

Arab Public Opinion on Climate Change

Findings from the Seventh Wave of Arab Barometer

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About Arab Barometer

- ▶ Arab Barometer is a nonpartisan research network that provides insight into the social, political, and economic attitudes and values of ordinary citizens across the Arab world
- ▶ Arab Barometer is the longest standing and largest repository of publicly available data on ordinary citizens' views in MENA
- ▶ Arab Barometer's mission
 1. Track attitudes & behavior
 2. Build institutional capacity
 3. Disseminate knowledge about citizens living in MENA

About the project

- ▶ More than 125,000 personal interviews to date
- ▶ 87 nationally representative surveys
- ▶ Seven waves across 15 countries providing trend data on how views have changed over time
- ▶ Disaggregated data allows for both inter- and intra-country comparisons
- ▶ Data are open source & publicly available for analysis at arabbarometer.org
- ▶ Country and topical reports- including the one that has findings discussed today- also available for download in both English and Arabic

Arab Barometer Wave VII

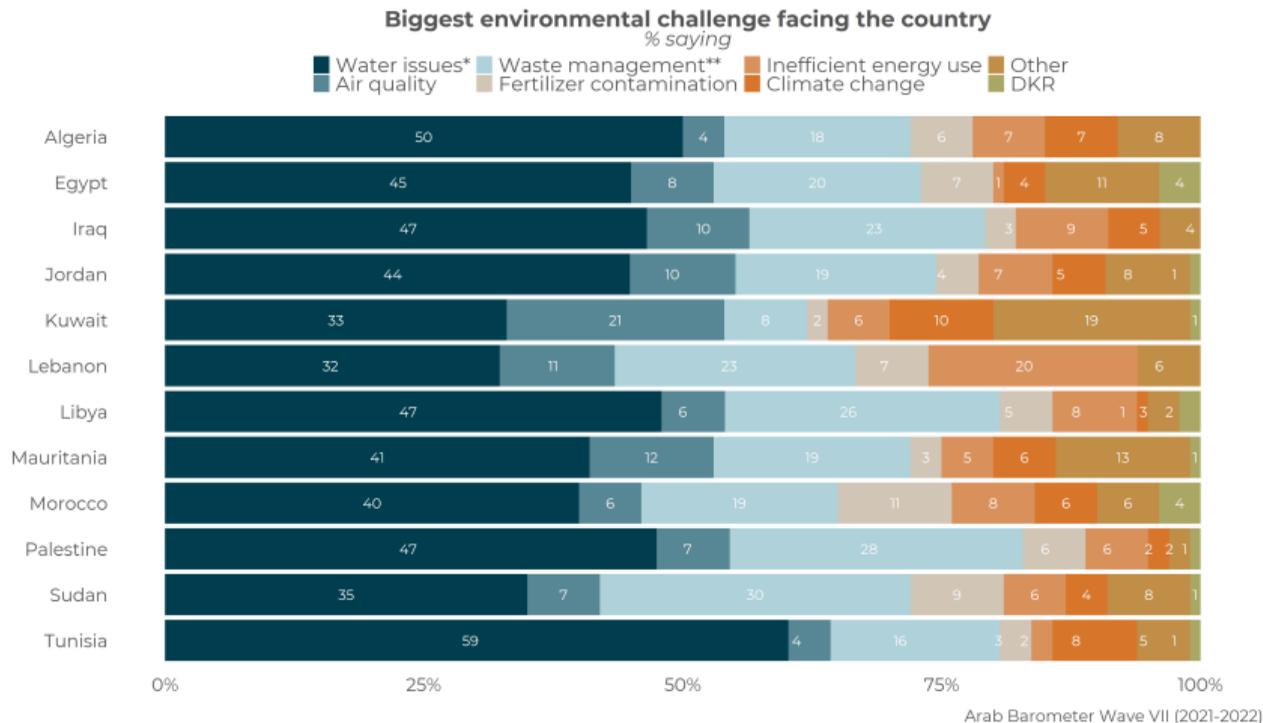
- ▶ 12 nationally representative surveys of citizens ages 18+
- ▶ More than 26,000 personal interviews
- ▶ Conducted in-person (face-to-face) in the respondent's place of residence
- ▶ Fielded from October 2021 to July 2022
- ▶ Response Rates: 17% to 74%
- ▶ Fielded by local partners in each country
- ▶ Questionnaire comprised of 300+ mostly closed-ended questions on numerous topics including COVID19, economy, government performance, international relations, gender norms and attitudes, discrimination, inequality, climate and the environment, among others

Key findings wave 7

- ▶ Water is the biggest perceived environmental challenge facing countries in MENA, followed by waste management.
- ▶ Citizens hold each other and their governments equally responsible for lack of action on climate.
- ▶ There is broad support among citizens for more government actions in response to climate change.
- ▶ Despite recognizing that environmental challenges exist, more immediate issues take priority.
- ▶ Many MENA citizens already recycle but mostly for cost saving or convenience rather than protecting the environment.

