

PREDICTIONS 2026

Lebanon Edition

December 2025

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01

OVERALL EXPECTATIONS FOR 2026

Lebanon is stepping into 2026 with optimism and broad confidence that the year ahead will be better than 2025

% Agree

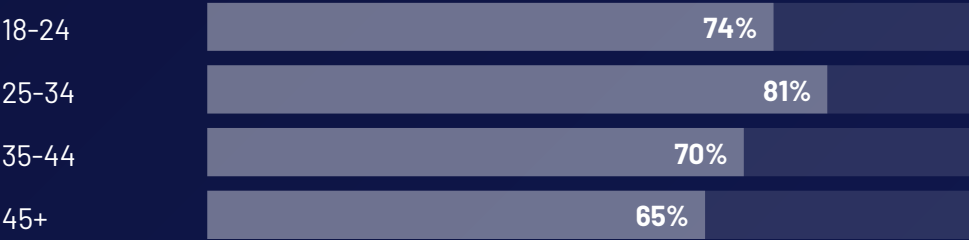
72%

I am optimistic that 2026 will be a better year for me than it was in 2025

By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



This optimism extends to wellbeing, with most expecting improvements in both mental and physical health in 2026



% Agree

72%

My mental health will be better in 2026 than it was in 2025



% Agree

67%

My physical health will be better in 2026 than it was in 2025



02

EXPECTATIONS FOR LOCAL CONFLICTS & WORLD AFFAIRS IN 2026

In Lebanon, expectations for stability are split, with some anticipating an end to the armed conflicts in 2026 while others remain concerned about potential escalation

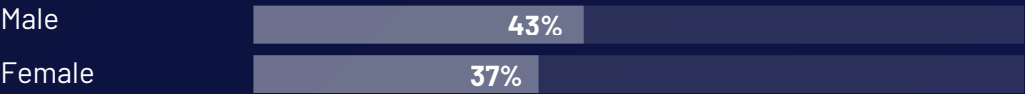
40%

The armed conflicts in Lebanon will come to an end in 2026

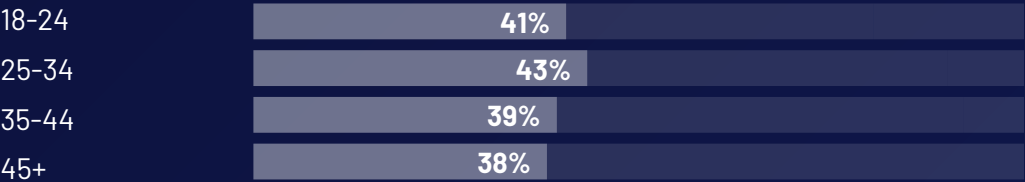
% Likely



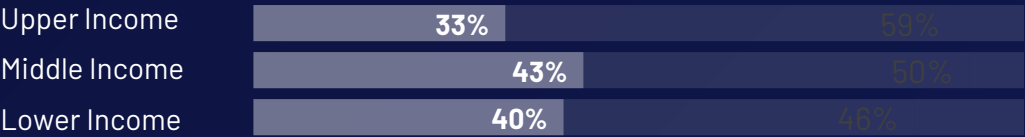
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



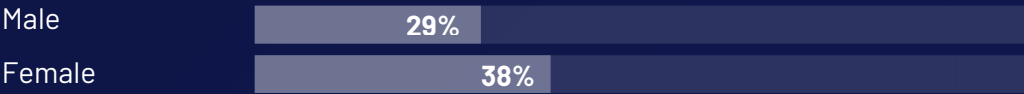
34%

The current armed conflicts in Lebanon will lead to a civil war in the country

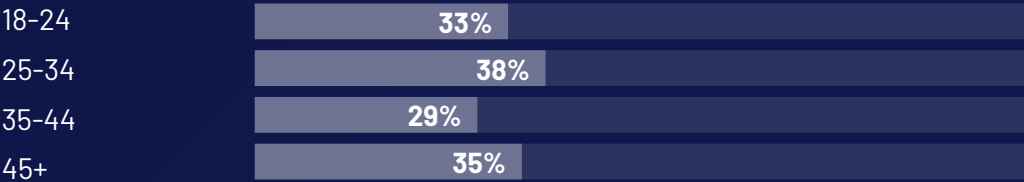
% Likely



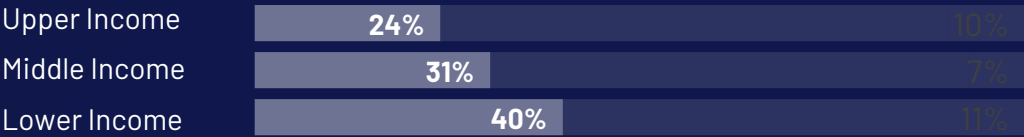
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



Regionally and globally, expectations for peace vary: optimism is stronger for an end to the war in Ukraine than for conflicts in the Middle East



% Likely

49%

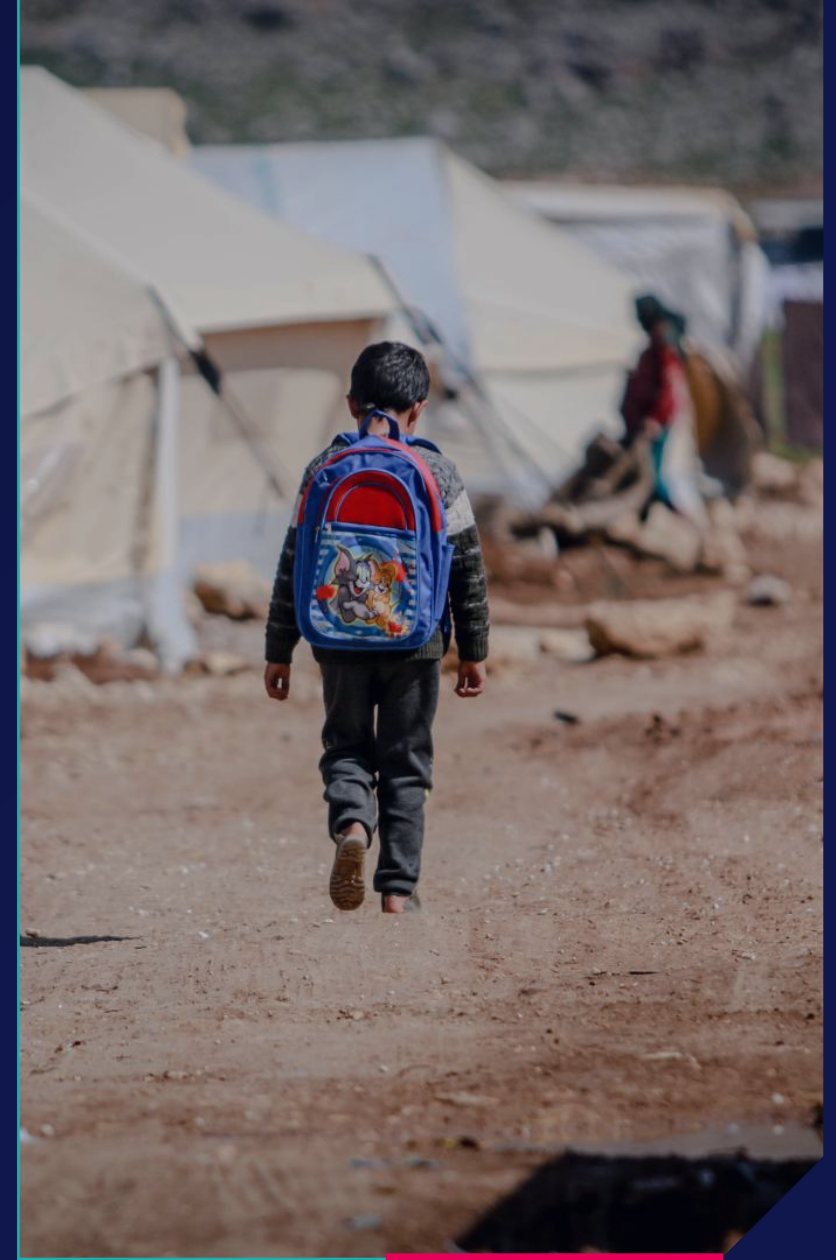
The war in Ukraine will end in 2026



% Likely

36%

The current wars in the Middle East will end in 2026



Many also anticipate renewed diplomatic momentum in 2026, with expectations of reconstruction efforts, peace talks and greater international engagement

% Likely

55%

Major reconstruction efforts will commence in Gaza with international support in 2026



