

PUBLIC SURVEY ON SOCIOPOLITICAL LANDSCAPE IN LEBANON - FOLLOW-UP STUDY

Report of Findings



FRIEDRICH NAUMANN
FOUNDATION For Freedom.



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**International Social &
Development Research**

Ipsos in Lebanon



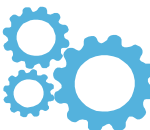

May 2026

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Survey on Sociopolitical
Landscape in Lebanon
Follow-Up



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OBJECTIVES & METHODOLOGY

01



Objectives and Methodology



Political Attitudes and Governmental Satisfaction

Generate insights into Lebanese citizens' political attitudes, including governmental satisfaction, proposed solutions, and governmental priority setting, as well as perceptions of state-controlled weaponry.



Priority Issues & Concerns

Identify the main issues as ranked by Lebanese participants and creating an idea of where priorities lie considering the ongoing war.



Perceptions of Aggressors and Influencers

Determine who participants point the blame to when it comes to escalation, and when it comes to international influence on Lebanon.



Draw Comparisons with the Initial Study

Examine how similar questions were answered differently upon the start of the war, and compare how different participants answer similar questions, and their proposed solutions.

Quantitative Data Collection



- **Methodology:** Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (**CAPI**) & Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (**CATI**).
- **Sample: 1,100** participants (550 female, 550 male) across Lebanon.
- **Date:** March 24, 2026 – April 20, 2026.

Study Limitations



- Attitudes during field work
- Underreporting
- Intentions vs behavior
- Nuanced political views

RESEARCH FINDINGS

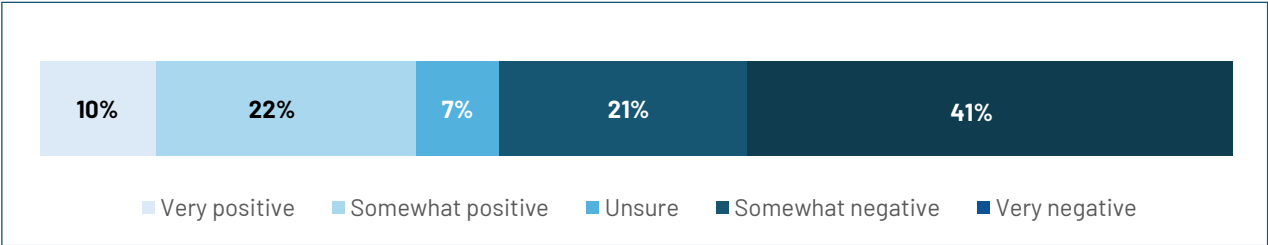
02



Attitudes & Confidence Towards Government

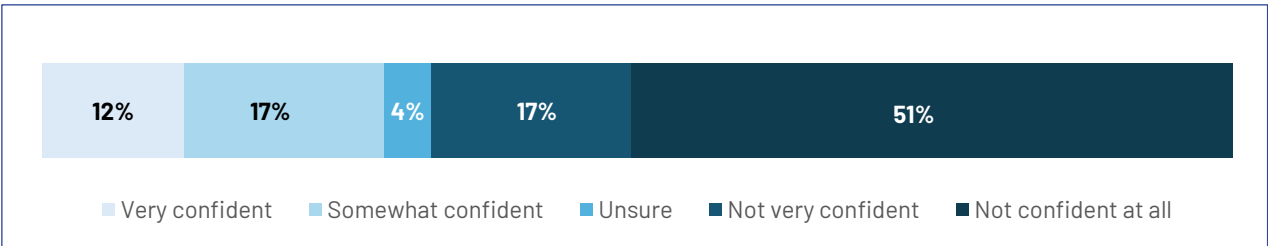
Government Performance in Managing the War

n=1100



Confidence in Government Securing a Ceasefire

n=1100

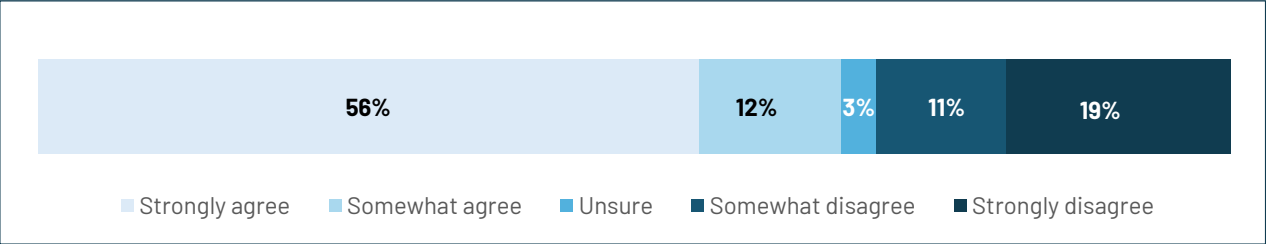


- ❖ Public evaluations of the government's management of the war are largely negative, with most respondents expressing dissatisfaction.
- ❖ Dissatisfaction is strongest in predominantly Shia-dominated districts, while Druze-dominated and mixed districts show relatively more balanced views.
- ❖ Confidence in the government's ability to secure a ceasefire remains very low, reflecting a broader credibility gap across communities.

Perceived Realism of State Controlled Weaponry

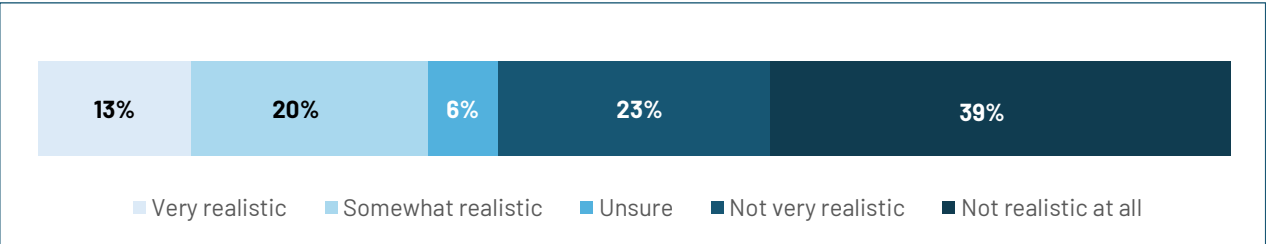
Agreement with State Control Over Weaponry

