# Arab Migrant and Diaspora Relationships Survey: Administration, Collection, and Instrument

Nadia Eldemerdash, PhD
Last update: Nov. 1, 2025

Citation: Eldemerdash, Nadia. 2025. Arab Migrants and Diaspora Relationships Survey (dataset). Harvard Dataverse. https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/IIFW1O.

Contact:
nadia.eldemerdash@gmail.com
neldemerdash@butler.edu

## Survey Creation and Administration

The Arab Migrant and Diaspora Relationships Survey was originally written in English and translated into Arabic by Vibrant Arabic, a translation, localization, and cultural consulting service based in the United Arab Emirates. The translation process was collaborative between me (the survey author) and the translators at Vibrant Arabic. A draft of the survey was first written by me and then sent to Vibrant Arabic. A primary translator then translated the survey in its entirety and sent it to me for review. I checked the translation for coherence between the two languages and annotated the translated version where I felt there had been any misunderstandings or where I needed clarification on the terms used. I then met with the translators via video conferencing to discuss my comments and finalize changes. Based on our work together, the translator edited the translated version and sent it to me. I reviewed it, made small edits, and then copied it into Qualtrics.

Vibrant Arabic also administered a test version of the survey to 11 respondents of varying demographic characteristics and living in different countries around the world. The primary goal of this test was to determine whether there were any issues with clarity of questions in the survey and if any questions were deemed too sensitive by the respondents. All respondents reported that the questions were clear and easy to understand. Only the Syrian respondents felt that some of the questions were too sensitive, likely due to the political situation in their COO at the time, as well as the Assad regime's reputation for tracking migrants' behavior and retaliating against family members at home. Some may also be concerned about how their actions and opinions may be perceived by the government of their country of residence.

AMDRS was administered through Qualtrics from September 21 to December 30, 2022. Respondents were recruited via Facebook ads, as well as targeted internet message boards and email listservs. The use of Facebook ads to recruit online survey respondents has become more prevalent in the last several years. One advantage of this recruitment strategy is that it allows researchers to use Facebook's demographic data to target hard-to-reach, narrow populations. In my case, my goal was to reach first- and second-generation migrants from the MENA region. While Facebook does not allow me to target this population specifically, it does allow me to set up parameters for recruitment that make it more likely that people from this background will see the ads. Further, the ad itself specifically mentions migrants as the target audience, and the Arabic version should attract people from the MENA region.

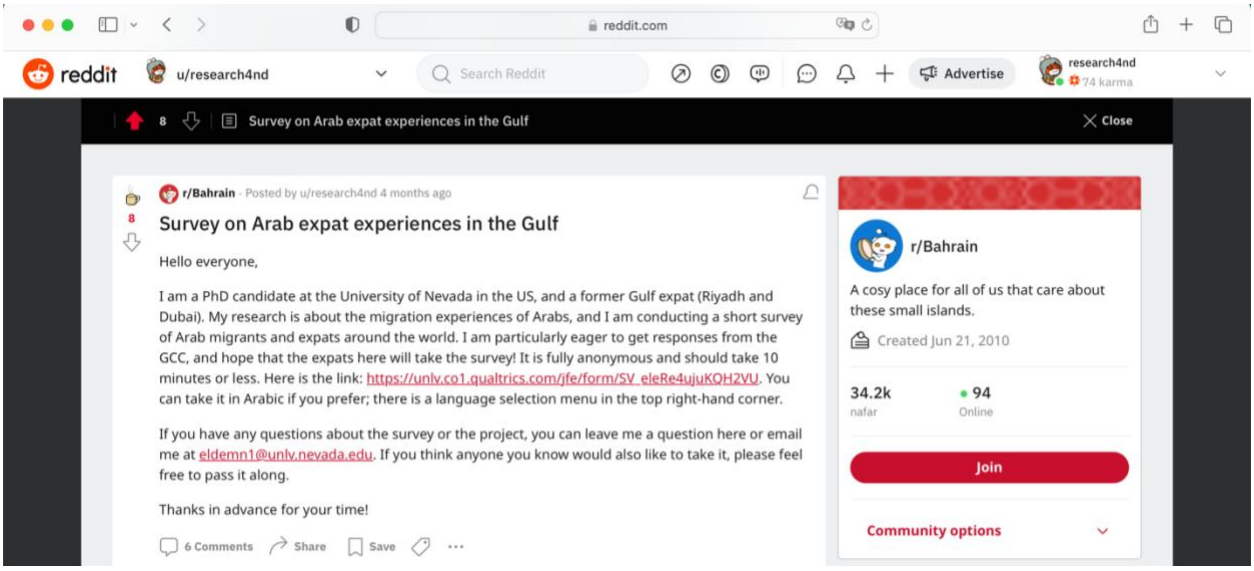
To create Facebook ads for the survey, I created a conversion ad campaign in Facebook[1] under the Facebook page for the University of Nevada Las Vegas' Center for Migration, Demography, and Population Studies. This page posts information about the Center and related research and includes contact information for the center (cmdp@unlv.edu). Further, I connected the Facebook ad account with my personal website. Successful completion of the survey would take respondents to a "Thank you" page on my website, which Facebook would record for me. This way, I was able to differentiate complete responses from incomplete ones.

