

## **Lebanon – Overview**

Lebanon was fielded from October 15, 2007 to October 20, 2007. The achieved sample size was N = 508 face-to-face interviews. The topics included women's rights, education, politics, and economic issues. The sampling methodology was a multistage random sample of female adults over age 18 from each region and religious group in Lebanon

## **Sample and Research Design**

The sample was selected at random to represent the national population by gender, age, region, urban/rural residence and religious belief. Interviewers used a Kish grid to select individual respondents within an eligible household.

## **Women's Rights**

Over 80% of both Sunni and Shia Muslim women believed that the rights guaranteed to women under the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women could be effectively protected and promoted within the framework of Sharia Law. A majority of non-Muslim women also believed that the rights guaranteed to them under the UN convention could be protected within Sharia.

## **Political Participation**

Maronite and Other Christian women were the most likely to say that they had voted in national elections, with 57% of each group affirming that they had. Sunni women were next most likely to have voted, with around 53% having voted, followed by Shia women (49%), Orthodox Christian women (42%), and Druze women (31%).

## **What Women Want**

When asked if they could change one thing in their lives, most women (61%) said that they would like more income. Improved health was a distant second at 15%. Nine percent said that they would like better education. Only 5% of

respondents considered themselves poor, while 5% considered themselves rich, and most of the women surveyed considered themselves working class or middle class.

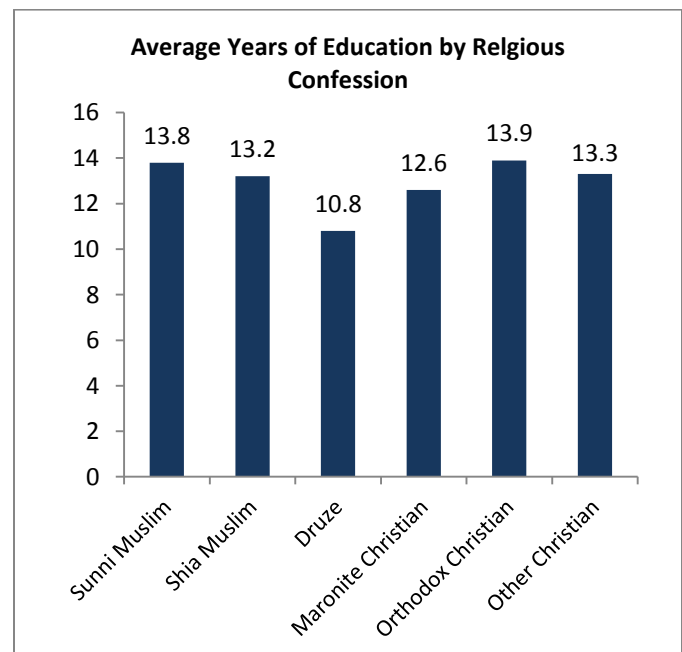
## **Employment**

The survey found that 30% of Lebanese women work outside of the home. Sunni and Shia women worked full-time at about the same rate as Maronite and Orthodox Christian women. Druze women were most likely to be housewives, with 86% not working outside the home.

## **Education**

Sunni and Shia women are, on average, about as educated as Orthodox Christian and Maronite women. Druze women are significantly less likely to have post-secondary education, with only 10.8 years of education on average.

Figure 1: How many years of formal education have you completed?



For more information on how to participate or access the data please contact  
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