53%

Formal Middle East peace talks will take place in search for a lasting end to the conflicts in 2026



50%

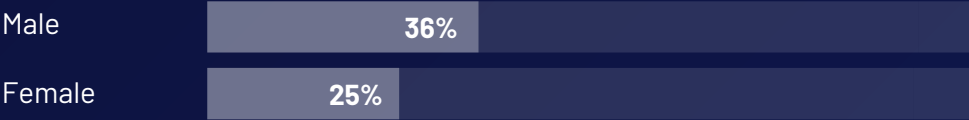
More major Western powers will formally recognize an independent State of Palestine



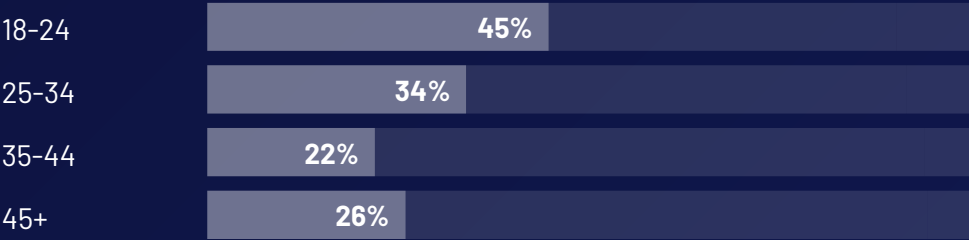
Yet despite hopes for diplomatic progress, close to 1 in 3 believe the world will actually be a safer place in 2026



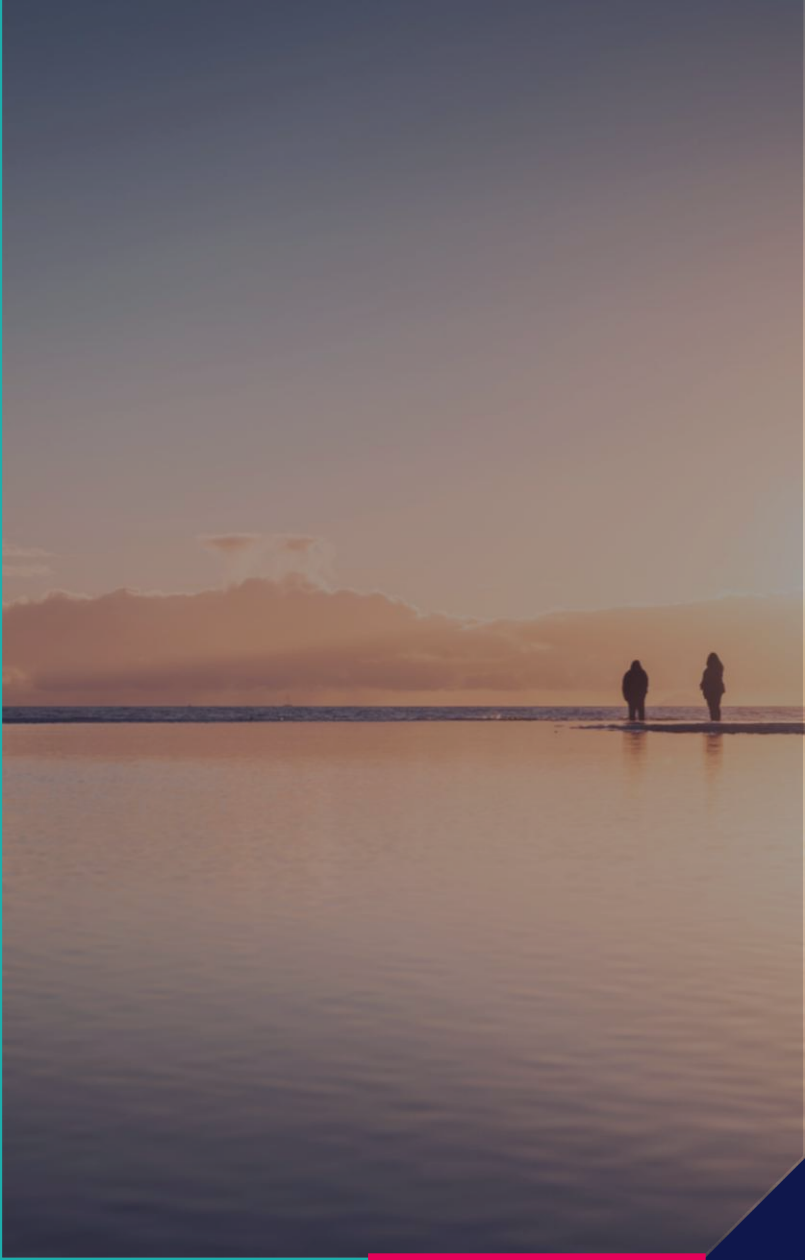
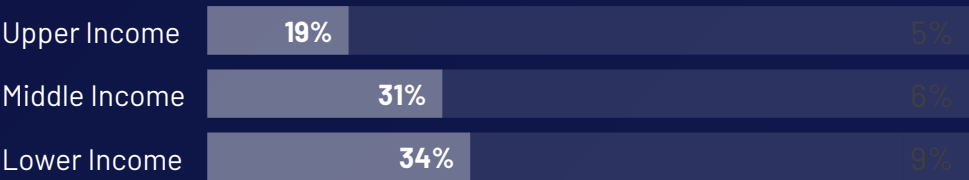
By Gender



By Age



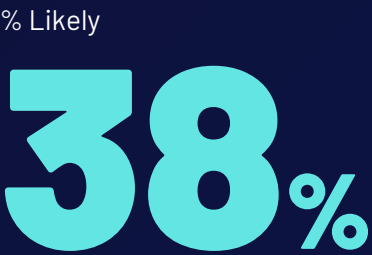
By Income Level



03

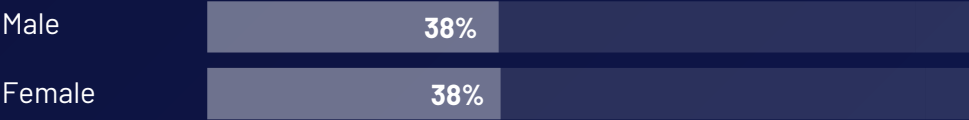
EXPECTATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT & SOCIETY IN 2026

Turning to domestic affairs, expectations for Lebanon's governance remain cautious, with 2 in 5 anticipating greater trust in the government in 2026

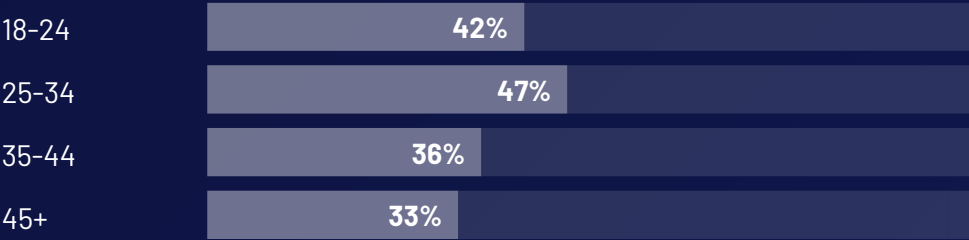


People in Lebanon will have more trust in the government in 2026 than they did in 2025

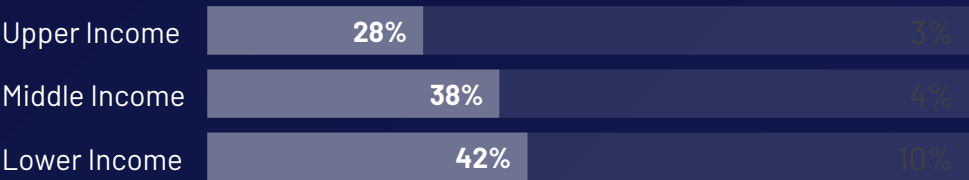
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



Still, most expect the 2026 parliamentary elections to move forward as planned, and some believe they could bring meaningful change