To get a roughly representative sample of those living in Western democracies and those living in Arab autocracies, I created multiple ad sets targeting those populations separately. In both cases, I specified that respondents should have interests related to the MENA countries that are locations of emigration: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen. Further, I divided ad sets by gender to get a representative sample of both men and women. Figure A1 shows an ad used in the recruitment campaign. To extend my reach further to people in the Arab Gulf and the United States, I recruited respondents through Facebook groups, newsletters, and other social media platforms. Figure A2 shows a recruitment post on the Reddit group r/Bahrain.

Figure A1: Survey recruitment ad on Instagram

[1] For a review of types of ad campaigns and their effectiveness in recruiting survey respondents, see Neundorf and Ozturk (2021).

Figure A2: Reddit post recruiting respondents to the AMDRS




## Survey English and Arabic

A person's country of origin is the country where either they, their parents, or their grandparents were born and first obtained citizenship. For example, if your parents were born in Syria as Syrian citizens, your country of origin would be Syria.

Q1[2] What is your country of origin?

[List of MENA countries in English and Arabic, Other (open response)]

Q2 What is your country of residence? [Open response]

Q2 بلد الإقامة

[2] Note that question numbers do not correspond to their position in the questionnaire. Numbers were not visible to respondents.

Q3
How long have you lived in your country of residence?

- Since birth (1)
- Over 20 years (2)
- 10-20 years (3)
- 5-9 years (4)
- Less than 5 years (5)

Q3 منذ متى تعيش في بلد إقامتك الحالية؟

- منذ الولادة (1)
- لأكثر من عشرين سنة (2)
- ١٠-٢٠ سنة (3)
- ٥-٩ سنوات (4)
- لأقل من خمس سنوات (5)

Q7 How often do you visit your country of origin?

- More than once yearly (1)
- Yearly (2)
- Once every few years (3)
- Rarely/never (4)

Q7 هل تزور بلدك الأصلي؟

- ○ عدّة مرّات في السنة (1)
- ○ سنوياً (2)
- ○ مرّة كل عدّة سنوات (3)
- ○ نادراً/ لا أزورها مطلقاً (4)

Q5 Do you have family living in your country of origin?

- ○ No (1)
- ○ Yes (2)

Q5 هل لديك أقرباء أو أسرة ما زالت تعيش في البلد الأصلي؟

- ○ لا (1)
- ○ نعم (2)

Q8 How often do you speak to family members in your country of origin? [Only shown to respondents who marked “Yes” in previous question]

- ○ Daily (1)
- ○ A few times a week (2)
- ○ A few times a month (3)
- ○ Once a month (4)
- ○ A few times a year (5)
- ○ Once a year (6)
- ○ Never (7)

Q8 هل أنت على اتصال بأفراد العائلة ممن يعيشون في البلد الأصلي؟

- يومياً (1)
- عدّة مرّات في الأسبوع (2)
- عدّة مرّات في الشهر (3)
- شهرياً (4)
- عدّة مرّات في السنة (5)
- سنوياً (6)
- لا أتصل بهم مطلقاً (7)