n=1100



Perceived Realism of State-Controlled Weaponry

n=1100



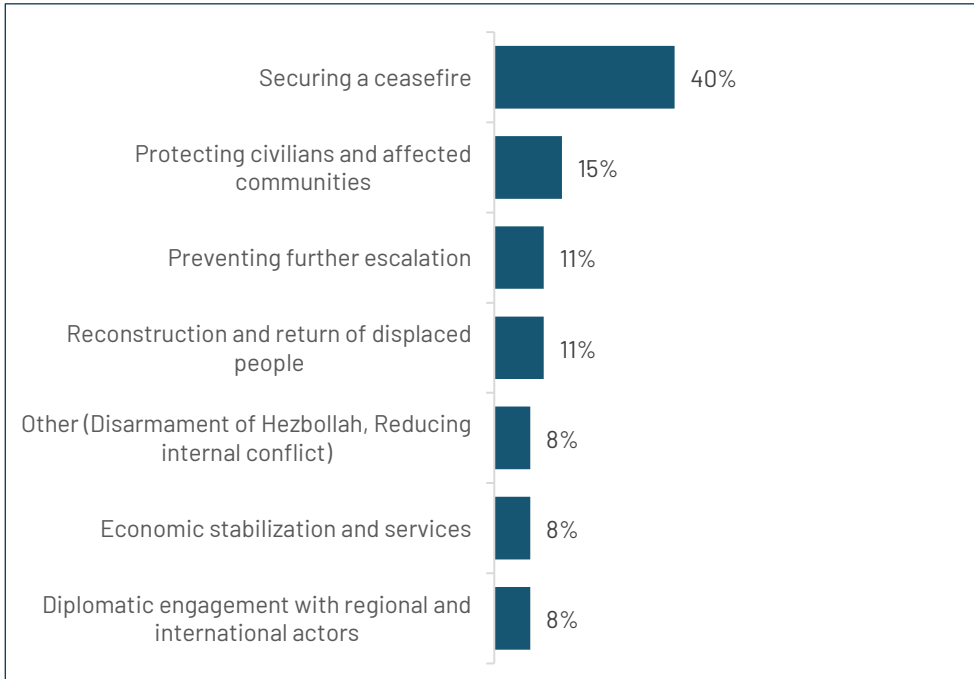
- ❖ Most respondents support exclusive state control over weaponry, though views differ significantly across districts.
- ❖ Predominantly Shia districts remain the least supportive and are the only districts where opposition outweighs agreement.
- ❖ While support is broad in principle, many respondents do not view state-controlled weaponry as realistically achievable under current conditions.



Government Priority Suggestions

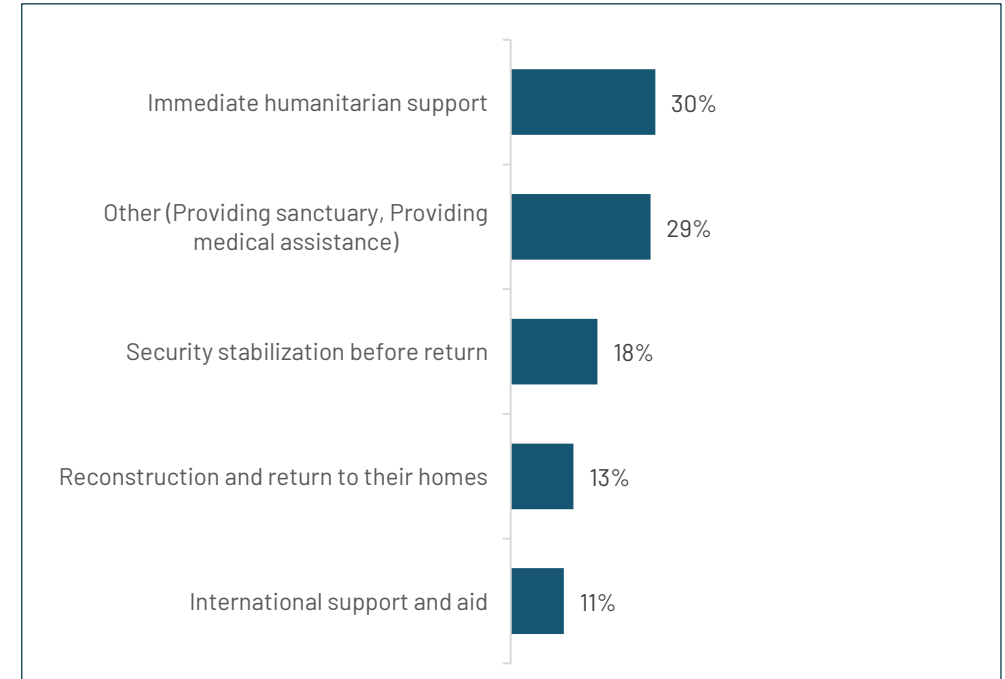
Suggested Government Top priority

n=1100



Suggested Government Priority Towards Displaced People

n=1100

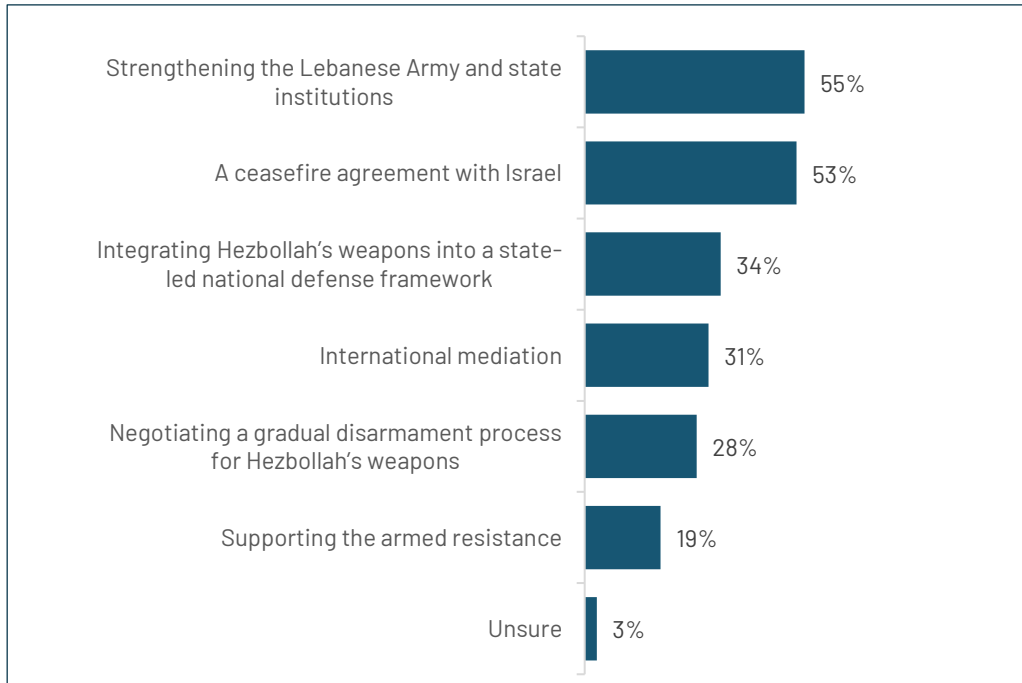


- ❖ Securing a ceasefire was the top priority nationwide. Other key priorities included protecting civilians, preventing escalation, and supporting reconstruction and returns. Findings were broadly consistent across regions, reflecting strong support for de-escalation.
- ❖ Priorities toward displaced people remained divided. Humanitarian aid, shelter, and medical support were the most common priorities, while predominantly Shia districts placed greater emphasis on security stabilization before return. Findings point to notable regional differences in approaches to displacement.