Perceived Challenges

Biggest environmental challenge



*Water issues include pollution of drinking water, pollution of waterways, and lack of water sources

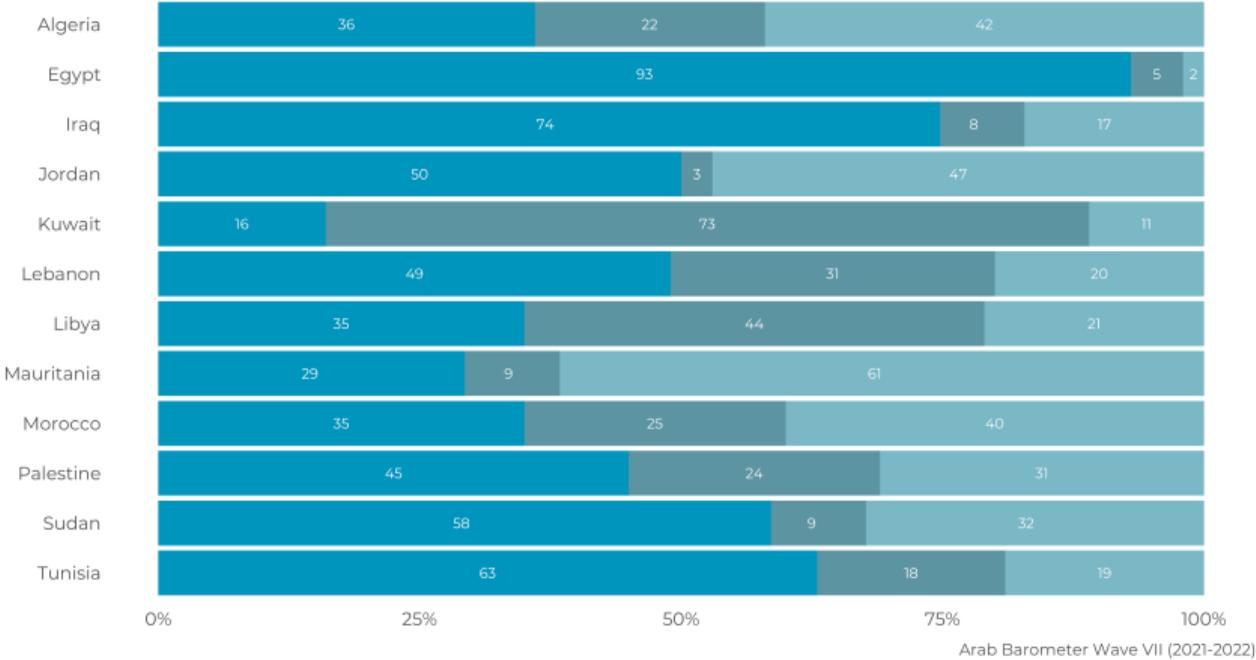
**Waste management include trash management and hazardous waste contamination

Water is the biggest environmental challenge

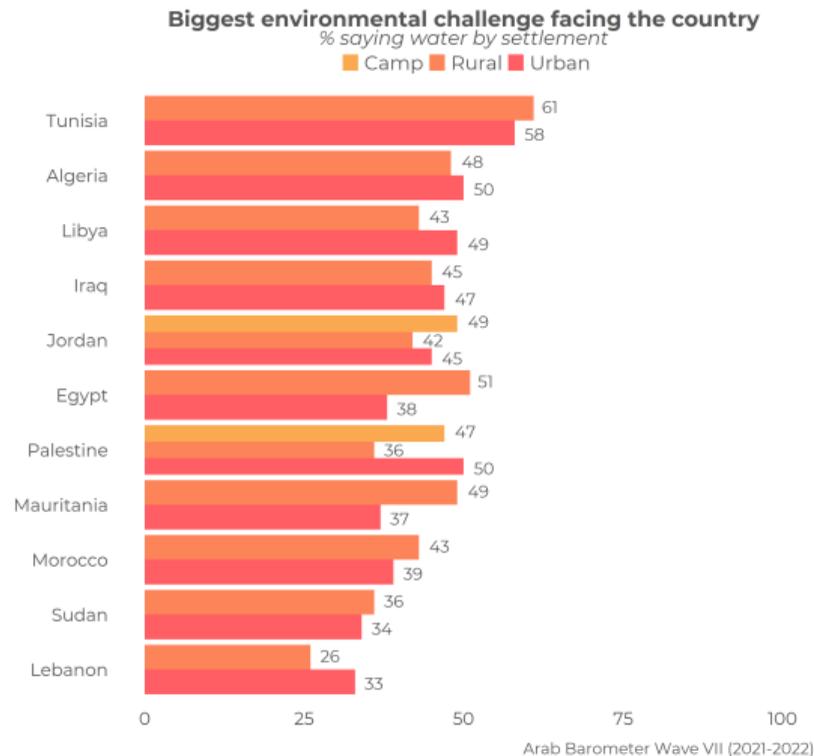
Among those saying water issues pose biggest environmental challenge