Q10 How often do you speak to friends in your country of origin? [Only shown to respondents who marked “Yes” in previous question]

- Daily (1)
- A few times a week (2)
- A few times a month (3)
- Once a month (4)
- A few times a year (5)
- Once a year (6)
- Never (7)

Q10 هل أنت على اتصال مع أصدقائك في البلد الأصلي؟

- يومياً (1)
- عدّة مرّات في الأسبوع (2)
- عدّة مرّات في الشهر (3)
- شهرياً (4)
- عدّة مرّات في السنة (5)
- سنوياً (6)
- لا أتصل بهم مطلقاً (7)

Q11 When you speak to people in your country of origin, what do you talk about? Select all that apply.

- [ ] Political issues, e.g. upcoming or past elections, behavior of political figures, current political events (1)
- [ ] Social issues, e.g. education, healthcare, inequality, environment (2)
- [ ] Economic issues (3)
- [ ] Personal issues (4)
- [ ] General life updates (5)

Q11 حين تتواصل مع من يعيش في بلدك الأصلي عمّا تتحدثون؟ اختر كلّ الإجابات المناسبة

- ☐ مواضيع سياسية كالانتخابات السابقة أواللاحقة، سلوك شخصيات سياسية، قضايا وأحداث جارية (1)
- ☐ مواضيع اجتماعية كالتعليم، الصحة، اللامساواة، البيئة (2)
- ☐ مواضيع اقتصادية (3)
- ☐ أمور شخصية (4)
- ☐ آخر الأخبار والأمور الحياتية العامة (5)

Q59 Have you ever suggested to a family member or friend that they should support a politician in your country of origin? [Only shown to respondents who marked "1" in previous question]

- ○ No (21)
- ○ Yes (22)

هل سبق أن اقترحت على أحد أفراد أسرتك أوأصدقائك أن يدعم سياسيًا في بلدك الأصلي؟

- ○ لا (21)
- ○ نعم (22)

Q60 Have you ever suggested to a family member or friend that they should support a political party in your country of origin? [Only shown to respondents who marked "1" in previous question]

- ○ No (21)
- ○ Yes (22)

Q60 هل سبق أن اقترحت على أحد أفراد أسرتك أو صديقك أن يدعم حزب سياسي في بلدك الأصلي؟

- ○ لا (21)
- ○ نعم (22)

Q61 Have you ever suggested to a family member or friend that they should support a specific policy in your country of origin? [Only shown to respondents who marked "1" in previous question]

- ○ No (21)
- ○ Yes (22)

Q61 هل سبق أن اقترحت على أحد أفراد أسرتك أو صديقك أن يدعم سياسة معينة في بلدك الأصلي؟

- لا (21)
- نعم (22)

Q12 How often do you send money or goods to family members or friends in your country of origin?

- Monthly or more often (1)
- A few times a year (2)
- Yearly (3)
- Rarely/never (4)

Q12 هل ترسل مالاً أو هدايا لأفراد العائلة أو للأصدقاء في بلدك الأصلي؟

- شهرياً أو عدّة مرّات في الشهر (1)
- عدّة مرّات في السنة (2)
- سنوياً (3)
- نادراً/مطلقاً (4)

Q13 How often do you receive money or goods from family members or friends in your country of origin?

- Monthly or more often (1)
- A few times a year (2)
- Yearly (3)
- Rarely/never (4)

Q13 هل تصلك أموال أو هدايا من أفراد عائلتك أو الأصدقاء الذين يعيشون في بلدك الأصلي؟

- شهرياً أو عدّة مرّات في الشهر (1)
- عدّة مرّات في السنة (2)
- سنوياً (3)
- نادراً/مطلقاً (4)

Q21 Have you ever voted in an election in your country of origin while you were based abroad?