De-escalation & Stability Suggestions

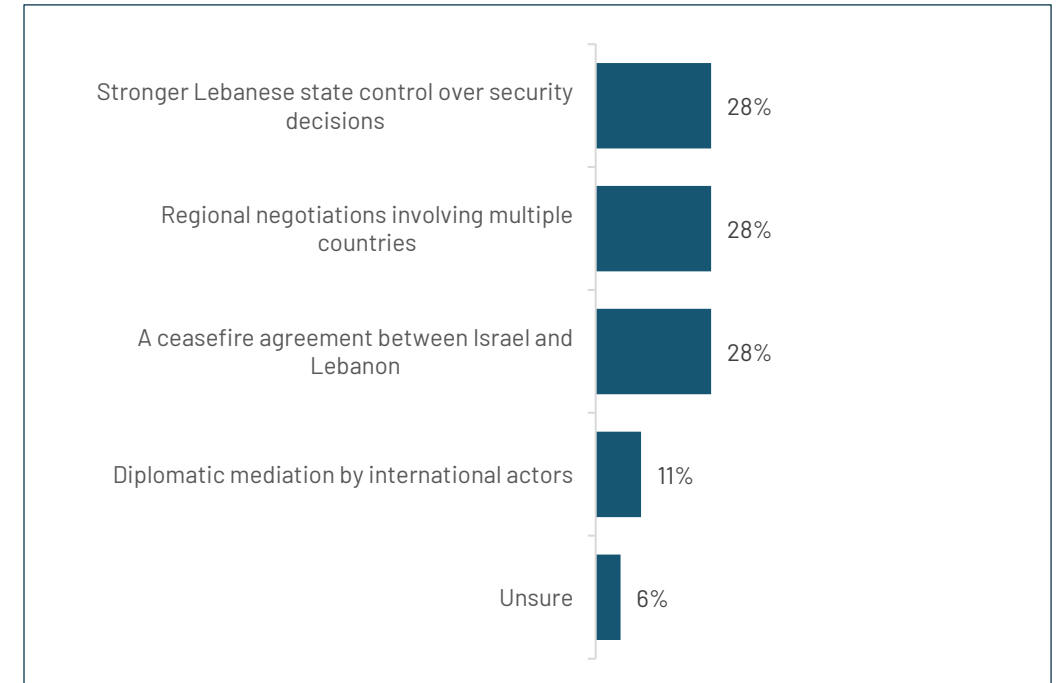
Means of Preventing Further Escalation

n=1100



Approach Most Likely to Stabilize the Security Situation

n=1100

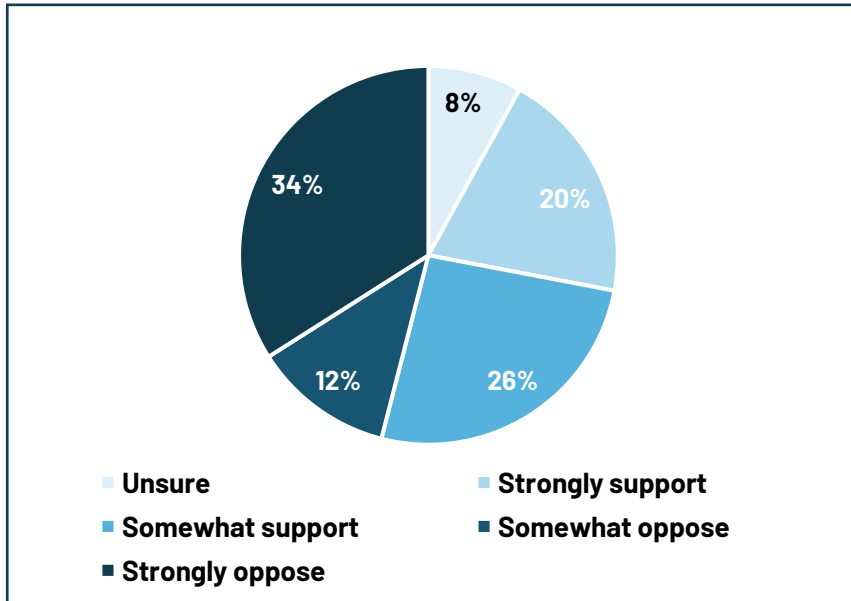


- ❖ Suggested ways to prevent further escalation focused on Lebanese control over security decisions, regional negotiations, and ceasefire agreements. Shia-majority districts emphasized ceasefires most, while mixed and Druze-majority districts prioritized regional negotiations.
- ❖ Suggested approaches to stabilize the security situation mainly focused on strengthening the Lebanese army and reaching a ceasefire agreement with Israel. Predominantly Shia districts emphasized ceasefires, while Christian and Druze-majority districts prioritized strengthening the army. Sunni-majority districts largely mirrored national trends.

Voting Behavior & Attitudes

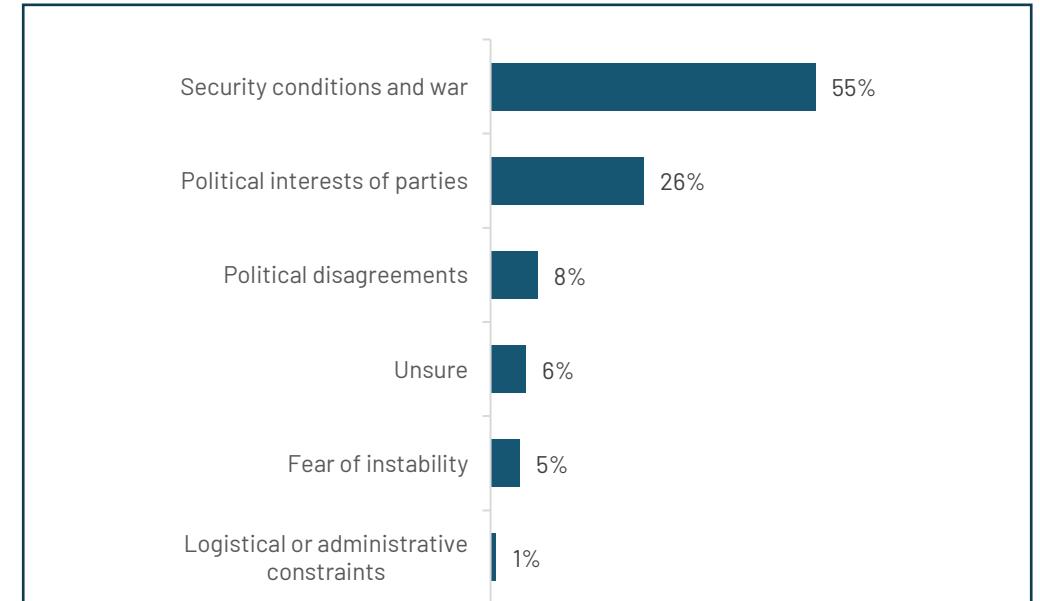
Support in Postponing Parliamentary Elections