% saying specific issue is

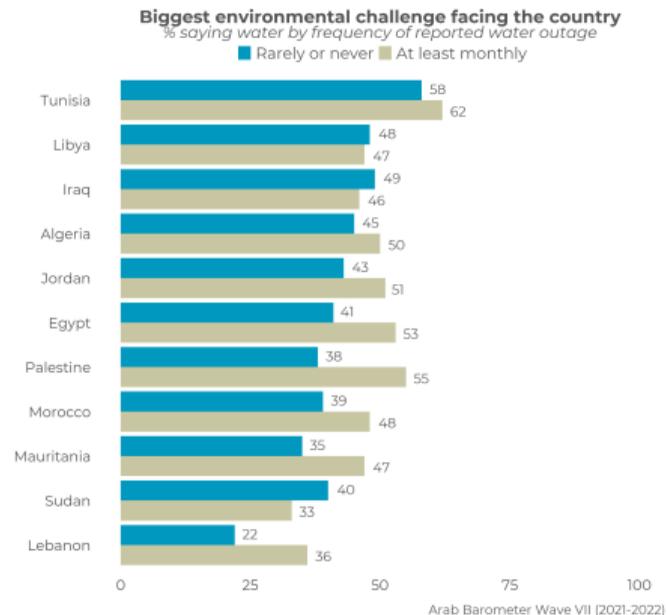
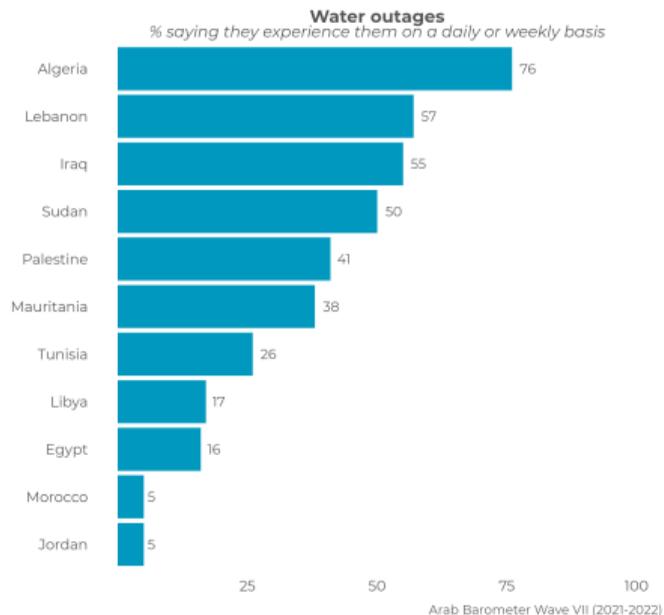
■ Pollution of drinking water ■ Pollution of waterways ■ Lack of water resources



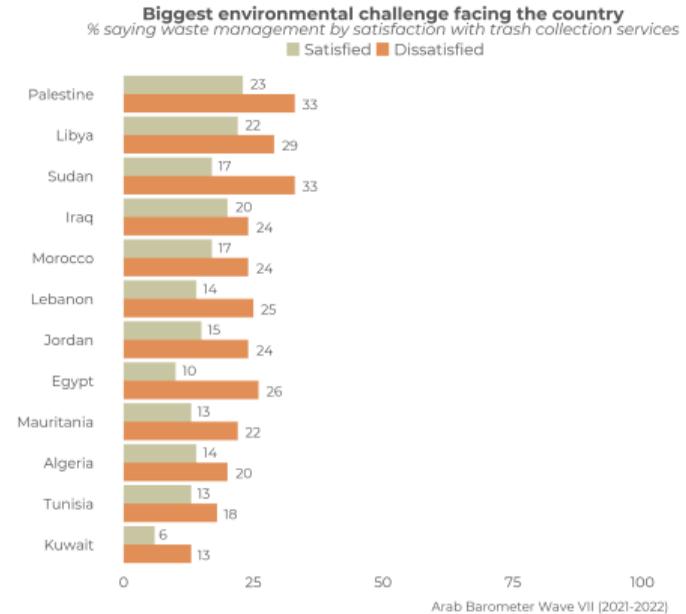
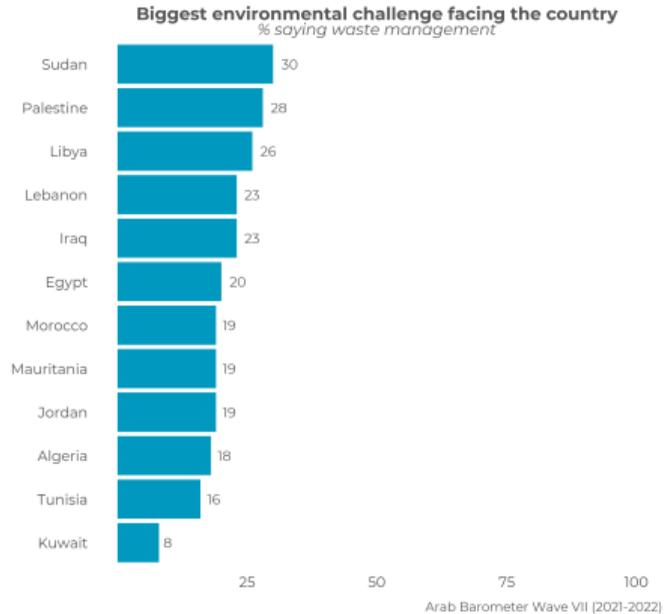
Water by settlement



