>
<td>%28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post secondary</td>
<td>%11</td>
<td>%9</td>
<td>%7</td>
<td>%2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Economic Status, Not Gender, Predicts Wellbeing Among Young Arabs

- High-income countries men: 61% thriving, 38% struggling, 1% suffering
- High-income countries women: 57% thriving, 42% struggling, 1% suffering
- Middle-income countries men: 72% thriving, 13% struggling, 1% suffering
- Middle-income countries women: 73% thriving, 13% struggling, 1% suffering
- Low-income countries men: 75% thriving, 13% struggling, 1% suffering
- Low-income countries women: 77% thriving, 11% struggling, 1% suffering

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Gender Gap in Education Largest Among Low-Income Countries

- High-income countries men: %4
- High-income countries women: %10
- Middle-income countries men: %7
- Middle-income countries women: %8
- Low-income countries men: %8
- Low-income countries women: %6

- Post secondary
- Secondary
- Elementary

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Reverse Gender Gap in Student Enrollment Among High-Income Countries

High-income countries: Men %33, Women %52
Middle-income countries: Men %27, Women %30
Low-income countries: Men %33, Women %26

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Community Involvement by Activity by Country GDP

High-income countries men: %14
High-income countries women: %12
Middle-income countries men: %12
Middle-income countries women: %8
Low-income countries men: %10
Low-income countries women: %9

Volunteering
Charitable giving

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Perspectives on a Green Economy and the Environment
Plurality of Young Arabs Cite Human Causes as Reason for Climate Change

- Human causes: 49%
- Natural causes: 26%
- Both: 23%

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Those Who Say Environmental Impact of Job Is Important Are More Positive on Entrepreneurs

![Bar chart showing the relationship between environmental impact and favorable/unfavorable views of entrepreneurs.](image-url)

- **Environmental impact important**:
  - Favorable view: 74%
  - Unfavorable view: 19%

- **Environmental impact not important**:
  - Favorable view: 65%
  - Unfavorable view: 25%
Attitudes Toward Importance of Environmental Impact of Jobs Vary Greatly

- Kuwait: %80 Very important, %12 Not very important
- Somaliland Region: %78 Very important, %20 Not very important
- Comoros: %67 Very important, %29 Not very important
- Sudan: %67 Very important, %29 Not very important
- Lebanon: %62 Very important, %22 Not very important
- Algeria: %58 Very important, %28 Not very important
- Palestinian Territories: %56 Very important, %24 Not very important
- Jordan: %53 Very important, %23 Not very important
- Bahrain: %53 Very important, %31 Not very important
- Yemen: %52 Very important, %24 Not very important
- Egypt: %50 Very important, %36 Not very important
- Syria: %47 Very important, %38 Not very important
- Mauritania: %46 Very important, %31 Not very important
- United Arab Emirates: %42 Very important, %16 Not very important
- Libya: %35 Very important, %31 Not very important
- Morocco: %25 Very important, %64 Not very important
- Iraq: %16 Very important, %60 Not very important
- Tunisia: %16 Very important, %49 Not very important

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Job Creation in Conflict-Influenced Areas
Young People’s Ratings of Their Lives in the Palestinian Territories

- West Bank: Mean life today is 5.16, and mean life in 5 years is 6.60.
- Gaza: Mean life today is 3.93, and mean life in 5 years is 6.01.

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Young Arabs’ Self-Ratings of Their Lives

- Palestinians: Mean life today - 4.72, Mean life in 5 years - 6.41
- Iraqis: Mean life today - 5.32, Mean life in 5 years - 6.08
- All other nationalities: Mean life today - 5.00, Mean life in 5 years - 6.42

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Young People Actively Looking for Work (Among Those Who Are Not Working)

Among Iraqis aged 15-22, 27% are actively looking for work. Among Iraqis aged 23-29, 38% are actively looking for work.

Among Palestinians aged 15-22, 10% are actively looking for work. Among Palestinians aged 23-29, 30% are actively looking for work.
Local Economic Conditions Are Good

- Iraqis: 43% of 15-22 Aged, 44% of 23-29 Aged
- Palestinians: 29% of 15-22 Aged, 26% of 23-29 Aged

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Young People’s Preference of Workplace

Palestinians
- Government: 52%
- Business: 26%
- Either: 17%
- Don't know/Refused: 5%

Iraqis
- Government: 57%
- Business: 8%
- Either: 20%
- Don't know/Refused: 15%
Children Have the Opportunity to Learn

Palestinians: %66 Yes, %32 No, %2 Don't know/Refused

Iraqis: %58 Yes, %34 No, %8 Don't know/Refused
Country’s Leadership Maximizes on Youth Potential

- **Palestinians**
  - Yes: 36%
  - No: 57%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 7%

- **Iraqis**
  - Yes: 23%
  - No: 66%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 11%
Working Hard Pays Off

Palestinians: 66% Yes, 29% No, 5% Don't know/Refused

Iraqis: 65% Yes, 26% No, 9% Don't know/Refused
Satisfaction With Freedom to Choose What to Do With Life

- **Palestinians**
  - Yes: 51%
  - No: 48%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 1%

- **Iraqis**
  - Yes: 34%
  - No: 49%
  - Don’t know/Refused: 17%
Key Findings
Key Findings

• The majority of young Arabs would prefer working for the government rather than working in the private sector.

• Most young Arabs are confident they could find qualified, hard-working employees if they chose to start a business. However, less believe the government makes paperwork easy enough to start a business or that it is easy to obtain a business loan.

• Across the Arab League, 30% of young Arabs would like to migrate permanently if given the chance. Saudi Arabia, the United States, France, and the United Arab Emirates are the most desirable countries for potential emigrants.

• Young Arabs with a desire to emigrate are more likely to come from low- or middle-income countries.
Key Findings – Continued

• Gender is not a predictor of individual wellbeing among young Arabs; however, economic status is for all young Arabs.

• As economic status decreases, the education gap between young Arabs increases.

• Young Arabs are more positive about their future lives than their current lives, even in conflict-influenced areas.