n=1100



Reasons for Postponing the Elections

n=1100

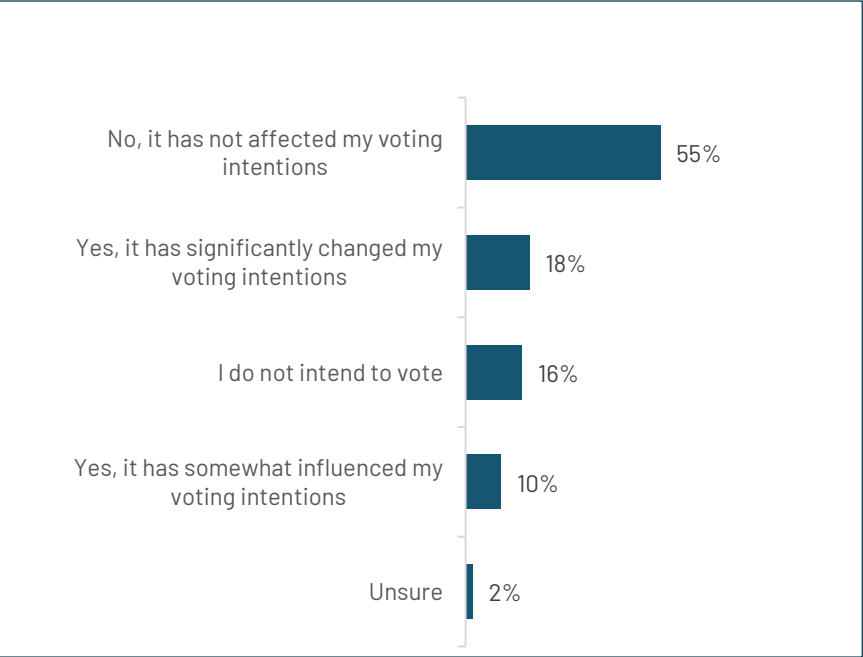


- ❖ Attitudes toward postponing parliamentary elections were evenly divided, though opposition appeared more intense than support.
- ❖ Security conditions and the war were identified as the main reasons behind the postponement.
- ❖ Political interests and disagreements were also viewed as contributing factors, though they were mentioned less frequently than security-related concerns.

Political Attitudes & Priorities

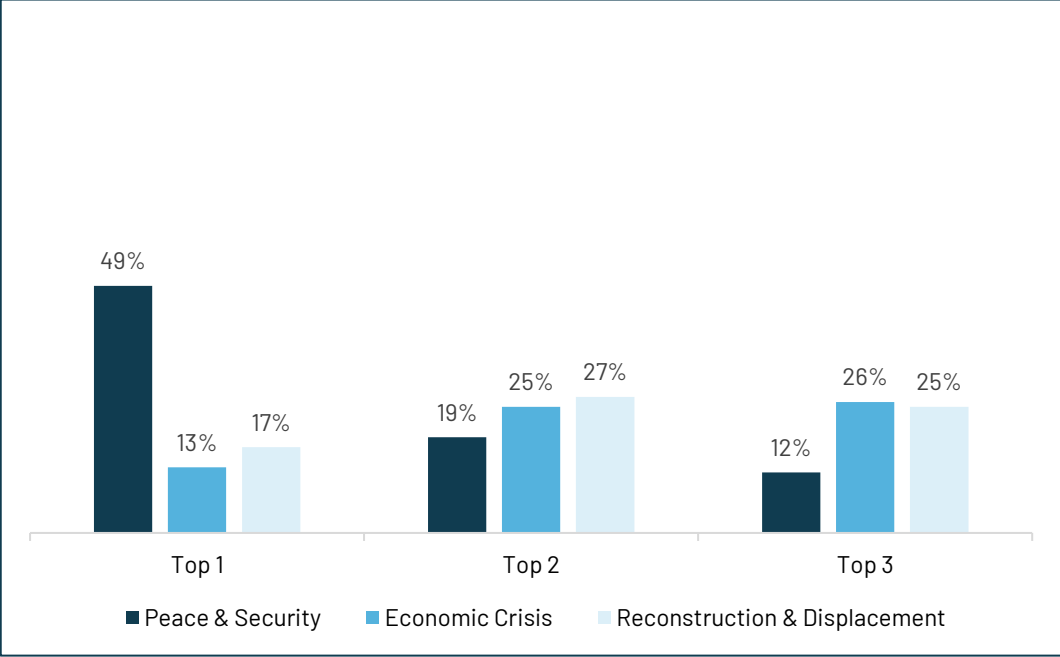
Effect of War Voting Intentions

n=1100



Top Three National Issues

n=1100

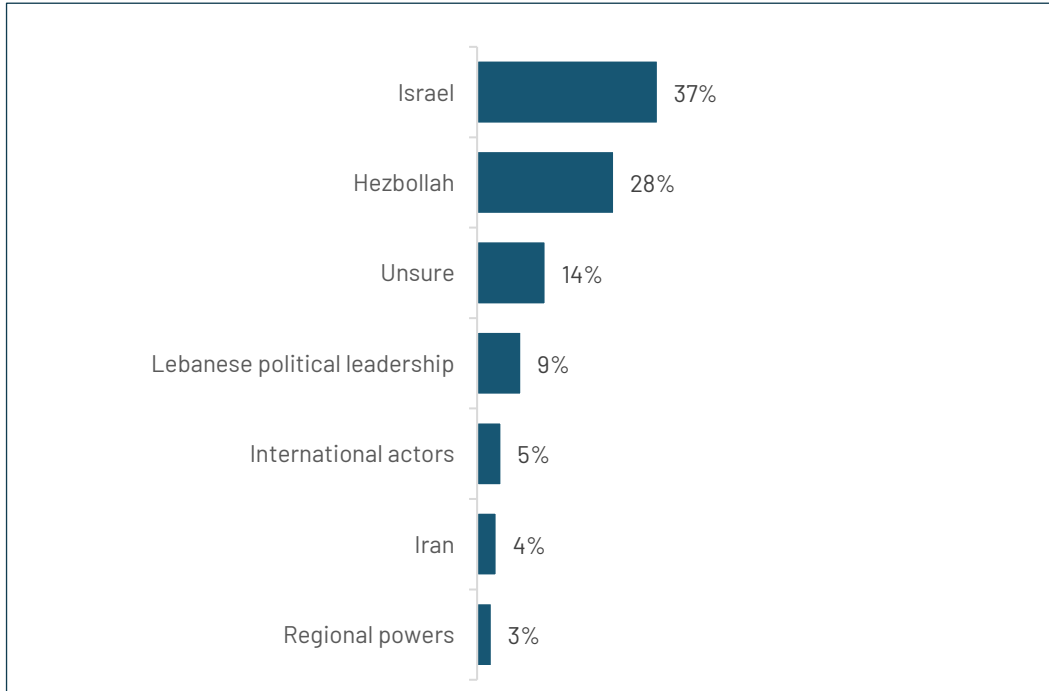


- ❖ For most respondents, the war did not significantly change voting intentions, though some reported major changes or no intention to vote.
- ❖ Ending the war is the top national priority, followed by economic recovery, reconstruction, and the return of displaced people.
- ❖ Findings suggest public priorities are largely driven by immediate security concerns and economic hardship.