- No (1)
- Yes (2)

Q21 خلال سنوات إقامتك، هل سبق أن شاركت في انتخابات بلدك الأصلي الوطنية؟

- لا (1)
- نعم (2)

Q14 Have you ever donated money to a charitable or social organization in your country of origin while you were based abroad?

- No (1)
- Yes, once (2)
- Yes, more than once (3)

Q14 خلال سنوات إقامتك، هل تبرعت بالمال لمؤسّسات خيرية أو منظّمات اجتماعية محلية تعمل في بلدك الأصلي؟

- لا (1)
- نعم، لِمرّة واحدة (2)
- نعم، لِعدّة مرّات (3)

Q16 Have you ever donated money to a political organization in your country of origin while you were based abroad?

- ○ No (1)
- ○ Yes, once (2)
- ○ Yes, more than once (3)

Q16 خلال سنوات إقامتك، هل تبرعت لمنظّمات سياسية محليّة في بلدك الأصلي؟

- ○ لا (1)
- ○ نعم، لِمرّة واحدة (2)
- ○ نعم، لِعدّة مرّات (3)

Q17 Have you ever volunteered for an organization in your country of origin while you were based abroad?

- ○ No (1)
- ○ Yes, once (2)
- ○ Yes, more than once (3)

Q17 خلال سنوات إقامتك، هل تطوّعت للعمل في أي من منظّمات بلدك الأصلي المحلية؟

- ○ لا (1)
- ○ نعم، لِمرّة واحدة (2)
- ○ نعم، لِعدّة مرّات (3)

Q46 Have you ever attended a protest in your country of origin while you were based abroad?

- ○ No (1)
- ○ Yes, once (2)
- ○ Yes, more than once (3)

Q46 خلال سنوات إقامتك، هل شاركت في مظاهرات في بلدك الأصلي؟

- لا (1)
- نعم، لِمرّة واحدة (2)
- نعم، لِعدّة مرّات (3)

Q47 Have you ever attended a protest in your country of residence that was related to a cause in your country of origin?

- No (1)
- Yes, once (2)
- Yes, more than once (3)

Q47 هل شاركت في بلد إقامتك بمظاهرات تدعم قضايا متعلقة ببلدك الأصلي؟

- لا (1)
- نعم، لِمرّة واحدة (2)
- نعم، لِعدّة مرّات (3)

Q23 Have you ever campaigned for or promoted a politician from your country of origin running for office in that country?

- No (1)
- Yes (2)

Q23 خلال سنوات إقامتك، هل سبق أن شاركت في حملة انتخابية أو دعائية لشخصية سياسية مرشّحة لمنصب قيادي أو رئاسي في بلدك الأصلي؟

- لا (1)
- نعم (2)

Q48 What do you think are the three most important issues facing your country of origin today? Select up to three responses.

- [ ] Economic situation (1)
- [ ] Financial and administrative corruption (2)
- [ ] Democracy and representation (3)
- [ ] Human rights (7)
- [ ] Internal stability and/or terrorism (4)
- [ ] Foreign interference (5)
- [ ] Public services, e.g. healthcare, education, etc. (6)
- [ ] Environment/climate change (8)

برأيك، ما هي أهم ثلاث قضايا التي تواجه بلدك الأصلي اليوم؟ اختر ما يصل الي ثلاث ردود.
Q48

- [ ] الوضع الاقتصادي (1)
- [ ] الفساد الإداري والمالي (2)
- [ ] الديمقراطية والتمثيل السياسي (3)
- [ ] حقوق الإنسان (7)
- [ ] الاستقرار والأمان الداخلي و/أو الإرهاب (4)
- [ ] التدخل الأجنبي (5)
- [ ] الخدمات العامّة كالصحّة والتعليم ..الخ (6)
- [ ] البيئة/ التغير المناخي (8)

Q44 Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Q44 .الرجاء الإشارة إلى مدى موافقتك أو عدم موافقتك على العبارات التالية

Q24 I am well-informed about political issues in my country of origin.

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

Q24 .إنني على اطّلاع ومعرفة جيدة بالقضايا السياسية في بلدي الأصلي

- (1) لا أوافق مطلقاً
- (2) لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما
- (3) لا مع ولا ضد
- (4) أوافق إلى حدّ ما
- (5) أوافق تماماً

Q25 I am well-informed about economic and social issues in my country of origin.

