

AFGHANISTAN IN 2012

Afghanistan in 2012: A Survey of the Afghan People Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) November 14, 2012

1. What is the 2012 Survey of the Afghan People?

Designed and managed by The Asia Foundation's office in Afghanistan, the survey is the broadest and most comprehensive public opinion poll of nearly 6,300 Afghan citizens across the 34 provinces of Afghanistan.

2. What topics are covered in the survey report?

Key topics explored include national mood, security, reconciliation and reintegration, economy, development and service delivery, governance, corruption, political participation, justice systems, women in society, and access to information.

3. How often is the survey conducted?

This is the eighth annual survey of Afghan citizens conducted by The Asia Foundation's office in Afghanistan; previous polls were released in 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011. Taken together, the annual surveys provide a statistically valid, long-term barometer of Afghan public opinion over time.

4. When was the survey fieldwork conducted?

In-person interviews were conducted between June 17 and July 1, 2012 in Afghanistan.

5. How many Afghan citizens were surveyed?

A random, nationally representative sample of 6,290 Afghan citizens were polled in-person across all 34 provinces. Respondents were 18 years and older, residents of Afghanistan, and divided between men (56%) and women (44%). The survey respondents included both urban (22%) and rural (78%) households. (A full breakdown of respondents' demographic and socio-economic details is provided in Appendix 1 of the survey report.)

6. What is the survey's margin of error?

The survey's margin of sampling error is +/- 5.1% at 95% confidence level.

7. How many questions are included in the survey questionnaire?

The survey questionnaire included 89 questions.

8. How was the survey questionnaire developed?

As in our other country surveys, the Foundation has developed a rigorous process that complies with standard research and technical protocols. The survey uses a standard questionnaire to track core areas of interests while also adapting the questionnaire to address current conditions, constraints, and challenges. (A full explanation of the methodology is provided in Appendix 2 of the survey report.)

9. Who conducted the fieldwork?

A total of 742 interviewers (428 men and 314 women) were rigorously trained to conduct in-person interviews throughout Afghanistan. Fieldwork was conducted by the Kabul-based Afghan Center for Socio-economic and Opinion Research (ACSOR), which has received support from the Foundation since 2006.

10. How did security issues in the country affect the results of the survey?

As was the case in previous years, in 2012 there were restrictions on the movement of survey researchers due to security, logistical challenges, and natural disasters. This year, 16% of sampling points were changed for security reasons compared to 11% in 2011 and 16% in 2010.

11. Who funded the survey?

The 2012 survey is a product of The Asia Foundation, with funding support provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO), and Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID).

12. What is The Asia Foundation?

The Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organization committed to the development of a peaceful, prosperous, just, and open Asia-Pacific region. With 17 offices throughout Asia, an office in Washington, DC, and its headquarters in San Francisco, the Foundation addresses development issues on both a country and regional level.

13. What does The Asia Foundation do in Afghanistan?

Since our Kabul office re-opened in 2002, the Foundation has assisted Afghan efforts to rebuild the country and accelerate development. Our programs focus on governance, law, and civil society, including support for the development of a new constitution and national voter registration, civic education, women's empowerment and education.

14. Why does The Asia Foundation conduct this survey?

The Foundation's goal is to provide robust, useful, and accurate data that can illuminate the situation at the local level and provide context for relevant program work. The comprehensive findings are particularly important in helping bridge the gap in understanding between the international community, the Afghan government, and local communities.

15. Does The Asia Foundation conduct other country surveys across Asia?

The Foundation has established a reputation for developing empirical surveys for use across Asia in order to pinpoint citizen concerns and needs, to gauge public support for development initiatives, to

inform important policy debate, and finally to shape Foundation program design. Foundation surveys have also been conducted in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and several other countries

16. Will The Asia Foundation publish a companion analytical assessment this year?

In order to provide interpretation and contextual analysis of the 2012 survey findings, the Foundation will release companion Occasional Papers authored by academics and policymakers from the international and Afghan communities.

17. Where can I read or download the survey report?

The complete report is available on the Foundation website at http://www.asiafoundation.org. A summary of key findings and frequently asked questions (FAQs) are available in English, Dari, and Pashto

18. Are more Afghan surveys planned?

A survey is planned for 2013.

19. Are the complete survey data sets available?

Access and download data sets at <u>Visualizing Afghanistan</u>, a cutting-edge data visualization platform covering all eight years of the survey.

20. Who should I contact for more information?

For non-media queries, please contact the Foundation's Afghanistan office at surveyrelease@ag.asiafound.org. For media queries, please contact Eelynn Sim at esim@asiafound.org.

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