Political Alignment and Party Landscape

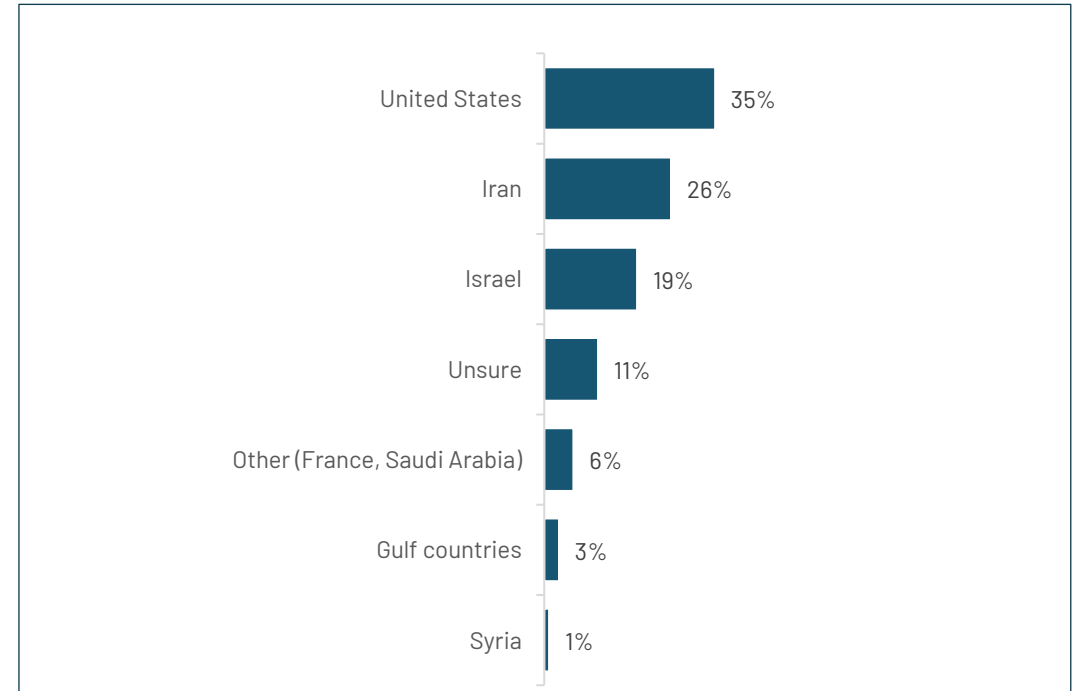
Perceived Contributor to Escalation

n=1100



Regional Actor with the Greatest Influence

n=1100

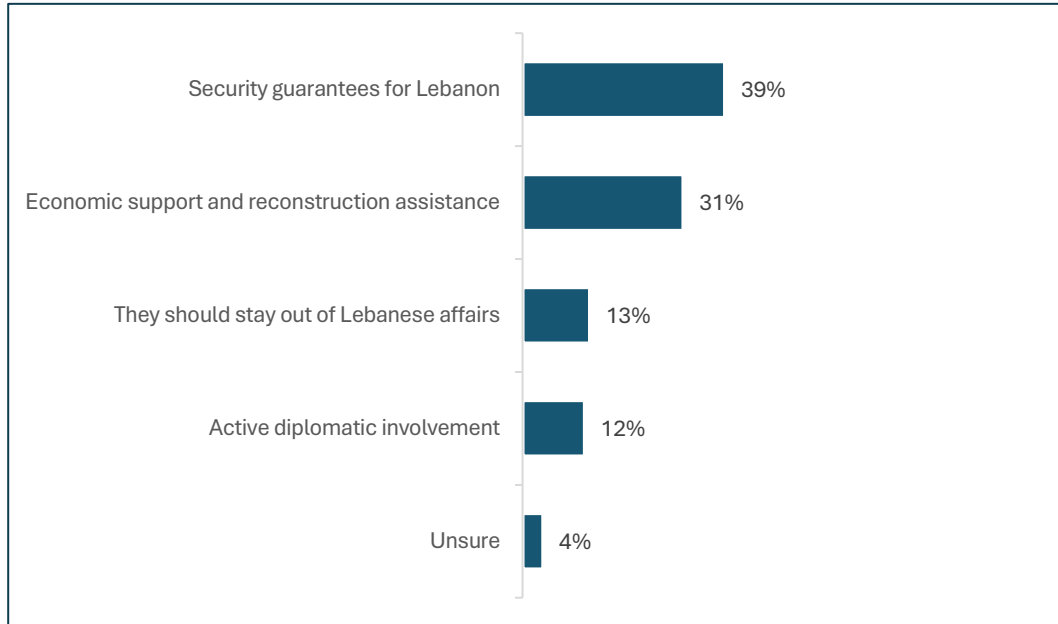


- ❖ Perceptions of regional influence remain divided, with the United States, Iran, and Israel identified as the main external actors influencing Lebanon.
- ❖ District-level differences are evident in how communities perceive influence and responsibility for escalation.
- ❖ Perceived contributors to escalation are mainly divided between Israel and Hezbollah, reflecting differing political perspectives across communities.