Water issues & shortage

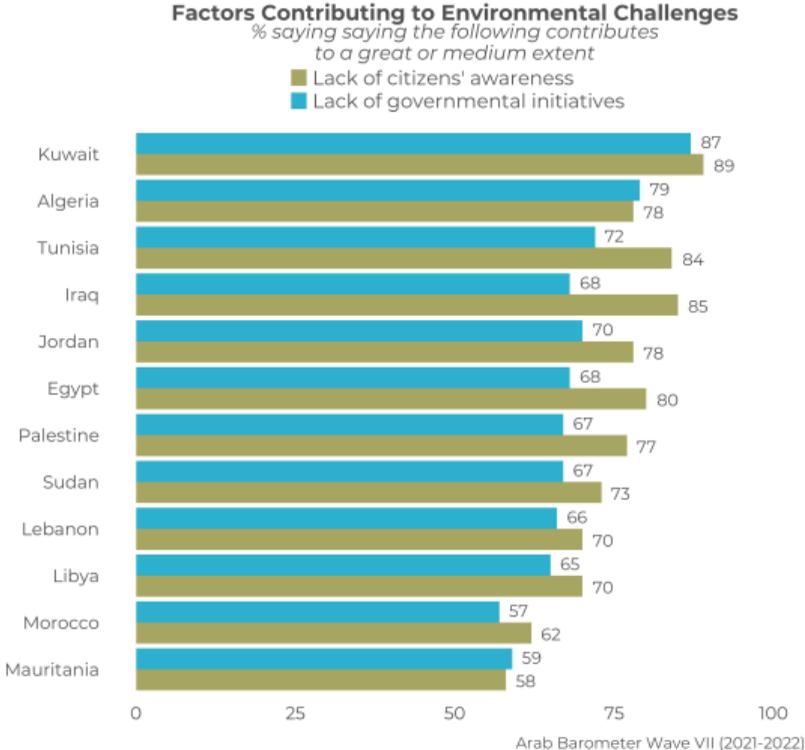


Waste management



Who's responsible?

Contributors to environmental challenges

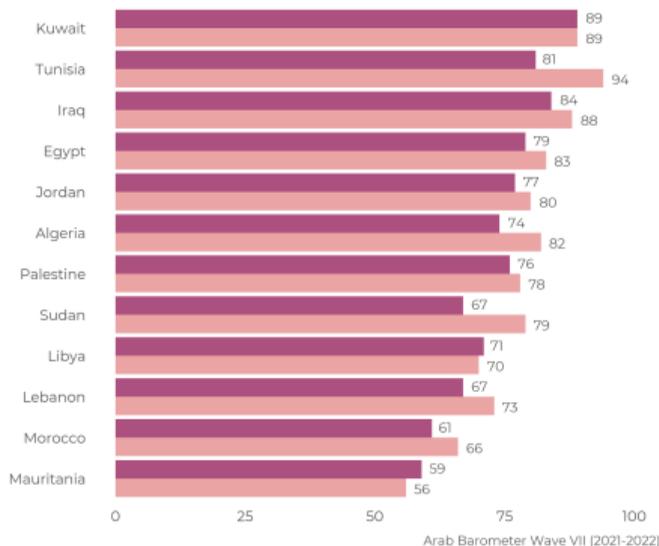


Lack of citizen awareness by education & income

Lack of environmental awareness among citizens

% saying this contributes to environmental challenges to a great or medium extent

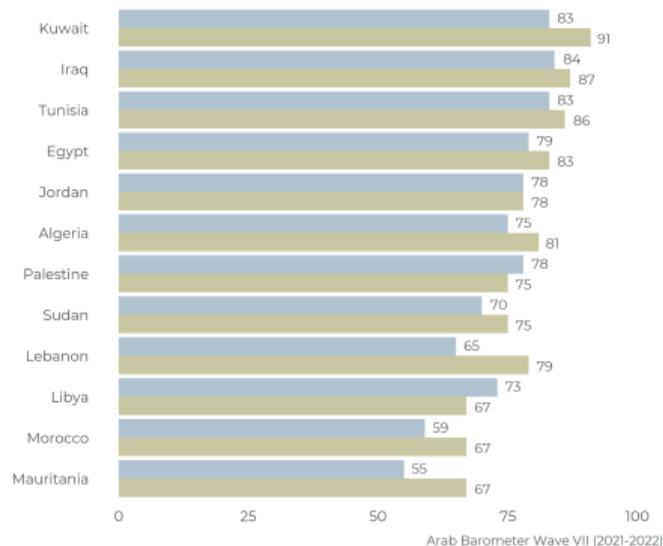
■ Max Secondary ■ Higher



Lack of environmental awareness among citizens

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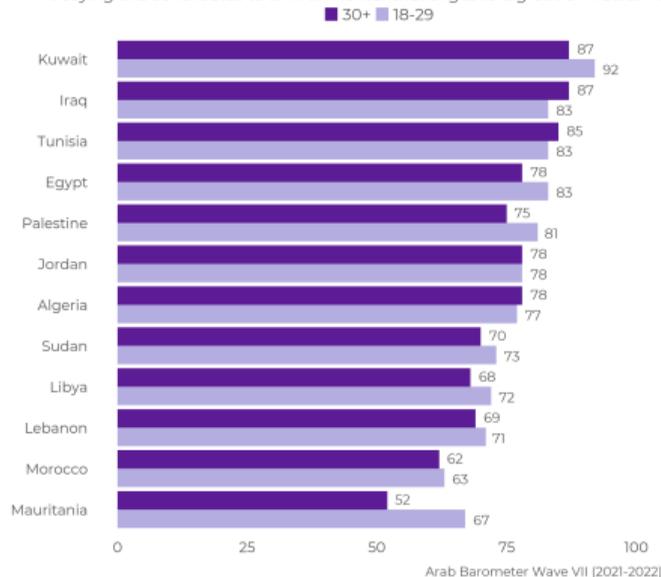
■ Cannot cover expenses ■ Can cover expenses