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

Q25 .إنني على اطّلاع ومعرفة جيدة بالقضايا الاقتصادية والاجتماعية في بلدي الأصلي

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

Q27 Political and economic developments in my country of origin concern me.

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

Q28 The political relationship between my country of residence and my country of origin is important to me

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

Q28 .إن وضع العلاقات السياسية بين بلدي الأصلي وبلد إقامتي يؤثر علي معنوياً

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

Q29 I feel positively about my country of origin

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

Q29 .أشعر بالفخر وأعتز ببلدي الأصلي

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

Q31 I feel culturally close to my country of origin.

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

شعر بارتباط ثقافي مع بلدي الأصلي

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

Q32 People like me should contribute to their country of origin economically.

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

Q32 .يجب على من هم في وضعي تقديم المساهمة المادية والاقتصادية في بلدنا الأصلي

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

Q33 People like me should advocate for their country of origin politically.

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

Q33 .يجب على من هم في وضعي الترويج سياسياً لـبلدنا الأصلي

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

---

Q34 People like me should support democracy in their country of origin.

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

Q34 .يجب على من هم في وضعي دعم الديمقراطية في بلدنا الأصلي

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

Q35 People like me should support the government of their country of origin unconditionally.

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Somewhat disagree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

Q35 .يجب على من هم في وضعي دعم حكومة بلدنا الأصلي دون قيد أو شرط

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (1)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (2)
- لا مع ولا ضد (3)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (4)
- أوافق تماماً (5)

Q53 Censorship of films, television, and magazines is necessary to uphold moral standards.

- Strongly disagree (4)
- Somewhat disagree (5)
- Neither agree nor disagree (6)
- Somewhat agree (7)
- Strongly agree (8)

.الرقابة على الأفلام والتلفاز والمجلات دورية للحفظ على الأخلاق العامة
Q53

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (4)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (5)
- لا مع ولا ضد (6)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (7)

أوافق تماماً (8)

Q51 In general, things in my country of origin are going in the right direction.

- Strongly disagree (4)
- Somewhat disagree (5)
- Neither agree nor disagree (6)
- Somewhat agree (7)
- Strongly agree (8)

Q51 .بشكل عام، الأمور في بلدي الأصلي تسير بالاتجاه الصحيح

- لا أوافق مطلقاً (4)
- لا أوافق إلى حدّ ما (5)
- لا مع ولا ضد (6)
- أوافق إلى حدّ ما (7)
- أوافق تماماً (8)

Q45 These last few questions are basic demographic questions to assess the inclusivity of the survey.

Q45 .هذا القسم الأخيرهو سلسلة من الأسئلة متعلقة بالمسح الديمغرافي لتقييم شمولية العينة في المسح

Q36 What is your gender?

- Male (1)
- Female (2)
- Other (3)

Q36 الجنس

- ذكر (1)
- أنثى (2)
- آخر (3)

Q37 What is your age group?

- Under 18 (1)
- 18 - 24 (2)
- 25 - 34 (3)
- 35 - 44 (4)
- 45 - 54 (5)
- 55 - 64 (6)
- Over 65 (7)

Q37 العمر

- أقل من ١٨ (1)
- ١٨-٢٤ (2)
- ٢٥-٣٤ (3)
- ٣٥-٤٤ (4)
- ٤٥-٥٤ (5)
- ٥٥-٦٤ (6)
- ٦٥ أو أكبر (7)

Q38 What is your social status?

- Married (1)
- Widowed (2)
- Divorced (3)
- Never married (4)

الحالة الاجتماعية
Q38

- متزوج (1)
- أرمل (2)
- مُطلّق (3)
- عازب (4)

Q6 Are you a citizen of your country of residence?