% Likely

68%

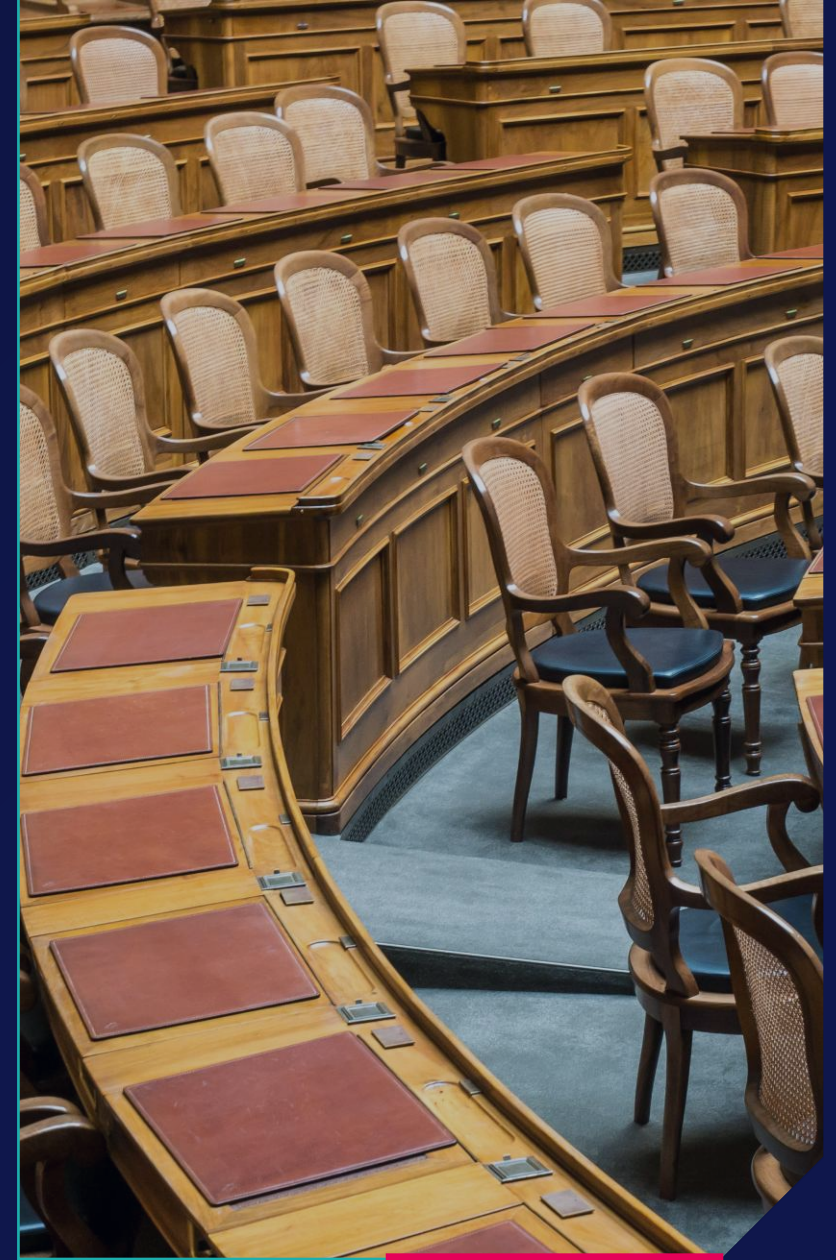
The parliamentary elections set to happen in May 2026 will actually take place



% Likely

44%

Change will happen during the 2026 elections



Expectations for the 2026 parliamentary elections

% Likely - by demographics



The parliamentary elections set to happen
in May 2026 will actually take place

Change will happen during the 2026 elections

	Male	68%	46%
	Female	69%	43%
	18 - 24	54%	54%
	25 - 34	72%	46%
	35 - 44	69%	45%
	45+	73%	39%
	Upper Income	70%	33%
	Middle Income	72%	41%
	Lower Income	64%	51%

There is also a belief that the elections could usher in new political figures and potentially mark the start of a new era for Lebanon

59%

% Likely

The 2026 elections will bring new faces to Lebanon’s political scene



By Gender

Male	61%
Female	57%

By Age

18-24	59%
25-34	57%
35-44	62%
45+	58%

By Income Level

Upper Income	43%	49%
Middle Income	62%	32%
Lower Income	62%	28%

48%

% Likely

The 2026 elections will mark the beginning of a new political era in Lebanon



By Gender

Male	52%
Female	44%

By Age

18-24	49%
25-34	52%
35-44	47%
45+	47%

By Income Level

Upper Income	42%	6%
Middle Income	48%	6%
Lower Income	51%	12%

Even with expectations of political change, growing fears of heightened sectarian tensions cast uncertainty over the coming year

% Likely

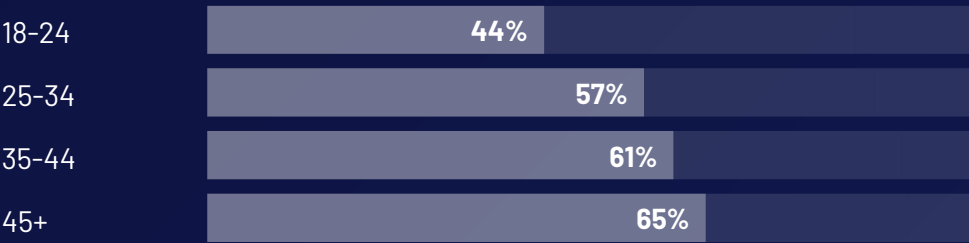
59%

Sectarian tensions in Lebanon will increase in 2026

By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



In fact, concerns about instability are reinforcing expectations of increased emigration in 2026

% Likely

82%

Many Lebanese people will leave Lebanon to seek opportunities abroad in 2026

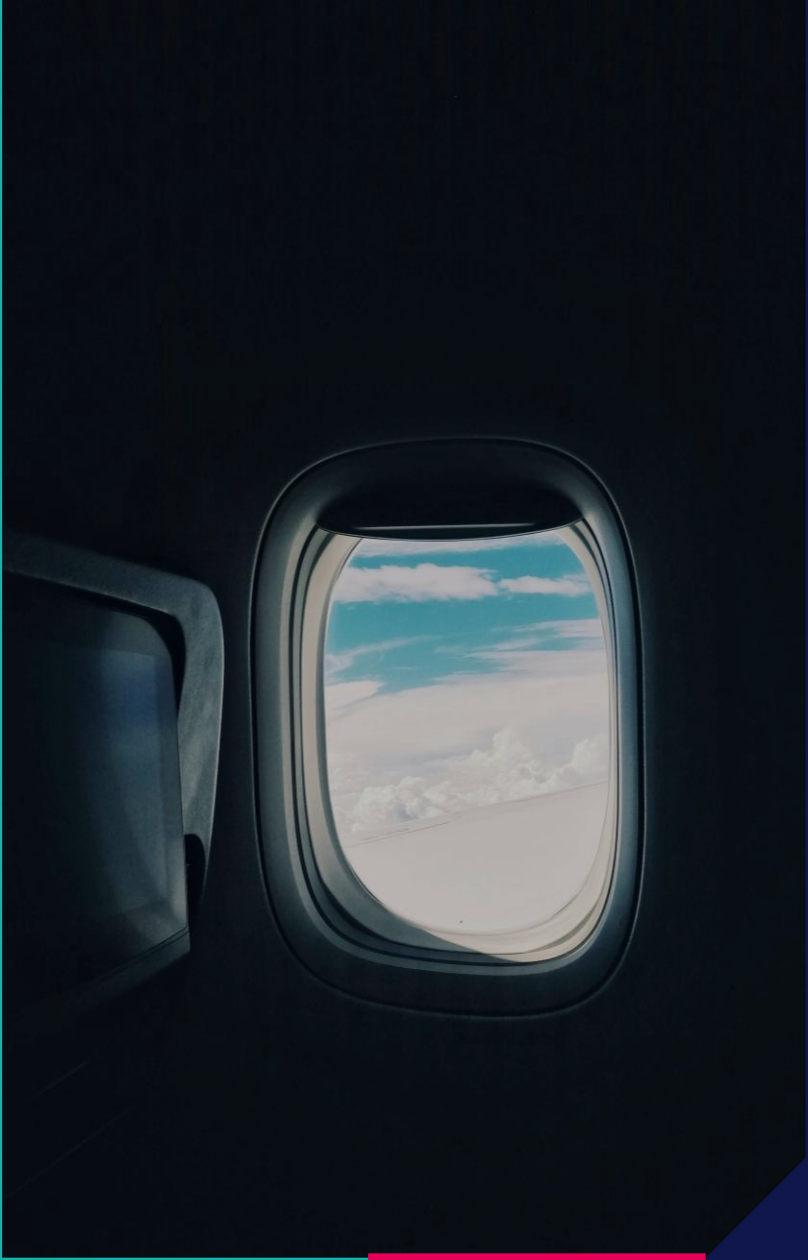
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