Lack of citizen awareness by age

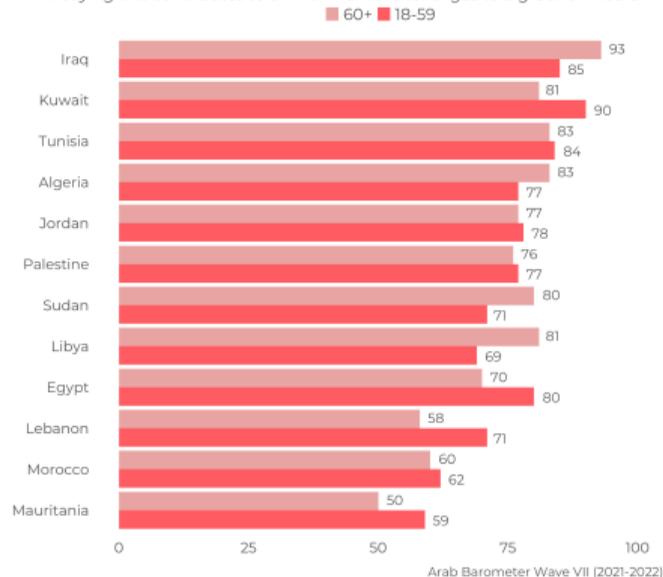
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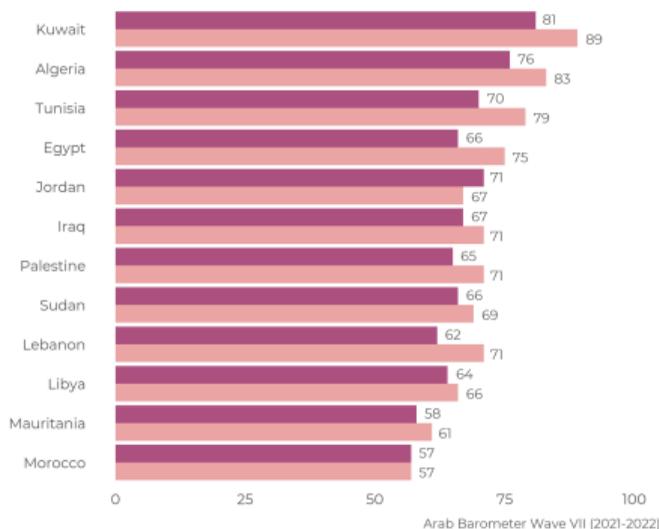


Lack of government initiatives by education & income

Lack of environmental initiatives or spending by the government

% saying this contributes to environmental challenges to a great or medium extent

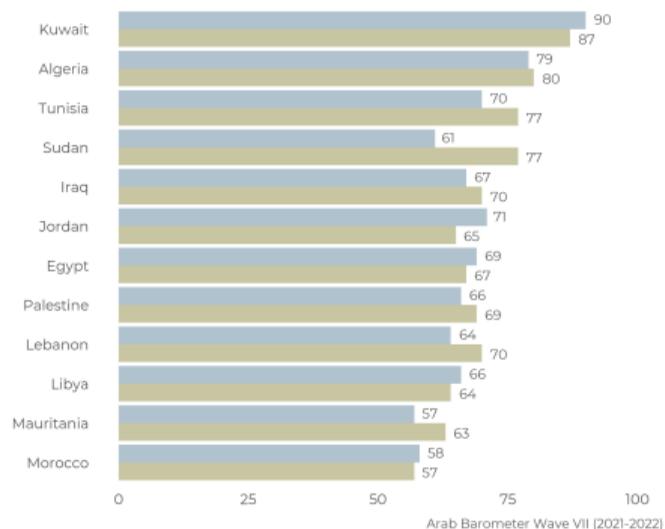
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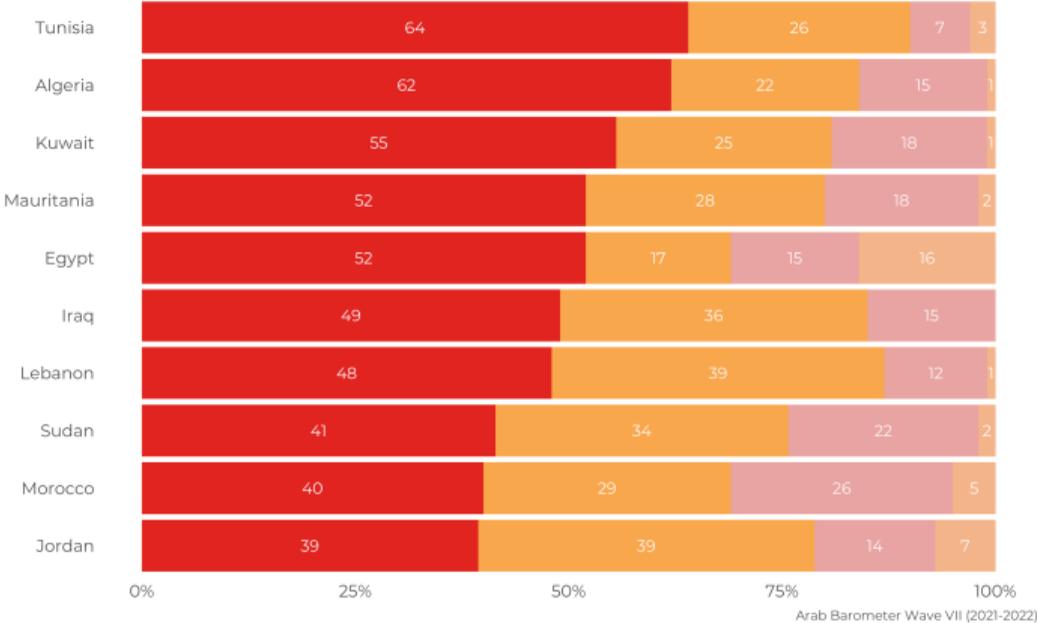


