Iranian Public Opinion during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland (CISSM) and IranPoll

Sept/Oct 2020 National Probability Sample Survey
Fielded: September 1-October 2, 2020
Sample Size: 1,004
Margin of Error: +/- 3.1%

Questionnaire and Results

The economy:

Q1. In your opinion, how good or bad is our country's general economic situation? Is it:

	May 2015	Jun. 2016	May 2017	Jun. 2017	Jan. 2018	Apr. 2018	Dec. 2018	May 2019	Aug. 2019	Oct. 2019	Oct. 2020
Very good	11.1	3.8	3.4	2.5	2.5	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.7	2.8	3.3
Somewhat good	43.2	35.7	29.8	33.1	27.6	22.3	26.8	23.7	26.0	28.2	21.1
Somewhat bad	22.5	29.4	28.4	29.5	28.2	26.5	27.9	29.8	30.2	27.3	21.7
Very bad	21.2	29.2	36.6	33.9	40.7	45.2	42.9	43.4	40.0	40.3	52.7
DK/NA [vol.]	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.1	.9	4.3	.4	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.2

Q2. Right now, do you think economic conditions in Iran, as a whole, are getting better or getting worse?

	May 2015	Jun. 2016	May 2017	Jun. 2017	Jan. 2018	Apr. 2018	Dec. 2018	May 2019	Aug. 2019	Oct. 2019	Oct. 2020
Getting better	49.3	42.2	40.2	39.1	31.3	27	33.2	26.6	28.7	30.5	22.1
Getting worse	37.1	43.4	52.4	50.2	58.4	64	59.5	56.9	55.0	53.6	71.5
Staying the same [vol.]	9.7	9.2	4.1	7.7	6.2	5	4.1	8.7	8.0	9.7	.9
DK/NA [vol.]	4.0	5.2	3.3	3.0	4.1	4	3.2	7.9	8.2	6.3	5.5

Q3. Which of the following do you think has the greatest negative impact on the Iranian economy? [Randomize response options]

	May 2015	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2018	May 2019	Aug. 2019	Oct. 2019	Oct. 2020
Foreign sanctions and pressures	26.3	32.1	36.2	38.4	37.7	37.5	36.2
Domestic economic mismanagement and corruption	64.3	63.3	59.1	58.0	55.3	54.5	56.6
DK/NA [vol.]	9.4	4.6	4.8	3.6	7.0	8.0	7.2

COVID-19 pandemic:

Q4. Now, I would like to ask you some questions regarding the spread of the coronavirus. Among your family, friends, and acquaintances, do you personally know someone who has gotten sick from the coronavirus?

	Oct. 2020
Yes	58.8
No	41.2
DK/NA [vol.]	--

Q5. Do you personally know someone who has lost his/her life as a result of getting sick from the coronavirus?

	Oct. 2020
Yes	36.6
No	63.3
DK/NA [vol.]	0.1

Q6. Has anyone in your household lost their job as because of the spread of the coronavirus?

	Oct. 2020
Yes	19.2
No	80.6
DK/NA [vol.]	0.2

Q5. How would you rate the performance of public healthcare system in Iran? Would you say it is:

	Oct. 2020
Very good	37.6
Somewhat good	47.1
Somewhat poor	9.0
Very poor	6.0
Depends [vol.]	--
DK/NA [vol.]	0.4

Q6. Do you wear a mask over your mouth and nose when you go in public? [if yes ask: always, most of the time, or sometimes?

	Oct. 2020
Yes, always	57.2
Yes, most of the times	18.3
Yes, sometimes	15.0
No	9.0
DK/NA [vol.]	.5

Q7. In general, and based on everything you know about the coronavirus situation in Iran, do you think schools should be opened for in-person classes this year or not?

	Oct. 2020
Yes, it should be opened	27.2
No, it should remain closed	64.2
Depends [vol.]	7.0
DK/NA [vol.]	1.7

Q8. Some people think that the government should close restaurants and work places where people work in close proximity to one another to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, even if this would damage Iran's economy. Others think it is more important for the government to encourage economic activities, even if this would lead to more people getting sick from the coronavirus. Which opinion is closer to yours?

	Oct. 2020
The government should do what it can to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, even if that would damage Iran's economy	56.7
The government should do what it can to encourage economic activities, even if that would lead to more people getting sick from the coronavirus	29.1
9Other/ Depends [vol.]	10.8
DK/NA [vol.]	3.4

Q9. All in all, compared with other countries that are similar to Iran, would you say Iran's response to the spread of the coronavirus has been:

	Oct. 2020
More effective than similar countries	30.2
Less effective than similar countries	25.0
about as effective as similar countries	40.0
DK/NA [vol.]	4.8

Q10. If a coronavirus vaccine becomes available in Iran and is approved by Iran's Ministry of health, would you:

	Oct. 2020
Definitely get yourself vaccinated	62.0
Probably get yourself vaccinated	24.7
Probably refuse to get vaccinated	4.9
Definitely refuse to get vaccinated	5.3
Depends [vol.]	2.6
DK/NA [vol.]	.6

Demographics:

D1. Sex:

	Oct. 2020
Male	48.3
Female	51.7

D2. Age:

	Oct. 2020
18-24	10.9
25-34	17.7
35-44	28.4
45-54	19.8
55+	22.9
DK/NA [vol.]	0.3

D3. Level of Education:

	Oct. 2020
Illiterate	5.5
Less than high school diploma	29.6
High school diploma	29.4
Associates degree / University Student seeking Associates or Bachelor's degree	11.1
Bachelor's degree	17.8
Masters or PhD	6.7
DK/NA [vol.]	--

D4. Which of the following best describes your employment status?

	Oct. 2020
Working full time	18.6
Working part-time	16.8
Not employed	18.2
Student	5.4
Housewife	30.1
Retired/Disabled	10.4
DK/NA [vol.]	0.4

D5. What is your ethnicity?

	Oct. 2020
Fars	49.5
Turk/Azeri	20.1
Kurd	9.2
Lur	8.1
Arab	1.0
Baluch	0.6
Mazani/Gilak/Shomali	8.5
Other	2.6
DK/NA [vol.]	0.6

D6. What is your household's average monthly income?

	Oct. 2020
Under 1 million tomans	14.6
Between 1- 2 million tomans	25.1
Between 2- 3 million tomans	24.2
Between 3 - 4 million tomans	12.6
Between 4 - 5 million tomans	10.0
Between 5 - 6 million tomans	5.6
Over 6 million tomans	5.9
DK/NA	2.1