



BYLC Bangladesh
Youth Leadership
Center

YOUTH MATTERS

SURVEY **2025**

November 12, 2025

INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

Bangladesh is at a democratic turning point, with young people—comprising over one-third of the population under 35—being central to shaping the country's future. Yet youth today face significant challenges including job scarcity, climate impacts, and concerns about justice and accountability.

The country experienced a major political shift in 2024 when a youth-led uprising in July culminated in regime change in August, which led to the formation of a new interim government. As Bangladesh moves toward elections in 2026, understanding what young people expect from their leaders has become critical.

BYLC conducted the Youth Matters Survey 2025 between October 10 and 21, 2025 to capture youth voices, highlight their priorities, and provide crucial insights for policymakers, political leaders, and institutions working to ensure young people remain at the center of Bangladesh's democratic evolution.

Objectives of the Study

- To understand the determinants of youth political participation and choice by analyzing the factors that influence their voting behavior.
- To provide youth with an opportunity to voice their opinions on issues that affect their lives, including the effectiveness of the education system; their perceptions of justice, peace, democracy, governance, and institutions; migration; access to information and perception; as well as their outlook on the future of Bangladesh.

METHODOLOGY

Survey Design and Structure

This study employed a quantitative approach through the in-person data collection from October 10 – October 21, 2025 to capture a range of youth perspectives across Bangladesh’s diverse demographic and geographic landscapes.

The survey utilized a semi-structured and interactive questionnaire developed using the 123FormBuilder online platform. The target age group for the study was 18–35 years, representing Bangladesh’s largest and most dynamic demographic segment.

The questionnaire consisted of two main sections:

- **Demographic Information (12 questions)** – capturing basic socio-economic and background variables such as age, gender, education, occupation, and location.
- **Thematic Inquiries (18 questions)** – addressing six key thematic areas relevant to youth development and civic engagement:
 - Livelihood
 - Education
 - Democracy, Governance, and Institutions
 - Peace and Justice
 - Migration
 - Information and Perception

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection Method

The data were collected through face-to-face interviews conducted by a trained survey team across rural, suburban, and urban areas. Special emphasis was placed on reaching remote educational institutions and underserved upazilas to ensure the inclusion of diverse youth perspectives, particularly those often underrepresented in national-level studies.

Sampling Methodology

A stratified random sampling approach was employed to ensure representativeness across Bangladesh's geographic and demographic diversity. The country's eight administrative divisions were further stratified into urban and rural areas, resulting in 16 distinct strata.

A target sample size of 2,500 respondents (age between 18 and 35) was determined, with proportional allocations based on the population size of each stratum.

Within each stratum:

- 175 Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) were randomly selected, using city corporations or pourashavas in urban areas and villages in rural areas as sampling points.
- 10–16 interviews were conducted per PSU.
- Households were selected randomly using starting points such as mosques, schools, or polling centers.
- Gender quotas were maintained to ensure approximately equal representation of male and female respondents (50% each).

METHODOLOGY

Survey Response

Through in-person data collection process, the study successfully gathered **2,545 unique responses**, slightly exceeding the initial target. This robust dataset enhances the reliability and representativeness of the findings.

Stratified Sampling: Divided Bangladesh's 8 divisions (27 districts) into 16 strata (urban & rural).

Questionnaire Tool:
123FormBuilder

Primary Sampling Units: Randomly selected city corporations/pourashav as (urban) and villages (rural)

Gender Quotas:
Ensured equal representation (50.4% male, 49.6% female).

Targeted Sample:
2,500 respondents, proportional allocation by population.

Interviews Per Sampling Unit: 10-16 interviews conducted per Primary Sampling Unit (PSU).

