Arab Public Opinion on International Relations
Findings from the Sixth Wave of Arab Barometer

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Arab Barometer is the longest standing and largest repository of publicly available data on ordinary citizens’ views in MENA.

Arab Barometer has tracked views of ordinary citizens across MENA since 2006 providing insight into changes over time.

Arab Barometer goals:
1. Accurately track attitudes & behavior of ordinary citizens
2. Build institutional capacity to conduct survey research
3. Disseminate knowledge about ordinary citizens living in MENA to inform civil society, government, & international organizations
About the project

- More than 90,000 personal interviews to date
- 70 nationally representative surveys
- Six waves across 15 countries providing trend data on how views have changed
  - Wave 1 (2006-7) in 7 countries
  - Wave 2 (2010-11) in 10 countries
  - Wave 3 (2012-14) in 12 countries
  - Wave 4 (2016-17) in 7 countries
  - Wave 5 (2018-19) in 12 countries
  - Wave 6 (2020) in 7 countries
- Data are open source & publicly available for analysis at arabbarometer.org
Phone surveys due to health risks associated with in-person interviews from COVID-19

Three rounds of surveys to track changes over the course of the pandemic
1. July - September 2020
2. October 2020
3. March - April 2021

Based on a sample of 1,000 respondents per country using random-digit dialing (RDD) techniques

Fieldwork conducted by high quality partners based in the region
Key findings wave 6

- Support for the U.S. has increased dramatically since 2020
- President Biden’s policies are more favored than President Trump’s
- Many view U.S. assistance positively and have a desire for increased support for education & infrastructure
- China is viewed more favorably than the U.S., but support is low for China, Inc.
- Saudi Arabia is more popular than Iran, but by moderate margins
- Among other powers, Germany & Turkey are the most preferred
- Normalization with Israel is widely rejected except in Morocco
Views of the U.S.
Improving views of the U.S.

**Favorability: United States**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Favorability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Improving views of the U.S.**

% saying they have a favorable view of the U.S.

- **Jordan**
- **Morocco**
- **Tunisia**

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Part I (September 2020) | Part II (October 2020) | Part III (March 2021)
------------------------|------------------------|------------------------
Jordan: 39             | Jordan: 28             | Jordan: 36             |
Morocco: 21            | Morocco: 16            | Morocco: 21            |
Tunisia: 16            | Tunisia: 15            | Tunisia: 64            |

Arab Barometer Wave VI
Tunisia: Trump vs. Biden

Assessment of American President Donald Trump's foreign policy toward MENA

- Very good: 2
- Good: 4
- Neither good nor bad: 3
- Bad: 17
- Very bad: 66

Assessment of American President Joseph Biden's foreign policy toward MENA

- Very good: 5
- Good: 24
- Neither good nor bad: 4
- Bad: 15
- Very bad: 17
- Don't know/refuse: 34

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020), Tunisia
Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021), Tunisia
MENA publics hope for change in U.S. policy
Low support for the normalization with Israel

**Normalization of relations between the United Arab Emirates and Israel and Bahrain and Israel**
% saying they strongly favor or favor

- Lebanon: 20
- Morocco: 9
- Algeria: 9
- Tunisia: 8
- Libya: 7
- Jordan: 3

**Normalization of relations between Morocco and Israel**
% saying they strongly favor or favor

- Morocco: 41
- Iraq: 21
- Lebanon: 14
- Libya: 9
- Tunisia: 7
- Jordan: 6
- Algeria: 5
Is U.S. assistance helping?

**US foreign aid to your country strengthens civil society**

- Lebanon: 50%
- Tunisia: 46%
- Morocco: 41%
- Jordan: 40%
- Algeria: 35%
- Libya: 27%

**US foreign aid to your country advances women’s rights**

- Lebanon: 48%
- Tunisia: 45%
- Jordan: 43%
- Morocco: 38%
- Algeria: 34%
- Libya: 22%

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)
Targeting assistance: focus on education & infrastructure
Top priorities for U.S. engagement in MENA

1. Resolving the Palestinian issue
2. Improving education
3. Building infrastructure
4. Safety & security
5. Economic development
Views of China
Views of China are mostly unchanged

**Favorability: China**
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Favorability</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Stable views of China**
% saying they have a favorable view of China

- Jordan
- Morocco
- Tunisia

Part I (September 2020) | Part II (October 2020) | Part III (March 2021)
---|---|---
65 | 52 | 59
30 | 35 | 34

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)
Xi’s popularity relatively stable

Assessment of Chinese President Xi Jinping’s foreign policy toward MENA
% saying it is very good or good