Government addressing climate change

National government addressing climate change

% saying the government should be doing

More About the same Less Don't know/Refuse

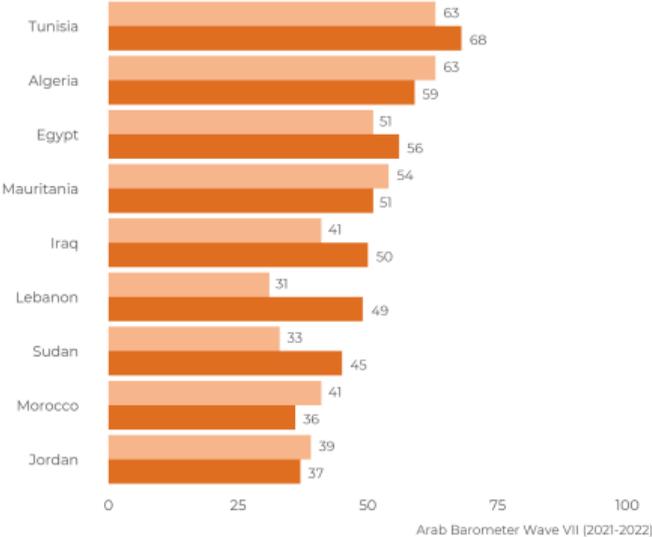


Government addressing climate change by electricity & water outages

National government addressing climate change

% saying government should be doing more by frequency of reported electricity outage;

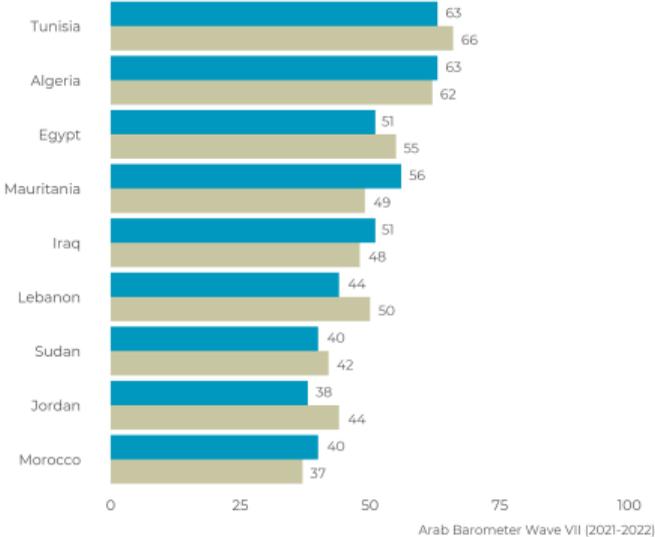
Rarely or never At least monthly



National government addressing climate change

% saying government should be doing more by frequency of reported water outage

Rarely or never At least monthly

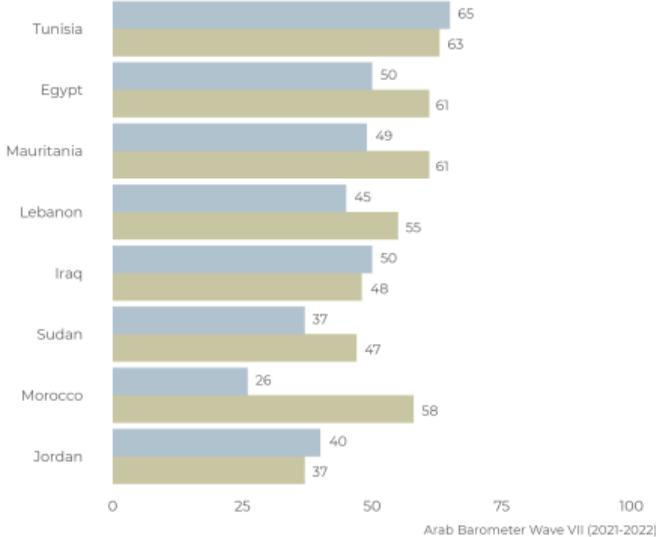


Government addressing climate change by income & settlement

National government addressing climate change

% saying government should be doing more

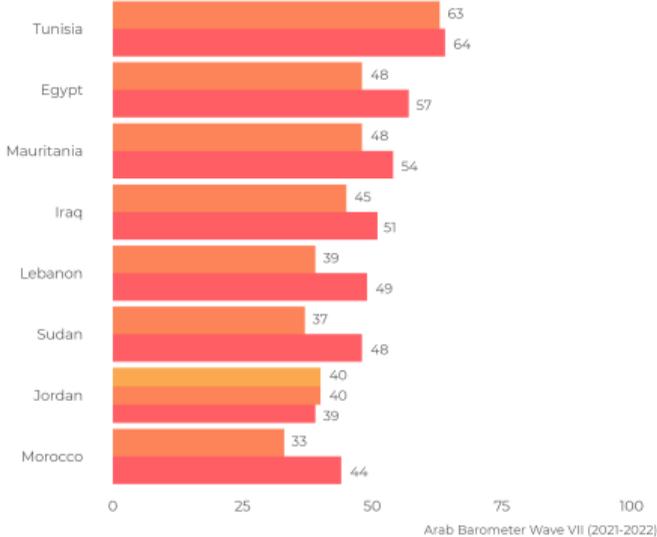
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National government addressing climate change

