



LEBANON SECURITY THREATS

In 2013 International Alert and the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies conducted a national survey on public perceptions of security and insecurity in Lebanon. Here, we highlight some of the key findings.

KEY FACTS AND TRENDS



51%
think their area is
safer than others.



12%
of Lebanese feel safer
when travelling outside
of their city compared
to 3 years ago.



Over **70%**
of respondents feel
particularly threatened
by religious extremists
and Syrian-related
factions.



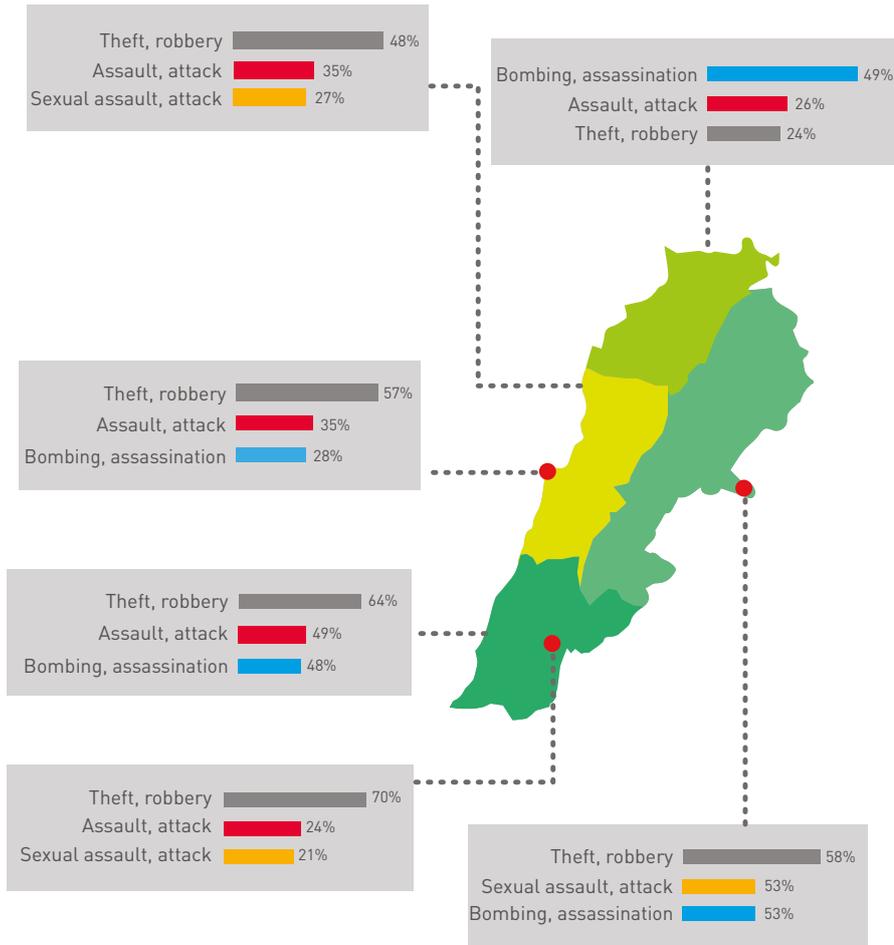
40%
of Lebanese feel
safer in the locality
they live in compared
to 3 years ago.

PERCEPTION VS. REALITY

PERCEPTION

92%

of respondents feel Lebanon as a whole is less safe today than 3 years ago.



REALITY

However only

13%

of people have been the victim of crime.



68%

Property-related



18.4%

Political crimes



14.5%

Violent crimes

People feel much safer when there is an Internal Security Forces (ISF) station nearby.

Sexual violence

29.7%

ISF station



No ISF station

70.3%

Political violence

34.5%

ISF station



No ISF station

65.4%

Assaults

33.9%

ISF station



No ISF station

66%

Crime in Lebanon is blamed on the following:



