

# AFGHANISTAN IN 2016

## A Survey of the Afghan People

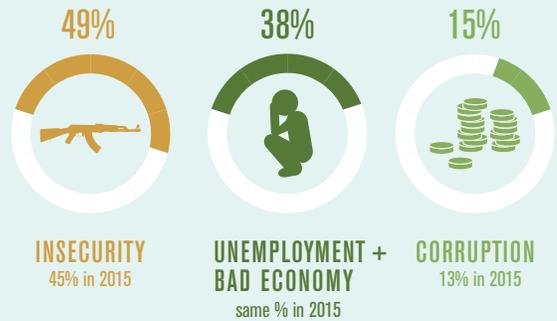
After two full years of Afghanistan's National Unity Government, what do Afghans think of the critical issues facing their country? The Asia Foundation's twelfth annual survey in Afghanistan polled 12,658 Afghan respondents from all 34 provinces revealing their views on security, economic growth and employment, development and governance, political participation, access to information, migration, and attitudes on women's roles in society. Since 2004, over 87,000 Afghan men and women have been polled.

### NATIONAL MOOD: DIRECTION OF COUNTRY



66% of Afghans report country moving in the wrong direction, the lowest level of optimism since 2004

### REASONS FOR PESSIMISM

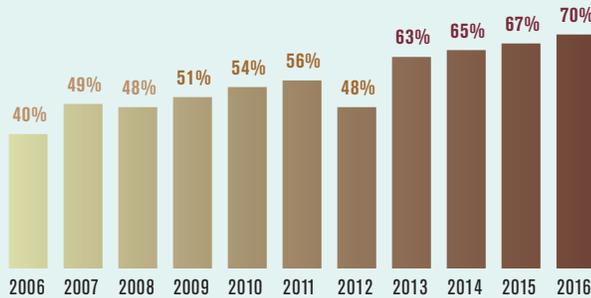


**INSECURITY**  
45% in 2015

**UNEMPLOYMENT +  
BAD ECONOMY**  
same % in 2015

**CORRUPTION**  
13% in 2015

### FEAR FOR PERSONAL SAFETY



the percentage of afghans who fear for their personal safety has risen significantly since the survey began

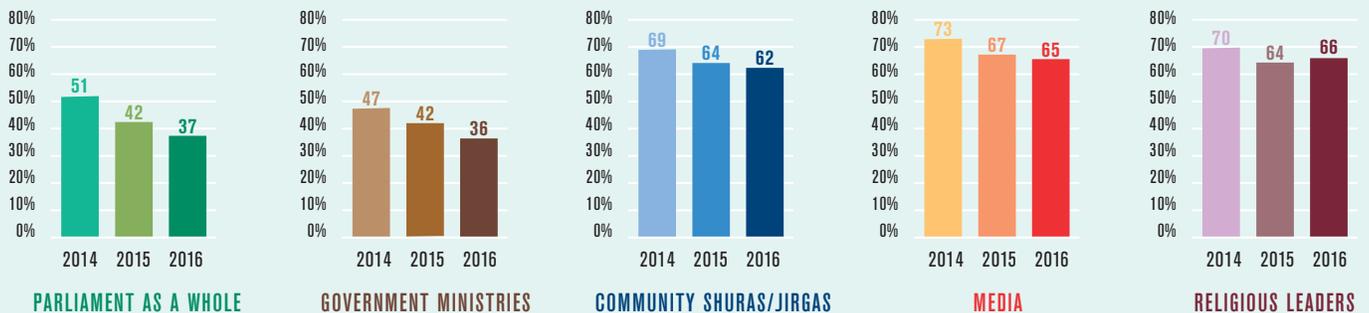
### INCREASED AWARENESS OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



rise in awareness of a project to build or repair roads and bridges in their communities

biggest increase in awareness of new mosque construction

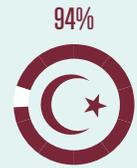
### LOWEST LEVELS OF CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT; RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND MEDIA HIGHEST



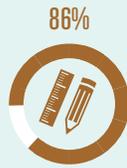
## MAJORITY OF AFGHANS SUPPORT WOMEN'S EDUCATION



women and men should have equal educational opportunities \*



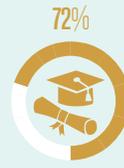
ISLAMIC MADRASAS



PRIMARY SCHOOL



HIGH SCHOOL



UNIVERSITY



STUDY IN ANOTHER PROVINCE



STUDY ABROAD ON SCHOLARSHIP

\* this agreement is conditional, while most Afghans agree that women can be educated in an Islamic madrasa (94%), the numbers are lower for a woman studying outside her home province or studying abroad

## AFGHAN WOMEN AND WORK



## BIGGEST PROBLEMS FACING AFGHAN YOUTH



## MIGRATION DECREASED

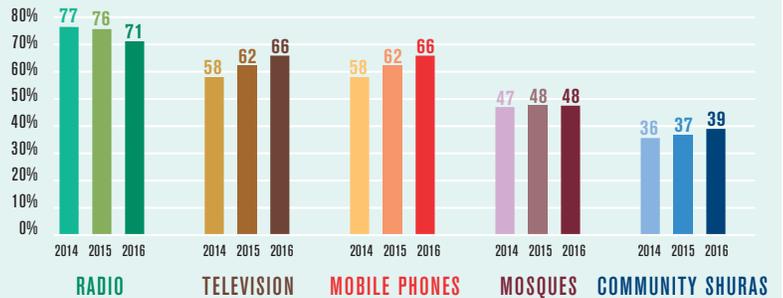


despite high unemployment, Afghans' desire to migrate decreased



more than half cite unemployment as reason they would leave the country if given the opportunity

## AFGHANS' MAIN SOURCES OF NEWS & INFORMATION

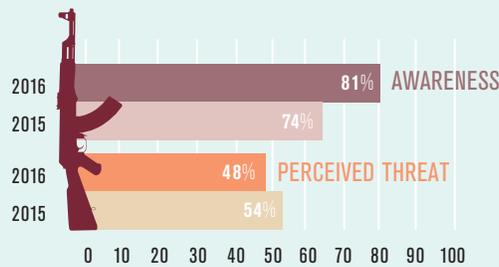


## MOBILE PHONE OWNERSHIP



56% of Afghans say they have personal mobile phone; 11% say they personally have access to the internet

## ISIS/DAESH



awareness has increased; perceptions as a security threat decreased

## DEMOGRAPHICS

12,658 Afghans polled | 16 ethnic groups | 34 provinces | fieldwork interviews conducted August 31 – October 1 | 53% male and 47% female polled 25% urban households and 75% rural households | 1,003 trained enumerators | Margin of error for the probability sample is  $\pm 1.6\%$ , based on a design effect of 3.445 and a confidence interval of 95% | Afghanistan's longest-running opinion poll