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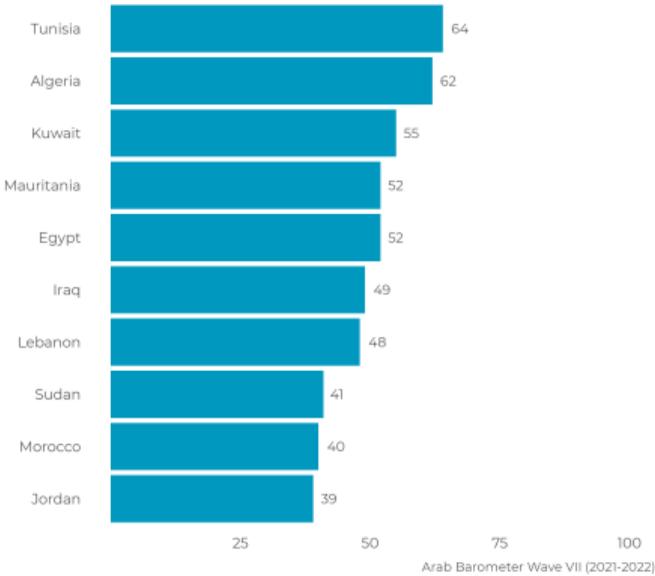
■ Camp ■ Rural ■ Urban



People want government to do more on climate change but it's not a priority

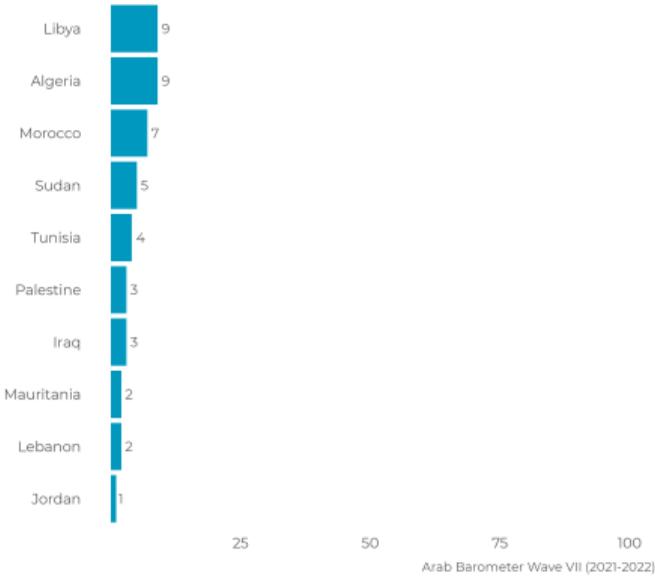
National government addressing climate change

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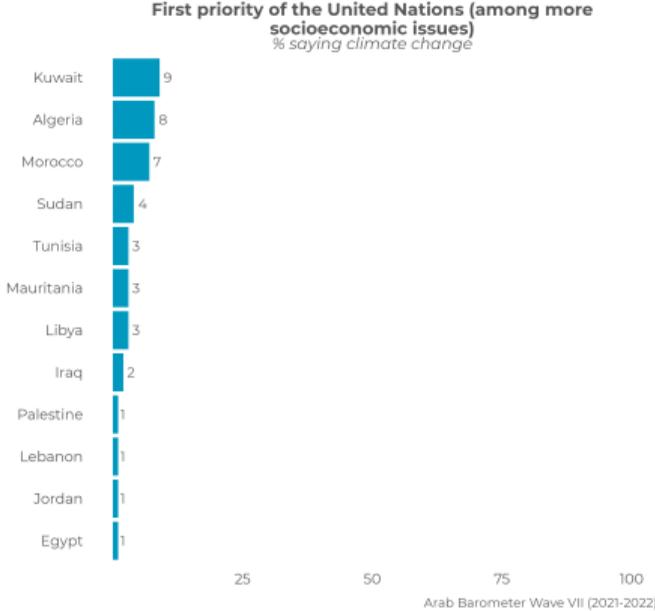
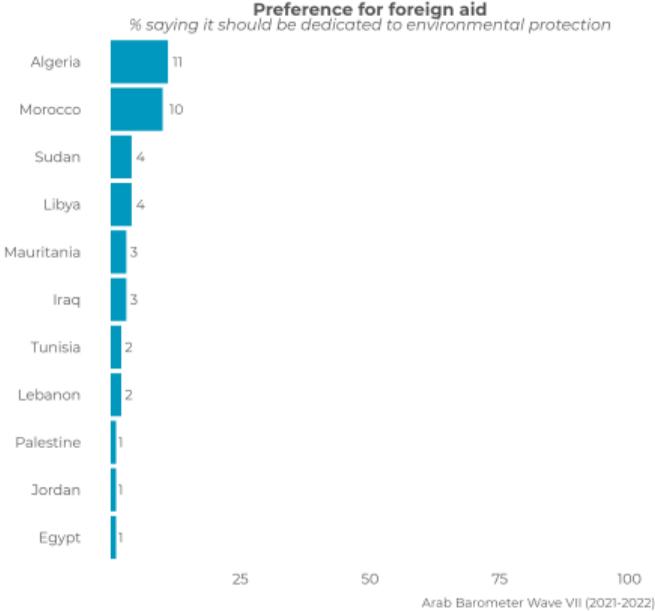