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>% Favoring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Views toward Chinese Premier Xi Jinping
% saying they favor Xi’s foreign policies

- Jordan
- Morocco
- Tunisia

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)
### Doing business in MENA

Arab publics worry less about China's economic threat than America's...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>China is a Threat</th>
<th>U.S. is a Threat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Perceptions of China Inc: Quality of product

Country with the reputation for building the highest quality

Opinion in:

Algeria
- Germany 49%
- Turkey 15%
- USA 18%
- China 17%
- Other 9%

Iraq
- Germany 39%
- Turkey 23%
- USA 18%
- China 17%
- Other 6%

Jordan
- Germany 27%
- Turkey 15%
- USA 15%
- China 10%
- Other 13%

Lebanon
- Germany 25%
- Turkey 18%
- USA 15%
- China 14%
- Other 7%

Libya
- Germany 47%
- France 16%
- USA 18%
- Italy 16%
- Other 6%

Morocco
- Germany 35%
- USA 21%
- France 11%
- Turkey 10%
- China 9%

Tunisia
- Germany 49%
- France 11%
- Turkey 10%
- Other 6%

“Other” includes no response, don’t know, or any other country

Arab Barometer, Wave VI, March - April 2021
Perceptions of China Inc: Treatment of local workforce

**COUNTRY WITH THE REPUTATION FOR PAYING THE BEST SALARIES**

**OPINION IN:**

- **ALGERIA**
  - Germany: 38%
  - USA: 24%
  - Turkey: 11%
  - China: 16%
  - Other: 18%

- **IRAQ**
  - Germany: 27%
  - USA: 30%
  - Turkey: 11%
  - China: 16%
  - Other: 1%

- **JORDAN**
  - USA: 25%
  - Germany: 19%
  - Turkey: 13%
  - Other: 15%

- **LEBANON**
  - USA: 33%
  - France: 14%
  - Turkey: 7%
  - China: 10%
  - Other: 18%

- **LIBYA**
  - USA: 31%
  - Germany: 24%
  - Turkey: 6%
  - China: 9%
  - Other: 8%

- **MOROCCO**
  - Germany: 45%
  - France: 14%
  - Turkey: 9%
  - China: 8%
  - Other: 7%

- **TUNISIA**
  - USA: 16%
  - France: 14%
  - Turkey: 7%
  - China: 8%
  - Other: 9%

*“OTHER” INCLUDES NO RESPONSE, DON’T KNOW, OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY*

ARAB BAROMETER, WAVE VI, MARCH - APRIL 2021
Views of Other Powers
**Views of KSA & Iran**

**Saudi’s Leadership gets higher marks than Iran**

But the difference is less than might be expected.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NET DIFFERENCE IN FAVORABILITY</th>
<th>SAUDI VS IRAN</th>
<th>MBS VS KHAMENEI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALGERIA</td>
<td>+22%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JORDAN</td>
<td>+18%</td>
<td></td>
<td>+8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOROCCO</td>
<td>+18%</td>
<td></td>
<td>+17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUNISIA</td>
<td>+11%</td>
<td></td>
<td>+8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEBANON</td>
<td>+2%</td>
<td>SAUDI MORE FAVORED</td>
<td>MBS POLICIES MORE FAVORED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: [Image]({image_url})*
Views of Russia

**Favorability: Russia**
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

- Algeria: 52
- Tunisia: 44
- Morocco: 43
- Lebanon: 36
- Libya: 26
- Jordan: 15

**Foreign policy of Russian President Valdimir Putin**
% saying it is very good or good

- Algeria: 43
- Tunisia: 33
- Morocco: 32
- Lebanon: 30
- Libya: 20
- Jordan: 13

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)
Views of Turkey

**Favorability: Turkey**
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

- Morocco: 65
- Jordan: 56
- Algeria: 56
- Tunisia: 52
- Lebanon: 30
- Libya: 27

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part I (October 2020)

**Foreign policy of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan**
% saying it is very good or good

- Morocco: 57
- Jordan: 54
- Algeria: 52
- Tunisia: 41
- Lebanon: 25
- Libya: 23

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)
Views of France

**Favorability: France**
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

- Morocco: 58
- Tunisia: 46
- Lebanon: 46
- Iraq: 46
- Libya: 43
- Algeria: 32
- Jordan: 28

**Assessment of French President Emmanuel Macron's foreign policy toward MENA**
% saying it is very good or good

- Libya: 38
- Lebanon: 38
- Iraq: 32
- Morocco: 30
- Tunisia: 27
- Algeria: 19
- Jordan: 8

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)
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