



Afghan Futures Survey Wave 8

Methodology Statement

By D3 and ACSOR-Surveys



Afghan Futures is self-funded by the Afghan Center for Socio-Economic and Opinion Research (ACSOR), a D3 Systems, Inc. subsidiary. Results are based on in-person interviews conducted in Dari and Pashto among a random national sample of 2,066 Afghan adults from September 15-20, 2015.

The survey explores Afghans' living conditions; political, social, and economic concerns; post-election perceptions; views on migration, Da'esh, and women's issues. Its aim is to enrich public understanding of the concerns and issues facing Afghan citizens.

One hundred and eight districts across Afghanistan's 34 provinces were randomly selected as primary sampling units (PSUs), proportional to population size, with urban/rural stratification. Settlements or neighborhoods within randomly selected districts were chosen by simple random sampling. Two hundred and sixty four sample points were assigned, one for male interviews (carried out by male interviewers only), one for female interviews (carried out by female interviewers only) in each of the 132 PSUs.

Of the 424 potential PSUs in the country, 102 were inaccessible for security or transportation reasons and 81 were closed to female interviewers, resulting in non-coverage of 16 percent of Afghan men, 28 percent of women, or 22 percent of the population overall.

Of the 108 primary sampling units drawn, 19 male PSUs and 15 female PSUs were replaced at the time of sampling due to security. At the settlement level, 23 of the 264 sampling points were randomly replaced within the same districts because of transportation difficulties, 42 for security reasons and 10 because they couldn't be located.

Households were sampled via the random route/random walk method and respondents within households were selected via Kish grid. Interviews were conducted by 231 trained Afghan interviewers, 121 women and 110 men, with an average interview length of 32 minutes.

Supervisors monitored four percent of interviews in-person and back-checked an additional 17 percent. All completed questionnaires were subjected to logic and patterning controls, with 46 of them rejected; and, as a further quality-control measure, double-entry was performed on a random 15 percent in the data stage.

Weights are composed of the base or design weights, a non-response weight adjusting for non-response by gender, and a post stratification weight using region by gender population estimates as the targets. All population estimates use the 2016 population projections from the Afghan Central Statistics Office.

The survey's contact rate was 88 percent and its cooperation rate was 94 percent, for an overall response rate of 83 percent. The full sample has a margin of sampling error of 2.90 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including a design effect of 1.813.¹

¹ A **contact rate** is the proportion of all cases in which some responsible member of the housing unit was reached by the survey. A **cooperation rate** is the proportion of all cases interviewed of all eligible units ever contacted. A **response rate** is the number of completed interviews divided by the number of eligible reporting units in the sample. More information on contact, cooperation and response rates may be found at www.aapor.org.