



Hayat Center - Rased

Contact person

Amer Bani Amer, PhD

General Director

Cell: +962 79 591 1121

Tel: +962 6 582 6868

Fax: +962 6 582 6867

Email: info@hayatcenter.org

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RASED issues its initial report on the progress of the voting and counting process for the 2022 elections of the Governorate Councils, Municipal Councils, and the Amman Municipality Council

- 75 New Mayors elected for the first time in Jordan.
- 15 incumbent Mayors from the previous cycle
- Tafila and Aqaba replaced all previous Mayors
- 68 women won their seats by competition.
- 27% of members of Municipal Councils, Governorates Councils, and the Amman Municipality Council are women
- 15 partisans got the post of Mayor
- 52 is the average age of Mayors in Jordan
- Number of voters yesterday was the highest in the history of the Jordanian state, at the level of the Local Elections
- The youngest Mayor is 30, and the oldest is 70
- 392 electoral observations during the polling and counting processes.
- Violence occurred in 10 Municipalities after the closure of Polling Centers.
- Breach of voting secrecy in some Polling Centers affected the freedom of voters.

Press Release

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March 23, 2022

Amman, Jordan

Hayat - RASED: The results of monitoring and analysis showed that 75 people became Mayors for the first time, while 15 returned from the previous cycle, and 10 Mayors returned from the cycles that preceded the previous one. Tafila and Aqaba Governorates acquired new Mayors in all their Municipalities, while Karak acquired 9 new Mayors, out of 10. Irbid Governorate obtained 15 new Mayors, and Mafraq obtained 14 new Mayors out of 7.

The results also showed that 15 partisans became Mayors, where the National Coalition Party (formerly the Islamic Center and Zamzam) won 10 Mayor seats, which are the Greater Irbid Municipality, Kufranjeh Municipality, Rabiet Al-Kura Municipality, Al-Salihyah and Nayfa Municipality, New Dair Alla Municipality, Al-Shubak Municipality, the Greater Madaba Municipality, Al-Sharat Municipality in Ma'an Governorate, Ain Al-Basha Municipality in Al-Balqa' and Umm Al-Jamal Municipality In Mafraq. While the (new) National Charter Party won 4 Mayor Seats, namely of Al-Taybeh, Al Giza, Al-Dhalil and the Sharhabeel bin Hasna Municipalities. Also, a member of the Jordanian National Youth Party obtained the post of Mayor for the Ramtha Municipality.

As for the age groups of the Mayors of Municipal Councils, the average age reached 52, while the youngest age is 30, who is the Mayor of the Municipality of Zaatari and Manshiyya, and the oldest is 70. The number of Mayors within the age group of 30-39- reached 8, within the age group of 40-49 reached 27 Mayors, and within the age group of 50-59- reached 43 Mayors, while the number of Mayors over 60 is 22.

With regard to the participation of women, the results showed that 68 women won the membership of Municipal Councils, Governorate Councils, and the Amman Municipality Council, outside the quota.

Dr. Amer Bani Amer, Director General of Al-Hayat Center - Rased, stressed that the voting influx in the Municipal and Governorate Councils 2022 elections is the highest in the history of the Jordanian

state, at the level of Local Elections, This is a positive indicator of the political reform project of the Jordanian state, and we can build on it, to establish and form the Jordanian political system, of which requires all public and private Jordanian state institutions to search seriously for the reasons that led to the reluctance of some groups and regions of society to participate in the elections, and to work hard to address those reasons, to achieve the maximum degree of justice in political participation, and ensure the best mechanisms for representing male and female citizens in the political process.

Dr. Bani Amer stressed the need to legislatively and executively empower the elected Councils, by updating the legislation related to Local Administration, and providing the necessary tools for the work success of these Councils, in line with the needs of citizens at the local level.

The observations collected by RASED's team during the polling and counting processes amounted to 392 electoral observations, 18% of which were related to influencing voters for example, the Rabaa Al-Adawiya School in the Greater Zarqa Municipality and Abdul-Malik bin Marwan Secondary School for Boys in Amman, while 11% of observations related to photographing ballot papers inside the isolation booth for example; in Jaafar bin Abi Talib School in the Municipality of Mutah and Al-Mazar in Karak Governorate and Nadim Al-Mallah Elementary School in Amman. As for observations on public voting or out loud, they constituted 10% of total observations, for example; in Ma'an High School for Boys, Al-Shifaa Bint Auf School in Ma'an Governorate, and Abu Obaidah High School in Amman. With regard to observations about the presence of crowds inside the polling room, their percentage reached 10% for example in the Grena Comprehensive High School for Girls in Madaba Governorate. 8% of the observations were about the suspension of the voting process due to the interruption of electronic connectivity, eating or performing prayer, for example; in Ajloun High School and King Hussein bin Talal High School in the Greater Irbid Municipality. With regard to the presence of more than one voter in the voting booth, it constituted 7% of the total observations, for example; in Ayra High School for Boys and Souf Comprehensive Mixed High School in Jerash Governorate.

As for the quarrels and altercations that took place during the voting process, they accounted for 6% of the total observations, for example; in the Municipality of Fuheis and the Greater Ma'an

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Municipality .With regard to the violence that occurred during the counting process, it amounted to 3% of the total observations, for example; in the Governorate of Jerash and the Hashemiyyeh Municipality in Zarqa, The Greater Karak Municipality, the Greater Ma'an Municipality, the Tla' Al-Ali area in Amman, Jabal Al-Taj area in Amman, Abu Nseir area in Amman, Khalidiyah Municipality in Mafraq, Kufranja Municipality in Ajloun, Taybeh Municipality in Irbid, Greater Irbid Municipality, and Al-Junaid Municipality in Ajloun. Here it is worth noting that the security services dealt with high professionalism with cases of violence and riots. We also commend the necessity of imposing the rule of law, especially with regard to firing shots, whether for the winners or those who were not fortunate to win, as it consolidates the rule of law.

The RASED coalition confirms that it is still working on following up and analyzing the observations that were monitored to verify the extent of their impact on the outcomes of the electoral process. RASED will work to follow up on the measures that the Independent Election Commission and the relevant authorities will take. RASED also calls on the IEC to form a committee to verify violations and consolidate the principle of accountability for workers in the electoral process who did not comply with the law and legislation related to the electoral process, even if they are not satisfied with it.

Through the work of RASED's team in evaluating the indicators related to the harmonization of electoral procedures with international best practices, a remarkable development was observed in the performance of the Independent Election Commission (IEC) at the technical, organizational and logistical levels, in addition to the rapid response to the observations that RASED periodically provided them with. The IEC's efforts to develop transparency indicators by publishing the counting minutes at the polling station level on its website are highly commended.

RASED confirms that it will work in the coming days to evaluate the standardized indicators related to the electoral process, and will submit a detailed report on the impact of observations and violations on the outcomes of the electoral process and submit them in detail to the IEC and relevant authorities.