Roles of International Community & Syria

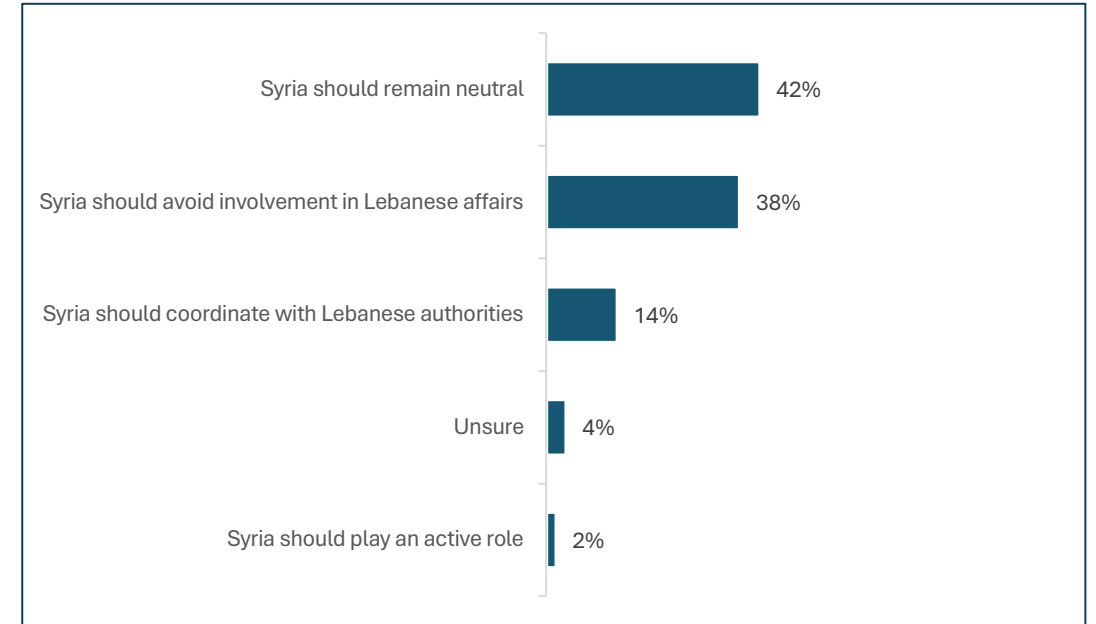
Role of the International Community

n=1100



Suggested Role of Syria

n=1100

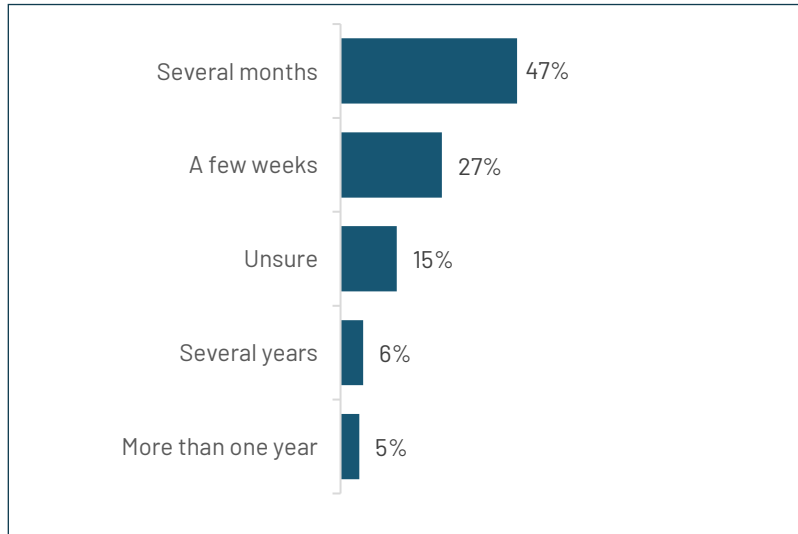


- ❖ Expectations of the international community were primarily centered around safety and security, reflecting the broader prioritization of stability across respondents.
- ❖ Economic support and reconstruction emerged as secondary priorities, consistent with concerns around economic conditions and recovery efforts.
- ❖ Respondents generally expressed reluctance toward foreign interference, while some indicated willingness to coordinate with Syria if engagement occurs through official Lebanese authorities.

Perceptions of Stability and Duration

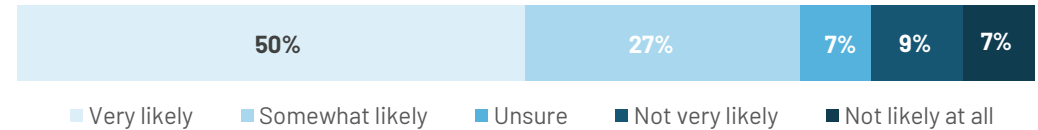
Predicted Length of War on Lebanon

n=1100



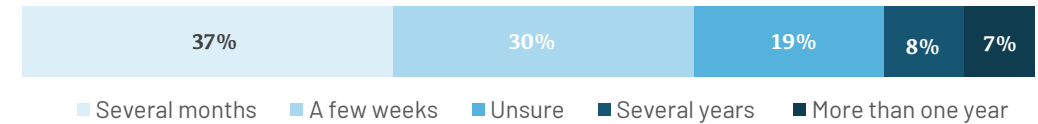
Predicted Likelihood of Escalation

n=1100



Predicted Length of War on the Region

n=1100



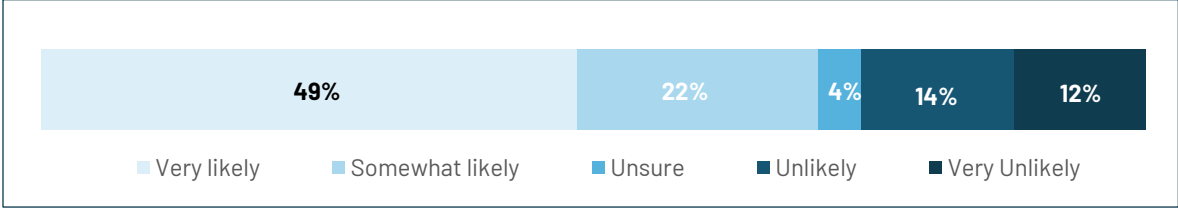
- ❖ Most respondents expect the war to continue for several months, though predominantly Shia districts were generally more optimistic about a shorter duration.
- ❖ Expectations of escalation remain high, with a large majority believing further escalation is likely.
- ❖ Most respondents expect war to continue for several months, though a smaller portion believe it could last years.

Perceptions of Stability and Risk of Permanent Displacement

Perceived Stability n=1100



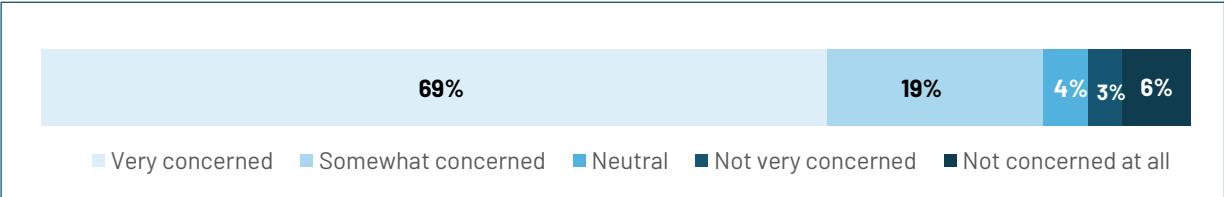
Likelihood of Permanent Displacement n=1100



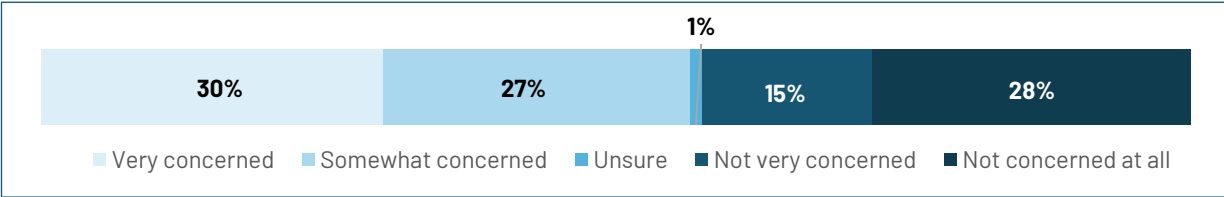
- ❖ Perceptions of stability are overwhelmingly negative, reflecting widespread uncertainty and low feelings of safety.
- ❖ Most respondents view permanent displacement as a likely outcome of the conflict.
- ❖ Nabatiyeh stands out as an exception, with respondents less likely to perceive permanent displacement as likely.