63%
Poverty



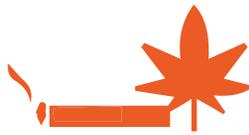
45.8%
Unemployment



21.5%
Inefficient state security institutions



20.6%
Sectarian discrimination



20.5%
Easy availability of drugs



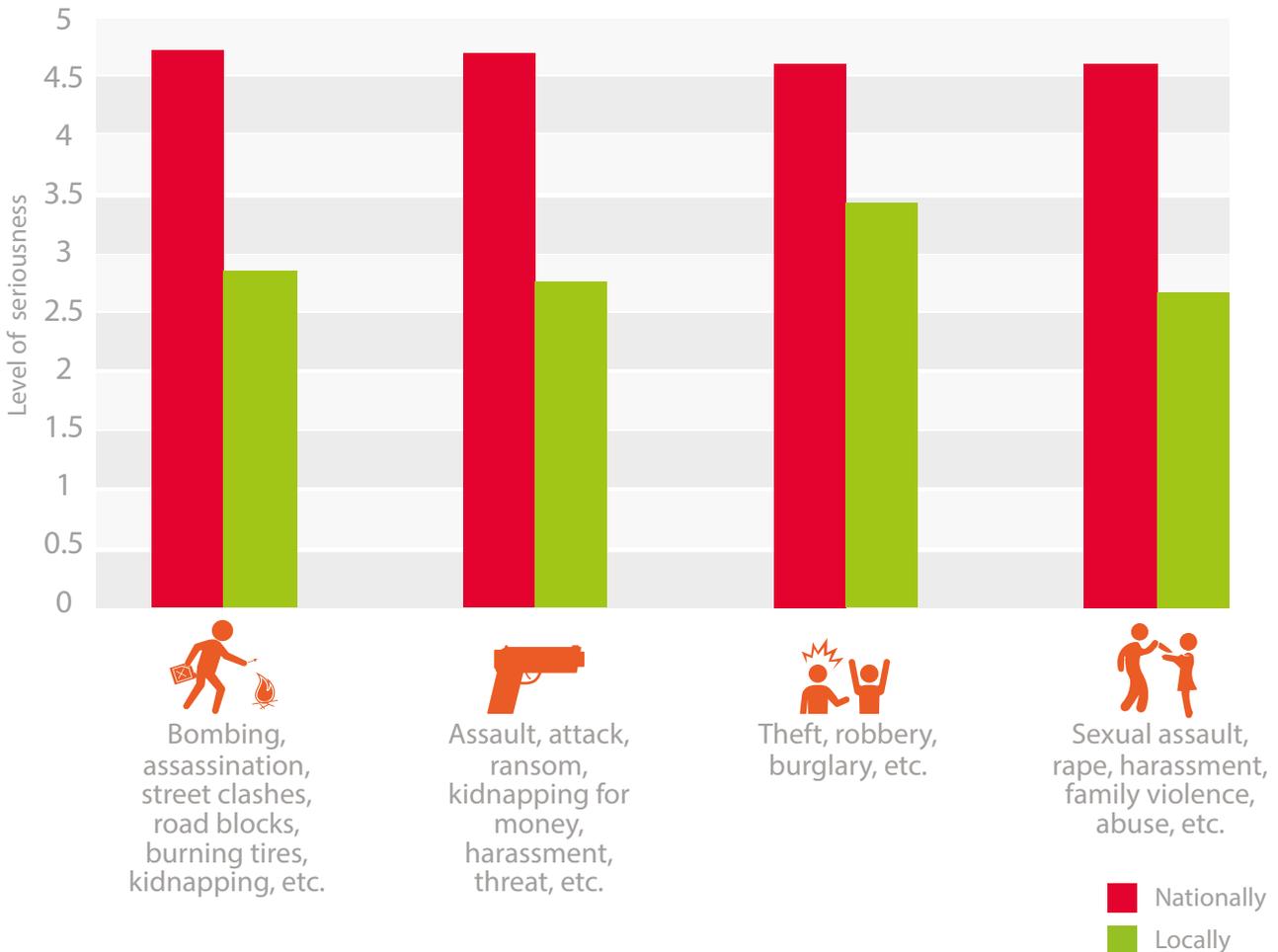
19.7%
Easy availability of small arms



17.3%
Political disputes

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES

In general people feel that certain challenges are very serious for Lebanon as a whole, but less serious for the areas where they live.



SECTARIAN DIFFERENCES

The Sunni community feel much less safe than other communities in the area in which they live, followed by Shias and Christians.



Levels of trust between sectarian communities

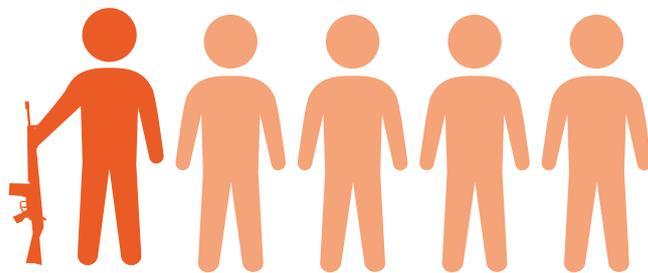


Almost of people would live in a mixed area.



Almost of people would not live in a mixed area.

THREAT OF SMALL ARMS



believe the easy access to small arms has a significant effect on insecurity.

Lebanon is ranked **28th** out of **178** countries in the number of guns per capita, with 21 firearms per 100 residents.



Nearly half of respondents have witnessed people carrying small arms in their locality.

Who are these people?



51%

Political party cadres



38%

Personal security guards/bodyguards



32%

Hunters



30%

Ordinary citizens



17%

Members of local armed groups



15%

Security guards of organisations



7%

Criminals/smugglers

About International Alert

International Alert helps people find peaceful solutions to conflict. We are one of the world's leading peacebuilding organisations, with nearly 30 years of experience laying the foundations for peace. We work with local people around the world to help them build peace, and we advise governments, organisations and companies on how to support peace.

In Lebanon we help to identify opportunities for more participative, representative and responsive governance, as well as more effective state institutions and security provision. We also help to ensure that international interventions to address the Syrian refugee crisis do not further contribute to conflict among communities or weaken state institutions.

The Promoting People-Centred Security Reform project aims to improve security institutions' understanding of public perceptions of insecurity and help them to better respond to these needs. It also aims to help security agencies become more effective and transparent.

To find out more about our work, visit www.international-alert.org/lebanon

In partnership with:

LCPS المركز اللبناني للدراسات
The Lebanese Center
for Policy Studies

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