Nevertheless, many foresee progress on gender equality, from rising female leadership to steps toward equal pay



% Likely

74%

Lebanon will see an increase in the participation of women in leadership roles



% Likely

50%

Women will be paid the same as men for the same work



Expectations for gender equality and leadership

% Likely - by demographics



Lebanon will see an increase in the participation of women in leadership roles		Women will be paid the same as men for the same work
Male	68%	51%
Female	79%	48%
18 - 24	73%	50%
25 - 34	77%	57%
35 - 44	72%	49%
45+	73%	46%
Upper Income	69%	40%
Middle Income	72%	45%
Lower Income	76%	57%

04

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE ECONOMY IN 2026

When it comes to the global economy, confidence and concern intersect, as expectations of growth are matched by concerns over potential market crashes

53%

% Agree

The global economy will be stronger in 2026 than it was in 2025



By Gender

Male	52%
Female	53%

By Age

18-24	65%
25-34	59%
35-44	45%
45+	47%

By Income Level

Upper Income	42%	58%
Middle Income	52%	48%
Lower Income	57%	43%

50%

% Likely

Major stock markets around the world will crash



By Gender

Male	48%
Female	53%

By Age

18-24	23%
25-34	63%
35-44	52%
45+	56%

By Income Level

Upper Income	54%	21%
Middle Income	53%	18%
Lower Income	46%	23%

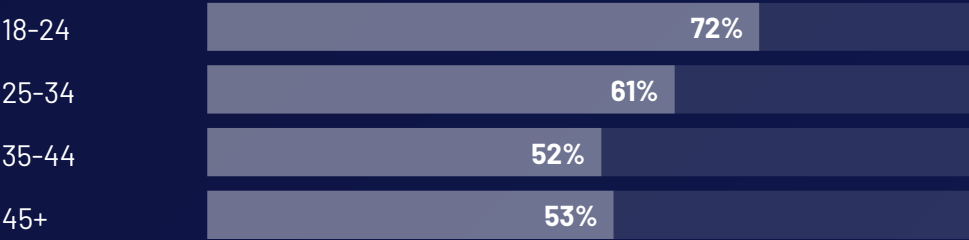
Turning to the local economy, optimism rises slightly, as many expect Lebanon's economy to be stronger than it was in 2025



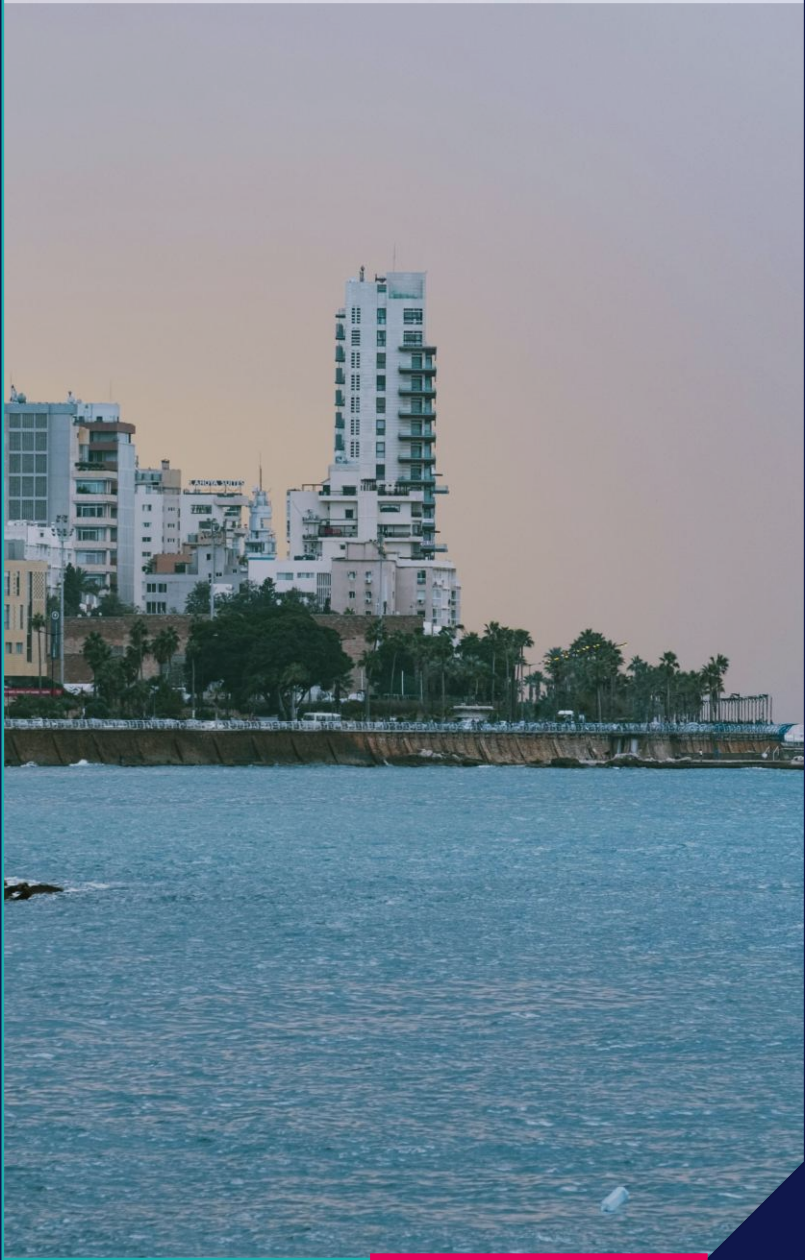
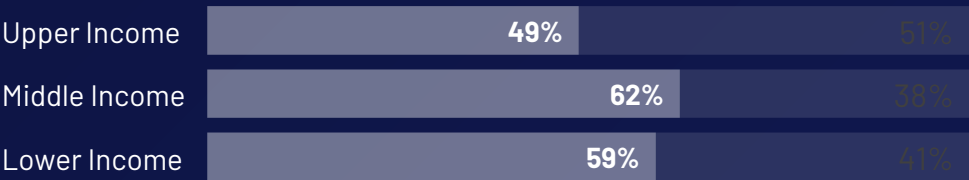
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



In fact, expectations of improved economic conditions are mirrored by hopes that Lebanon will attract more international investment in 2026

% Likely

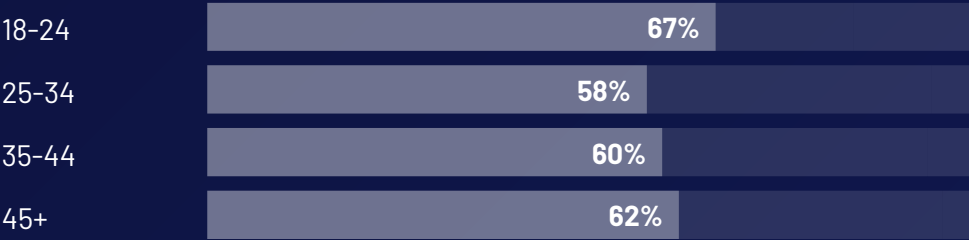
61%

Lebanon will attract more international investments in 2026

By Gender



By Age



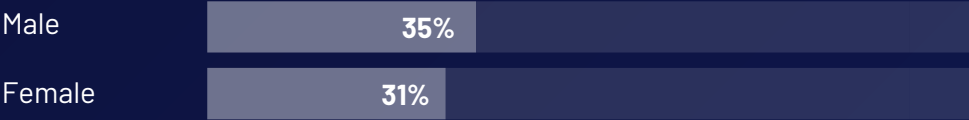
By Income Level



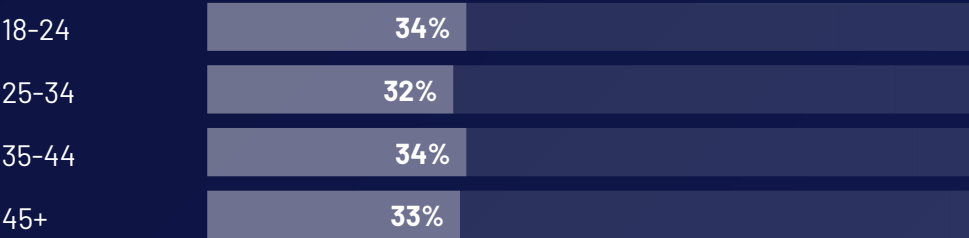
However, this optimism does not extend to the currency, with only a minority foreseeing a stronger Lira