Public Sentiment on Humanitarian Conditions and Civil Conflict

Concern About Humanitarian Impact n=1100



Concern of Civil War n=1100



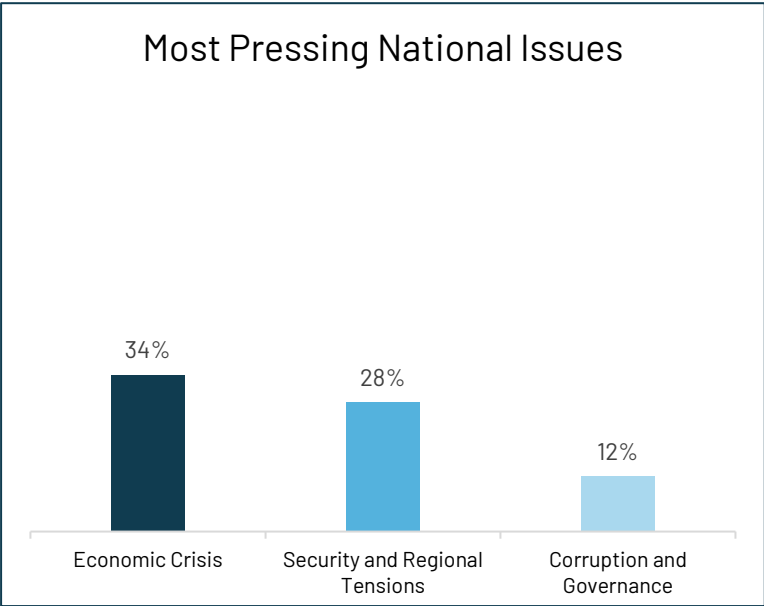
- ❖ Concern about the humanitarian impact of the war is nearly universal across all regions.
- ❖ Concerns about a potential civil war remain divided, with higher concern observed in Beirut and northern areas.