Top government spending priority

% saying it should be reducing environmental pollution



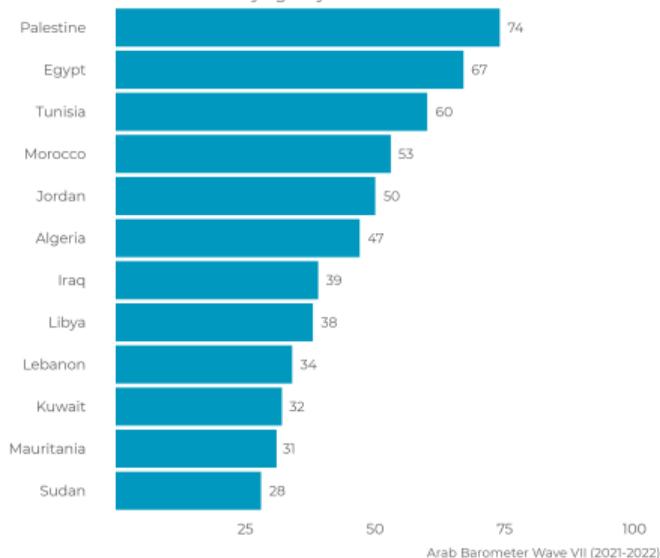
Climate change bottoms the list of priorities



Recycling habits

Recycling: Reusing plastic or glass bottles to put water in the fridge

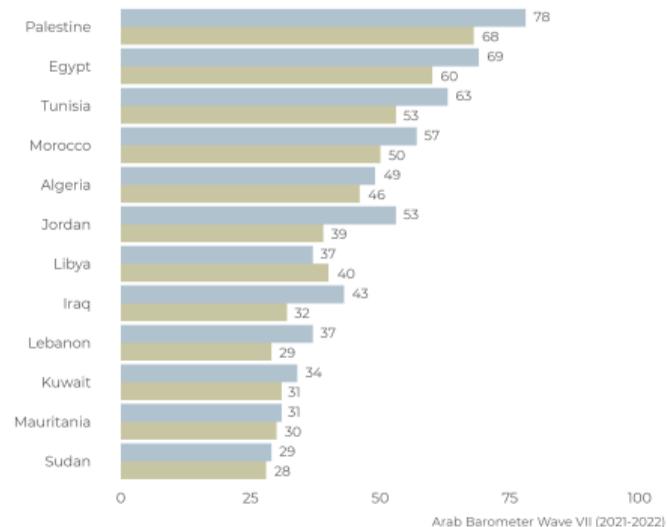
% saying they do so often or sometimes



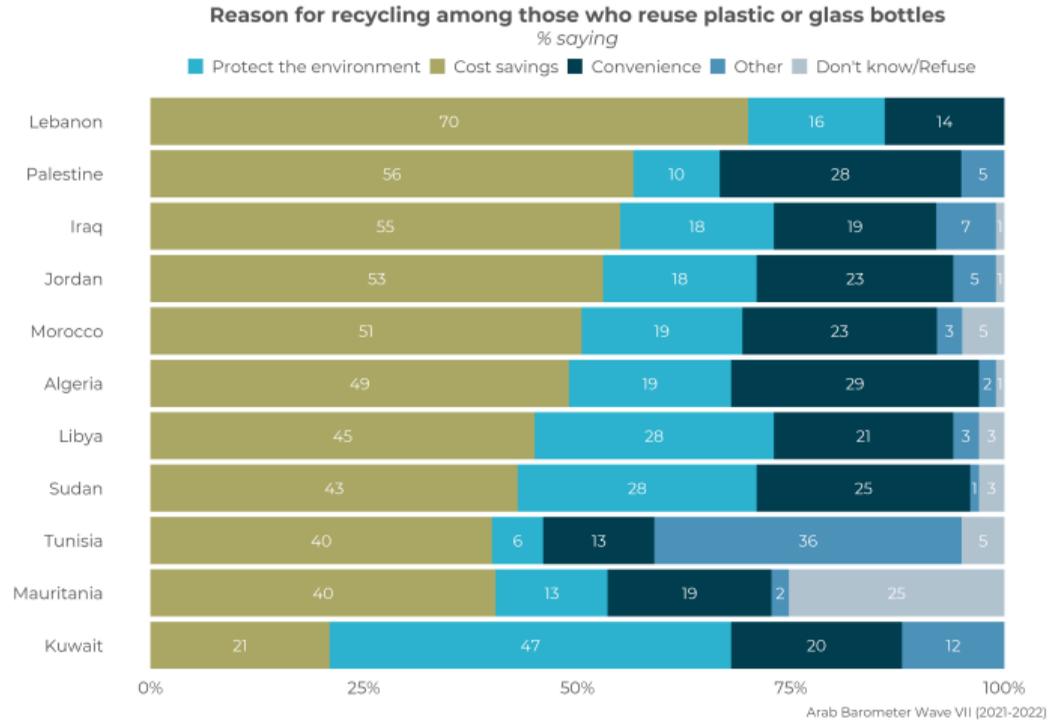
Recycling: Reusing plastic or glass bottles to put water in the fridge

% saying they do so often or sometimes

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Reasons for recycling





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