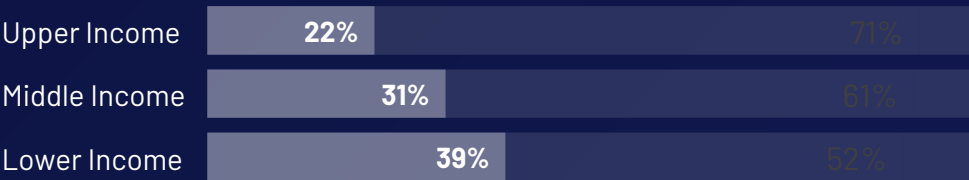
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



And financial pressures are expected to intensify, as the majority anticipate rising prices and higher inflation, though expectations around interest rates are more divided

% Likely

81%

Prices in Lebanon will increase faster than people's incomes



73%

Inflation in Lebanon will be higher in 2026 than in 2025



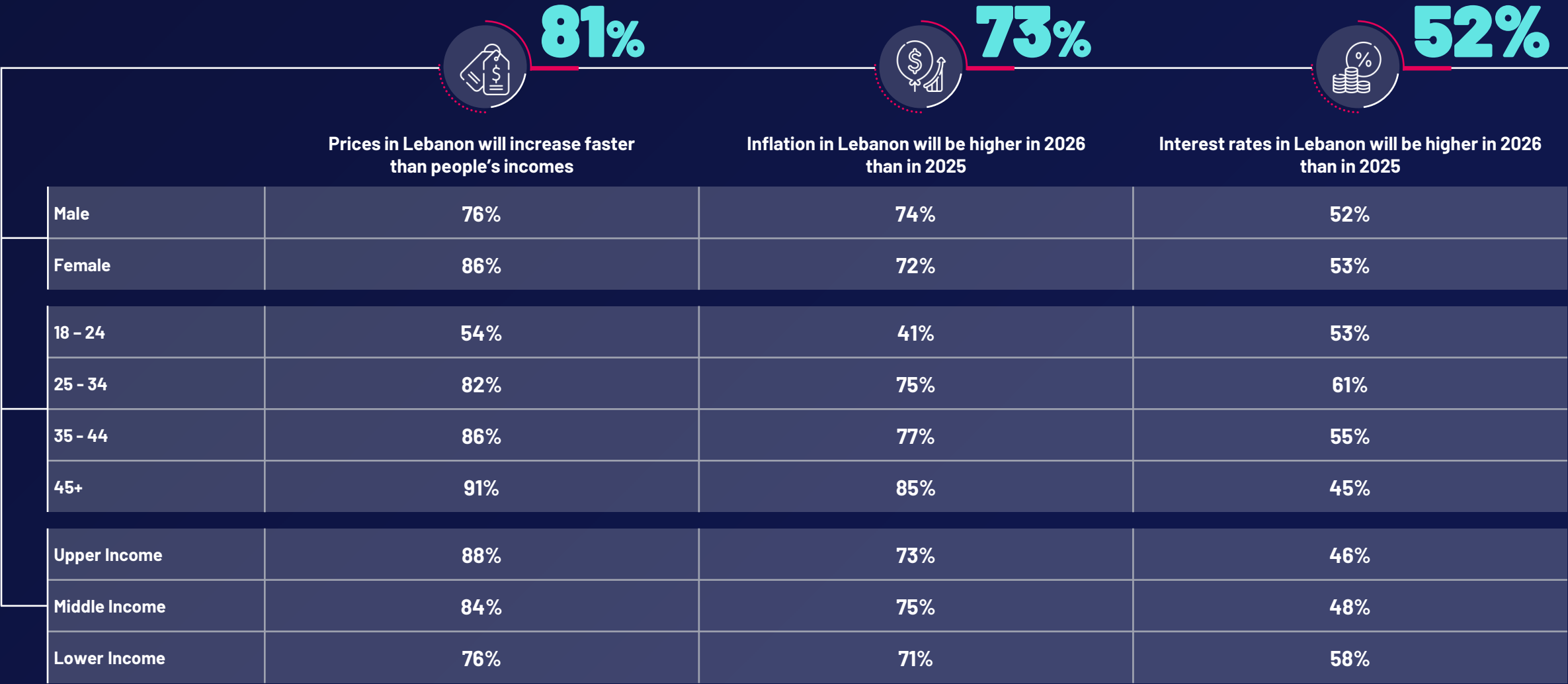
52%

Interest rates in Lebanon will be higher in 2026 than in 2025

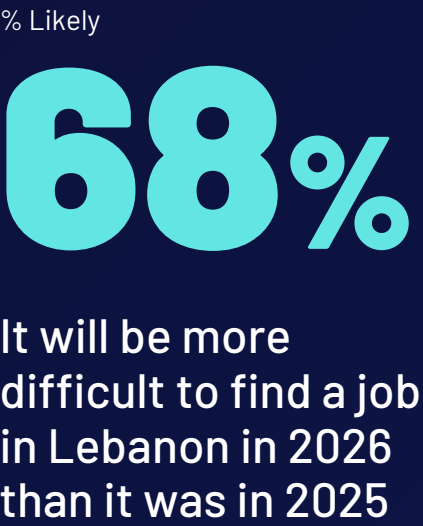


Economic expectations

% Likely - by demographics



The outlook for the job market adds another layer of concern, with most expecting it to become more difficult to find work