- Yes, by birth (1)
- Yes, by naturalization (2)
- I am a permanent resident/green card holder (3)
- I am not a citizen (4)
- I am a refugee (5)

هل تحمل جنسية البلد الذي تقيم فيه؟
Q6

- نعم، بالولادة (1)
- نعم، حاصل على الجنسية (2)
- لدي إقامة دائمة/ أحمل البطاقة الخضراء (3)
- لا.. لست مواطناً (4)
- لا..أنا لاجئ (5)

Q54 Do you intend to return to your country of origin permanently?

- No (1)
- Yes, in the next five years (2)
- Yes, in the next 6-10 years (3)
- Yes, after 10 or more years (4)
- Maybe/unsure (5)

هل تنوي العودة الى بلدك الأصلي بشكل دائم؟
Q54

- ○ لا (1)
- ○ نعم، في خلال الخمس سنوات المقبلة (2)
- ○ نعم، في خلال ٦-٩ سنوات (3)
- ○ نعم، بعد عشر سنوات أو أكثر (4)
- ○ غير متأكد/حسب الظروف (5)

Q39 What is your highest level of education?

- ○ Less than high school (1)
- ○ High school graduate (2)
- ○ Some college (3)
- ○ Bachelors degree (5)
- ○ Professional degree (6)
- ○ Post-graduate degree (7)

Q39 المستوى التعليمي

- ○ لم أكمل التعليم الثانوي (1)
- ○ حاصل على شهادة البكالوريا/ إجازة التعليم الثانوي (2)
- ○ التحقت بالجامعة ولم أتابع الدراسة (3)
- ○ حاصل على شهادة جامعية (5)
- ○ حاصل على إجازة مزاولة وترخيص مهني (6)
- ○ حاصل على شهادة عليا (7)

Q40 What is your employment status?

- ○ Employed full time (1)
- ○ Employed part time (2)
- ○ Self-employed (3)
- ○ Homemaker (4)
- ○ Unemployed (5)
- ○ Retired (6)
- ○ Student (7)
- ○ Other (8)

Q40 العمل

- ○ موظّف بدوام كامل (1)
- ○ موظّف بدوام جزئي (2)
- ○ صاحب عمل خاص (3)
- ○ ربّة أسرة (4)
- ○ عاطل عن العمل (5)
- ○ متقاعد (6)
- ○ طالب (7)
- ○ آخر (8)

Q52 What is your religion?

- ○ Muslim (1)
- ○ Christian (2)
- ○ Jewish (3)
- ○ Other (4)
- ○ None (5)

Q52 الدين

- ○ الإسلام (1)
- ○ المسيحية (2)
- ○ اليهودية (3)
- ○ آخر (4)
- ○ لا ديني (5)

Q42 Which of the following best describes your household income?

- ○ My household income covers expenses and I am able to save. (1)
- ○ My household income covers expenses without notable difficulties. (2)
- ○ My household income does not cover expenses; I face some difficulties. (3)
- ○ My household income does not cover expenses; I face significant difficulties. (4)

Q42 أي عبارة هي الأقرب إلى وصف صافي دخل أسرتك؟

- ○ يغطي دخل الأسرة نفقات احتياجاتنا ويسمح لنا بالادخار (1)
- ○ يغطي دخل الأسرة نفقات احتياجاتنا دون أي صعوبة تذكر (2)
- ○ لا يغطي دخل الأسرة نفقات احتياجاتنا ونواجه بعض الصعوبات (3)
- ○ لا يغطي دخل الأسرة نفقات احتياجاتنا ونواجه صعوبات كبيرة (4)

Q55 Please write the name of any country where you have citizenship other than your country of origin or residence. [Open response]

Q55

Q56 What is your ethnicity? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Arab (1)
- ☐ Amazigh-Berber (9)
- ☐ Nubian (3)
- ☐ Kurdish (4)
- ☐ Assyrian (11)
- ☐ Circassian (7)
- ☐ Other (please specify) (8)

القومية (اختر كل الإجبات المناسبة)
Q56

- ☐ عربي (1)
- ☐ أمازيغ-بربر (9)
- ☐ نوبي (3)
- ☐ كردي (4)
- ☐ آشوري (11)
- ☐ شركسي (7)
- ☐ آجر (الرجاء الكتابة) (8)