COMPARISON WITH INITIAL STUDY

Humanitarian Concerns

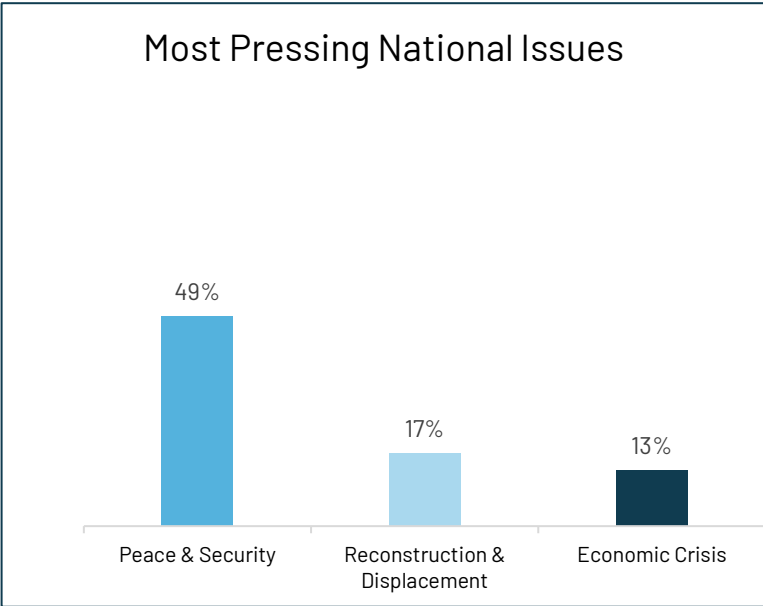
Initial Study

n=1200



Follow-up study

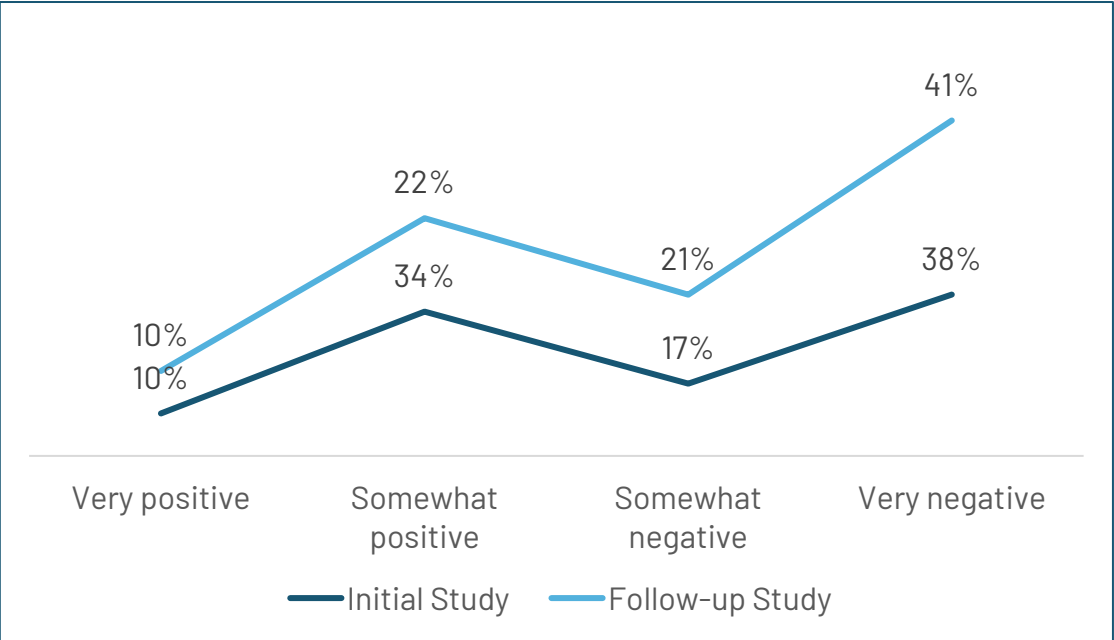
n=1100



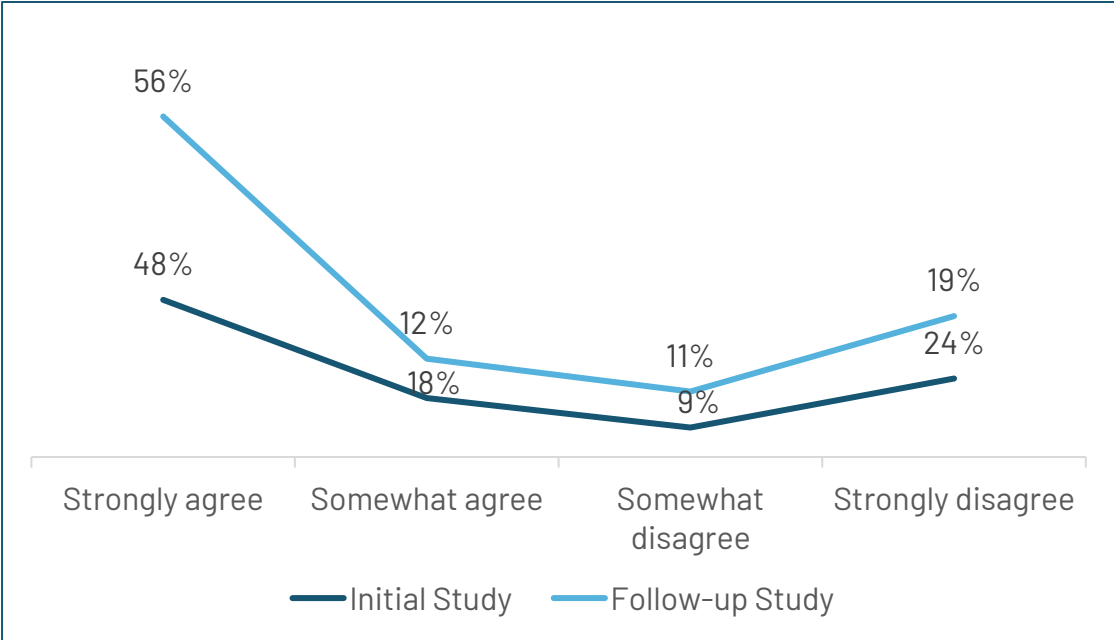
- ❖ Economic concerns dominated the initial study, while peace and security emerged as the leading issue in the follow-up study.
- ❖ Reconstruction- and displacement-related concerns also became more prominent in the follow-up findings.

Government Performance

Rating Government Performance



State Authority Over Weaponry

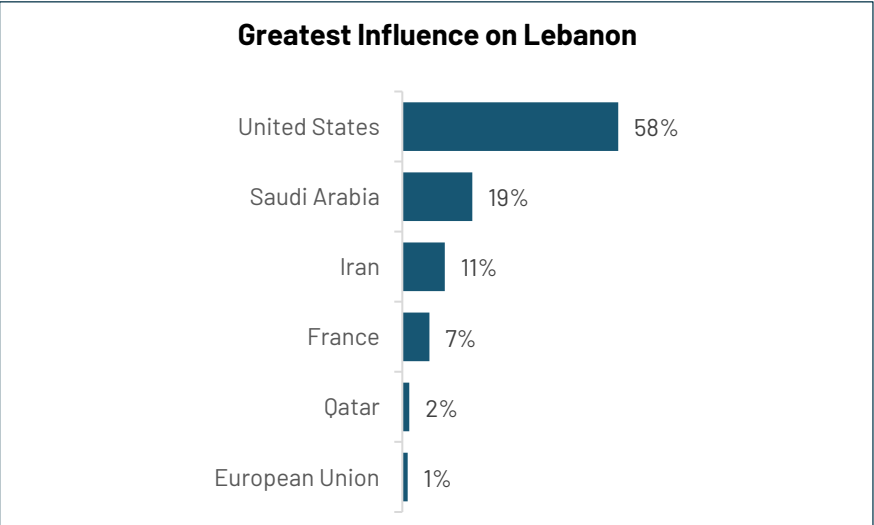


- ❖ Positive evaluations of government performance declined from 44% to 32% in the follow-up study, reflecting growing dissatisfaction with government decision-making during the war, particularly in predominantly Shia districts.
- ❖ Support for state control over weaponry increased slightly and became more intense in the follow-up study, though clear community-level divides remain, with strongest support among Christian and Sunni respondents and lowest support in predominantly Shia districts.

Geopolitical Perceptions

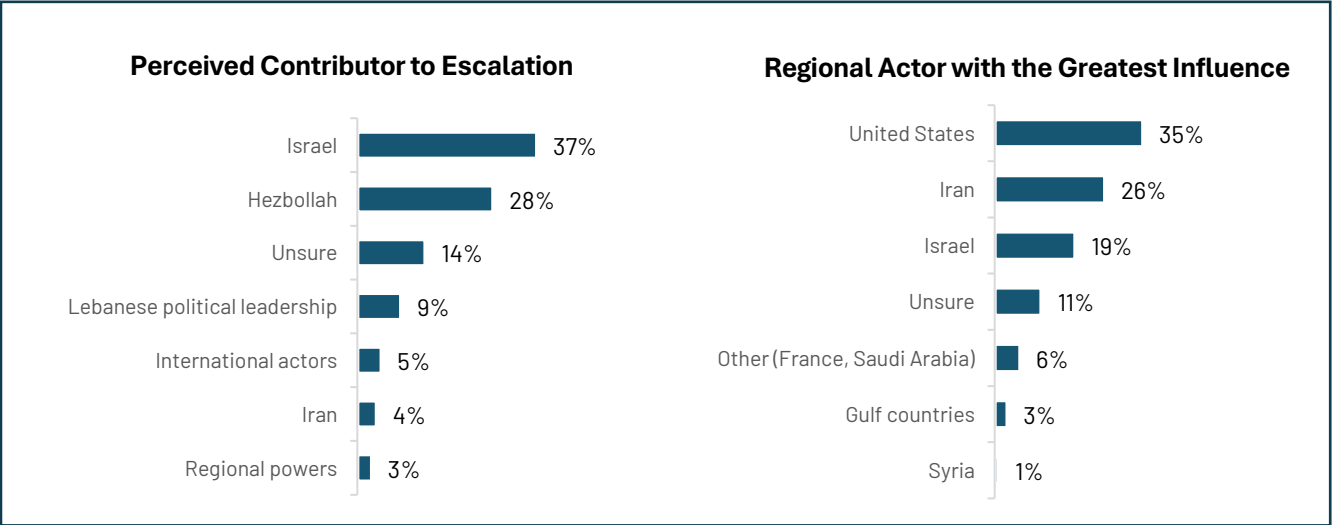
Initial Study

n=1200



Follow-up Study

n=1100



- ❖ In the initial study, the United States was perceived as the most influential actor in Lebanon, followed by Saudi Arabia and Iran.
- ❖ In the follow-up study, perceptions shifted toward identifying Israel and Hezbollah as the main contributors to escalation.
- ❖ The war appears to have reshaped perceptions of influence and responsibility, while also creating more consistent views across respondents.

CONCLUSION

03





Divide in Attribution of Blame:

Public perceptions of contributors and escalators differ when segregated by district. Primarily Shia districts blame Israel, others blame Hezbollah.



Safety as a Unified Priority:

Safety has become the top priority across all participants of different backgrounds. Approaches to achieving safety also differs by district.



State Control Over Weaponry Support:

Support for state control over weaponry has increased, and opposition posed by respondents from predominantly Shia districts has lessened.



Embedded Divides:

Divides in responses were observed across almost all questions, highlighting different perceptions and suggestions.



Shared Pessimistic Outlook:

Most respondents reported expecting the war to last longer, expecting escalation, and possible permanent displacement.



Specific Solutions Required:

Participants from different districts expect different solutions to different problems, requiring intentional and specific solutions to guarantee satisfaction.



Government Performance Dip:

A slight reduction in governmental satisfaction is observed, primarily by respondents from predominantly Shia districts.



Bridging Fault Lines Is Essential:

Bringing communities together and building a unified Lebanese vision is essential for shaping the country's future.

THANK YOU!

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