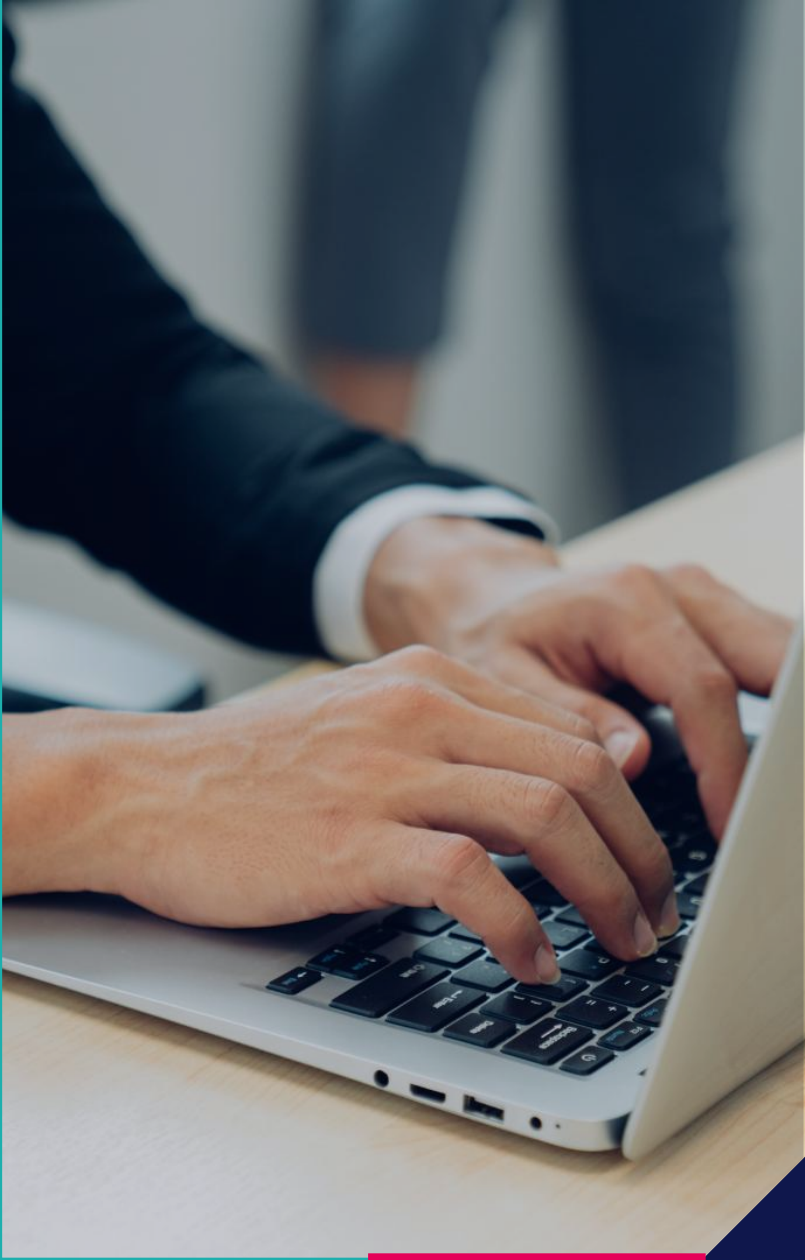
By Gender



By Age



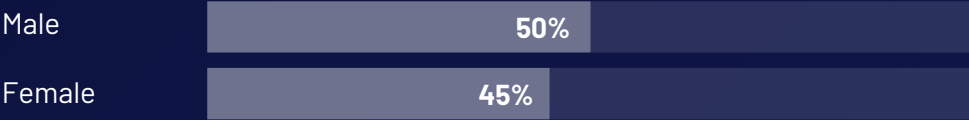
By Income Level



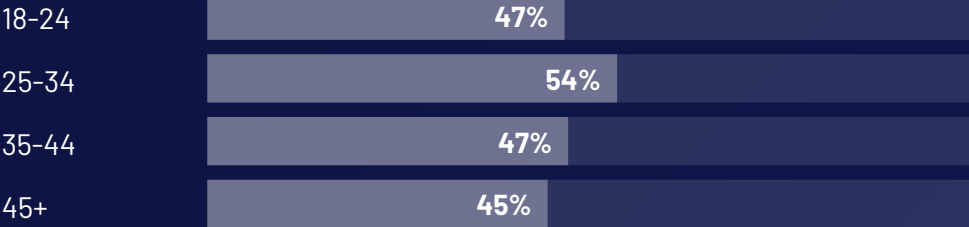
Amid these broader economic concerns, optimism about personal finances is modest, with nearly half anticipating their own situation to improve in 2026



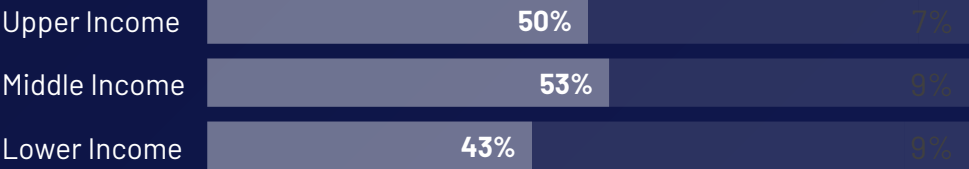
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level





At the same time, optimism centers on rising gold prices and better investment conditions, even as few plan on making major purchases



81%

The price of gold will reach unprecedented high levels in 2026

% Likely



55%

The economic environment in Lebanon will be better for investment in 2026 than it was in 2025

% Likely



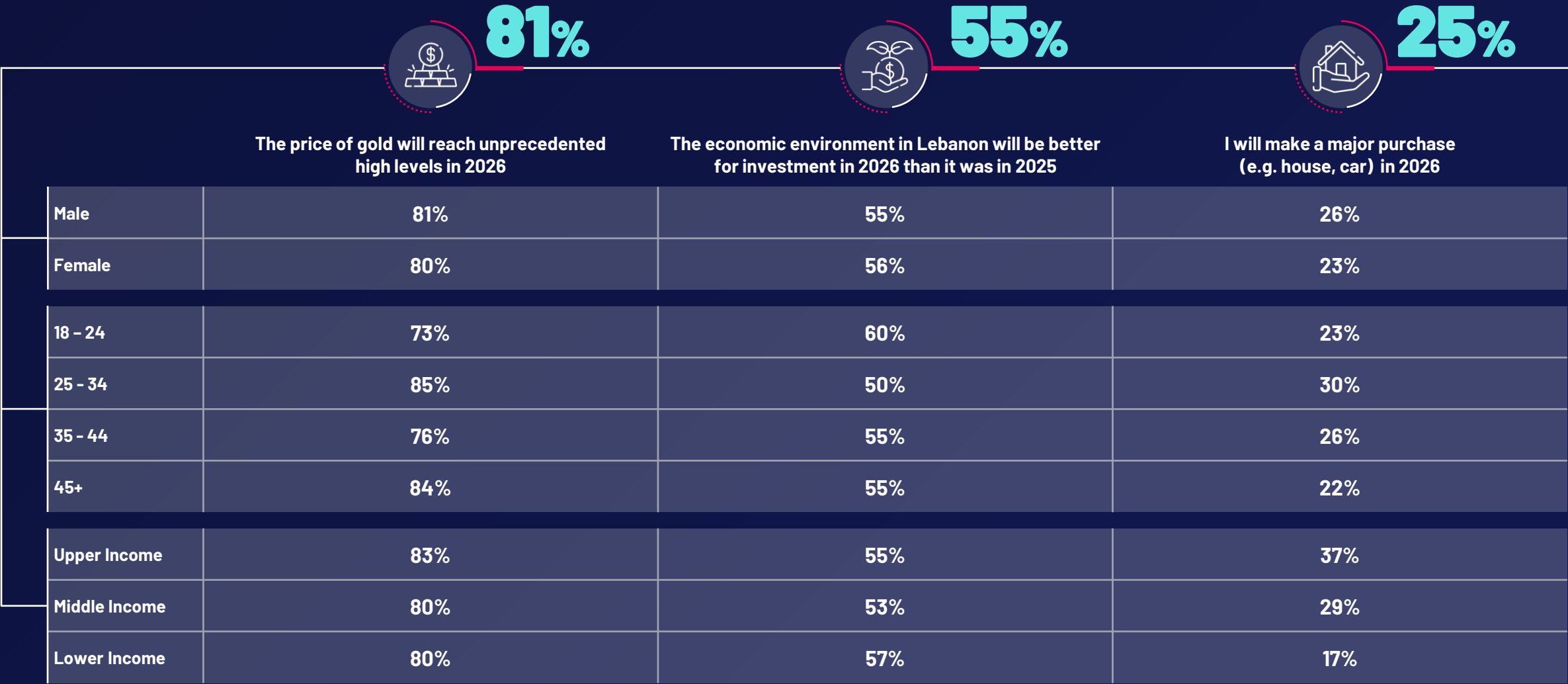
25%

I will make a major purchase (e.g. house, car) in 2026

% Likely

Outlook on investment and major purchases

% Likely - by demographics



In the housing market, expectations are more challenging, with most anticipating higher costs ahead



By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



05

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE WORKPLACE IN 2026

Shifting to the workplace, expectations point to a tightening of flexibility, with many predicting less remote-working freedom

% Likely

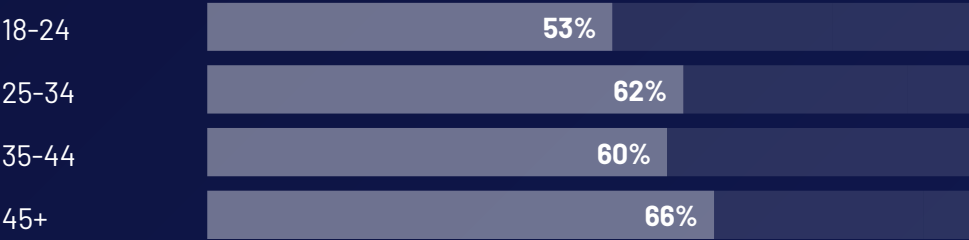
62%

Businesses in Lebanon will become less flexible in work arrangements like remote working compared to 2025

By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



06

EXPECTATIONS FOR TOURISM IN 2026

In tourism, the outlook brightens, with roughly 3 in 4 expecting an influx of visitors

% Likely

71%

More tourists will enter Lebanon in 2026 compared to 2025

By Gender

Male	68%
Female	74%

By Age

18-24	71%
25-34	68%
35-44	72%
45+	72%

By Income Level

Upper Income	69%	7%
Middle Income	71%	5%
Lower Income	72%	6%



07

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IN 2026

Looking at climate expectations, the majority anticipate rising global temperatures and extreme weather



% Likely

82%

Average global temperatures will increase



% Likely

73%

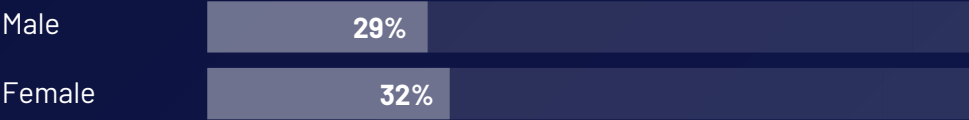
There will be more extreme weather events in Lebanon in 2026 than there were in 2025



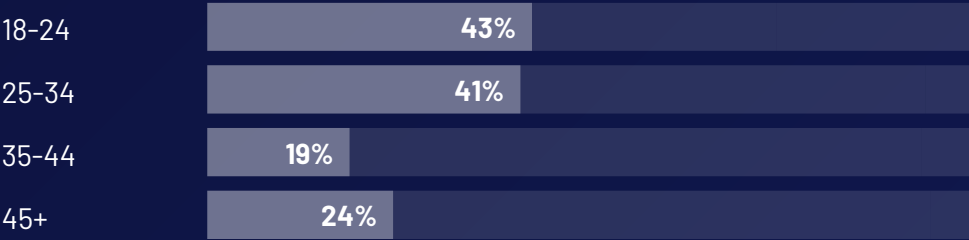
However, only a small share expect the government to introduce more ambitious carbon-reduction targets



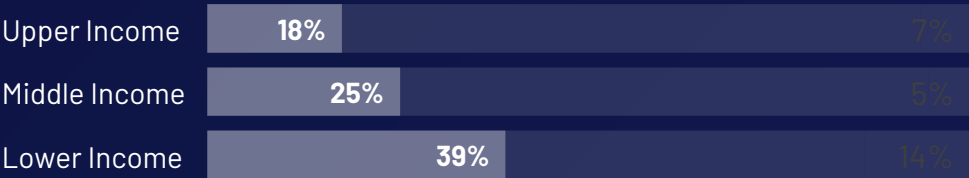
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



As a result, most expect everyday impacts to intensify, including heavier traffic congestion

% Likely

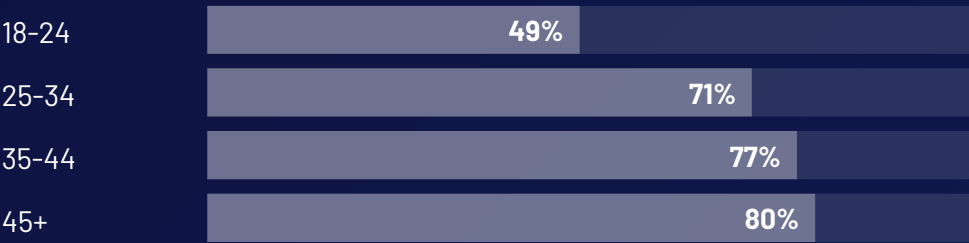
72%

Getting from one place to another in Lebanon will take significantly longer in 2026 due to increased traffic congestion

By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



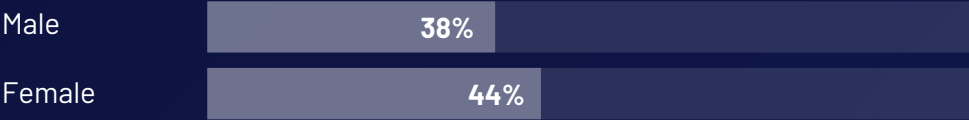
At the same time, confidence in a breakthrough technology capable of halting climate change remains limited

% Likely

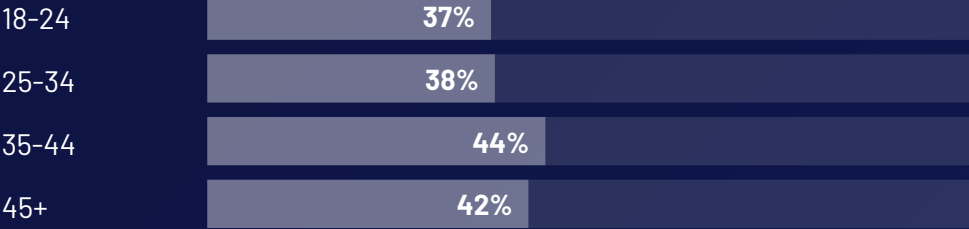
41%

There will be a breakthrough technology developed which will halt climate change

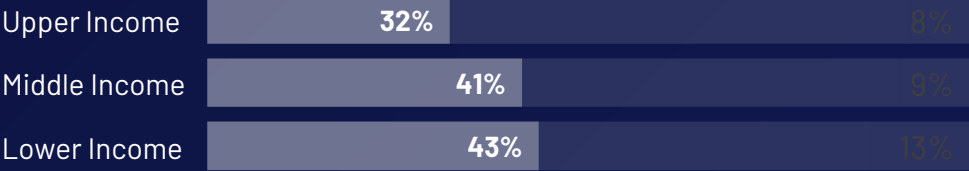
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



EXPECTATIONS FOR TECHNOLOGY IN 2026

08

In the digital space, the majority foresee spending more time socializing online, while only a small share intend to scale back their social media use



% Likely

83%

People in Lebanon will spend more time socializing online than face-to-face



% Likely

37%

I will use social media less



Expectations for technology

% Likely - by demographics



People in Lebanon will spend more time
socializing online than face-to-face

I will use social media less

	Male	84%	40%
	Female	82%	34%
	18 - 24	73%	45%
	25 - 34	83%	45%
	35 - 44	86%	30%
	45+	87%	33%
	Upper Income	76%	25%
	Middle Income	87%	34%
	Lower Income	83%	45%

In the realm of AI, the belief that it will eliminate jobs is stronger than the hope that it will create them

71%

% Likely

Artificial intelligence will lead to many new jobs being lost in Lebanon



By Gender

Male	71%
Female	72%

By Age

18-24	64%
25-34	72%
35-44	73%
45+	73%

By Income Level

Upper Income	68%	1%
Middle Income	75%	4%
Lower Income	69%	6%

64%

% Likely

Artificial intelligence will lead to many new jobs being created in Lebanon



By Gender

Male	63%
Female	65%

By Age

18-24	61%
25-34	63%
35-44	66%
45+	65%

By Income Level

Upper Income	55%	4%
Middle Income	63%	4%
Lower Income	68%	6%

And beyond employment, a large share foresee AI bringing new risks such as data leaks and greater difficulty distinguishing real from AI-generated content

86%

% Likely

AI will increase the risk of personal data being exposed or leaked in 2026



By Gender

Male	85%
Female	87%

By Age

18-24	73%
25-34	90%
35-44	89%
45+	90%

By Income Level

Upper Income	87%	4%
Middle Income	89%	2%
Lower Income	84%	7%

85%

% Likely

By 2026, most people will have trouble telling real content from AI-generated content



By Gender

Male	86%
Female	83%

By Age

18-24	74%
25-34	88%
35-44	89%
45+	86%

By Income Level

Upper Income	81%	3%
Middle Income	90%	2%
Lower Income	81%	6%

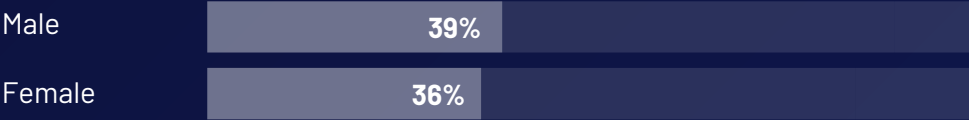
Still, expectations for stronger oversight of large tech companies are low, with almost 2 in 5 anticipating stricter government rules

% Likely

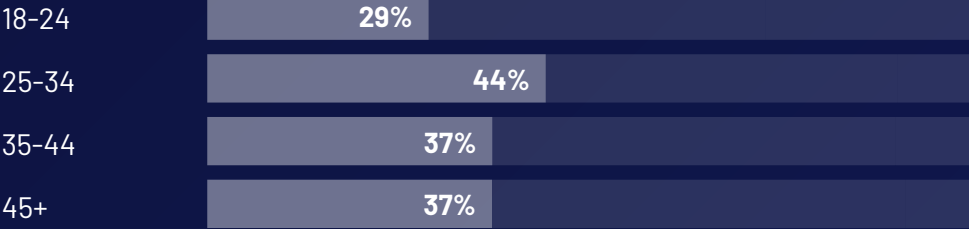
37%

Strict rules for large technology companies will be introduced by the Government in Lebanon

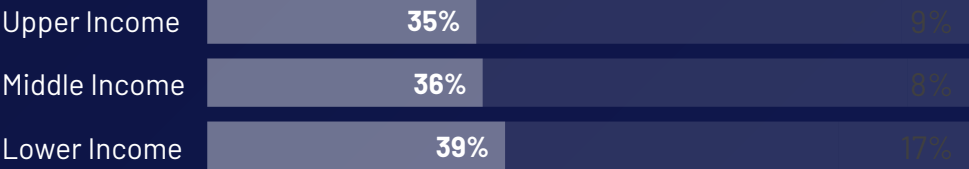
By Gender



By Age



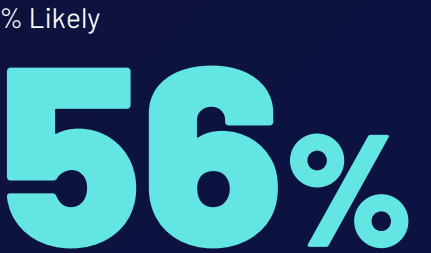
By Income Level



EXPECTATIONS FOR THE 2026 WORLD CUP

09

As the 2026 World Cup approaches, over half foresee a first-time winner taking the trophy

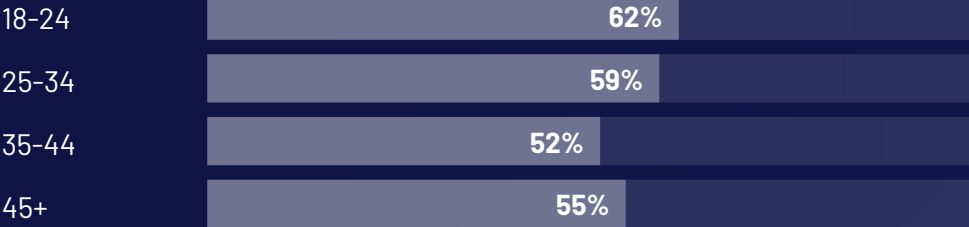


In 2026, a team that has never won the World Cup title before, will win it for the first time

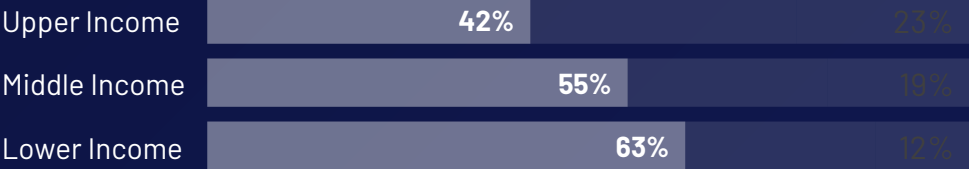
By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



PAST & FUTURE RESOLUTIONS

10

Reflecting on 2025, most people entered the year with resolutions they wanted to achieve

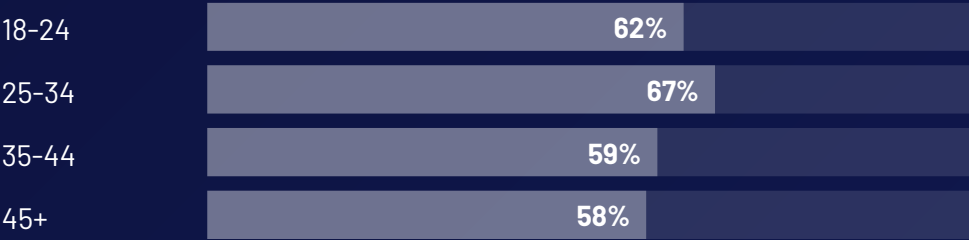
61%

Had set resolutions for things they wanted to accomplish in 2025

By Gender



By Age



By Income Level



But success varied – while only a small share fully achieved their goals, many made meaningful progress, and just a minority fell short

Success in achieving 2025 goals set

9%



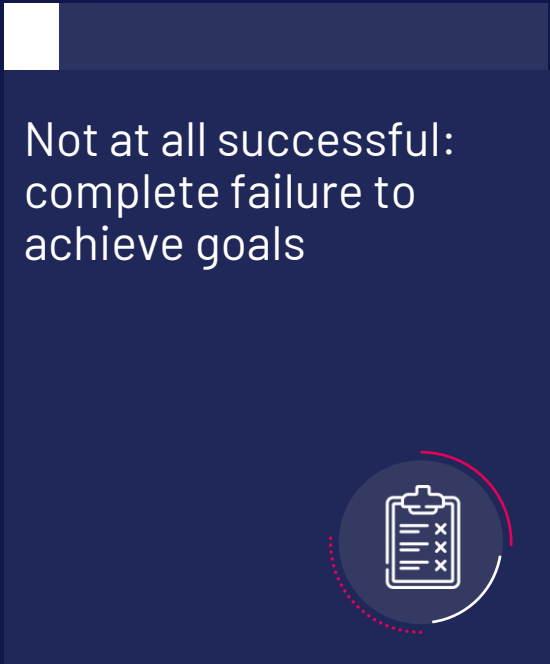
52%



29%



10%



And looking ahead to 2026, even more plan to set resolutions

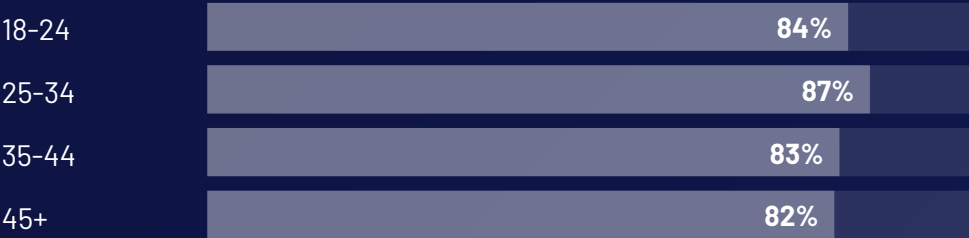
84%

Will set personal resolutions to accomplish specific goals in 2026

By Gender



By Age

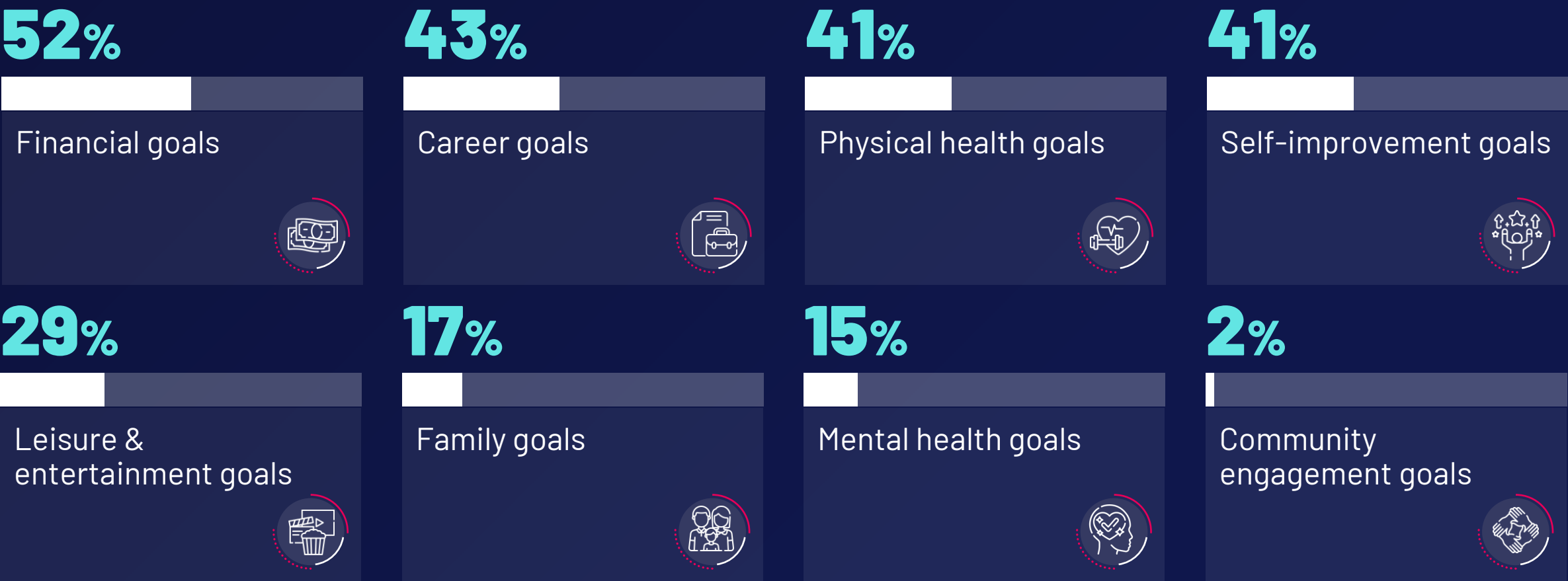


By Income Level



The goals for 2026 are diverse, led by financial and career goals, alongside a strong focus on physical health and self-improvement

Types of personal goals for 2026



Sample and methodology

Sample size

500 respondents

Sample criteria

General public: representative of the population across gender, age (18+) and region

Methodology

The survey was conducted via Ipsos online panel

Geographical coverage

Conducted in Lebanon
with a nationwide coverage

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Sana Toukan

Managing Director
Ipsos in Lebanon
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Ghiwa Mouawad

Research Manager – MSU Service Line Leader
Ipsos in Lebanon
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