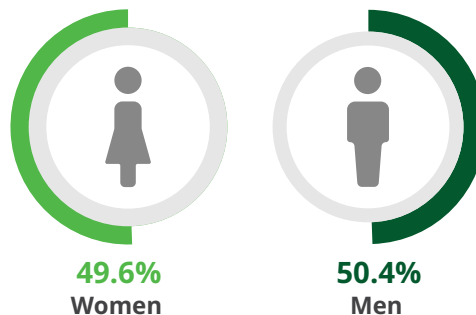
Finally collected
2,545
responses

DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

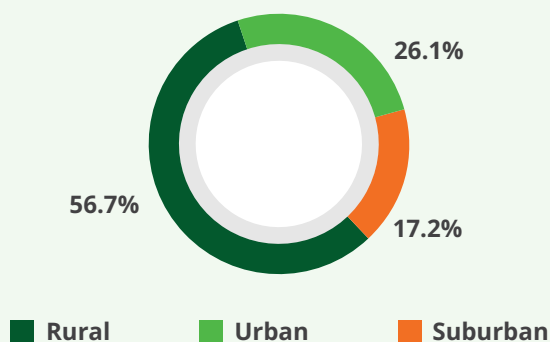
Age of the Respondents



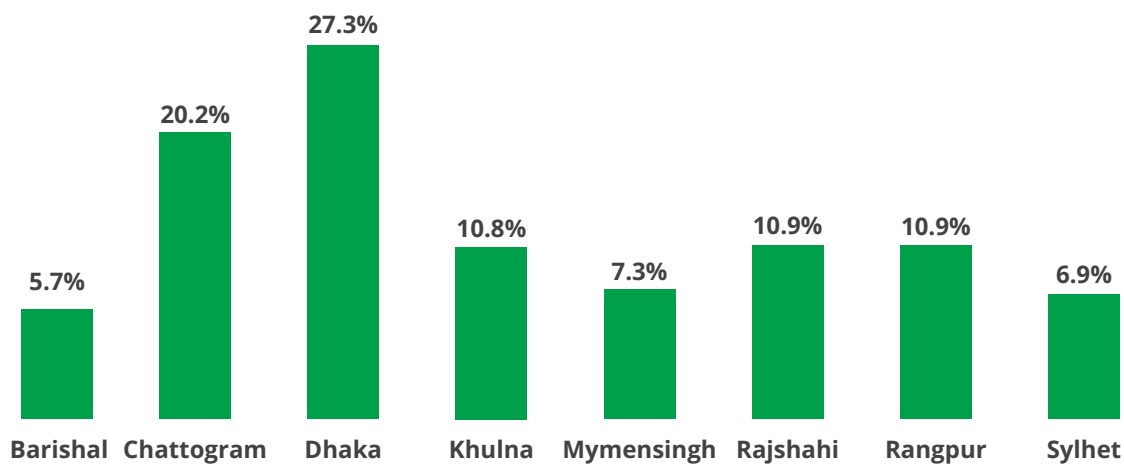
Gender-wise Response



Area-wise Response

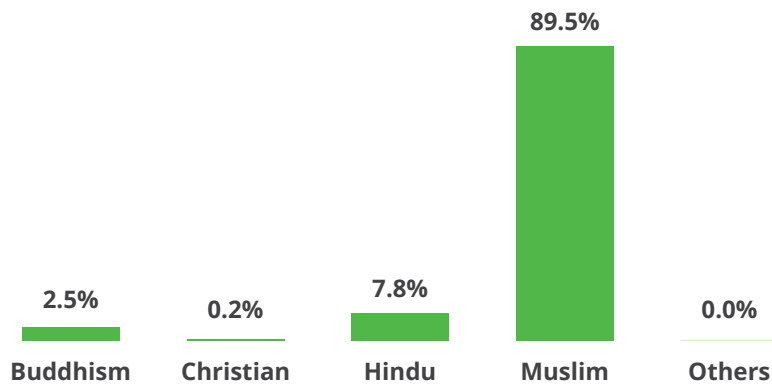


Division-wise Response

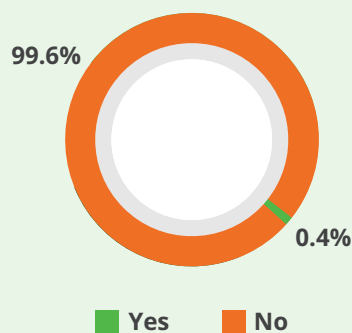


DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

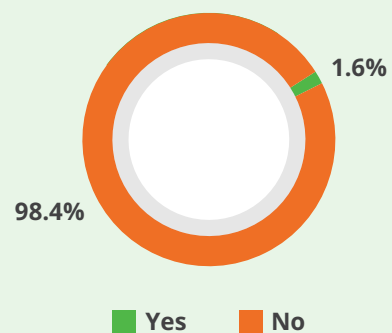
Religious Identity



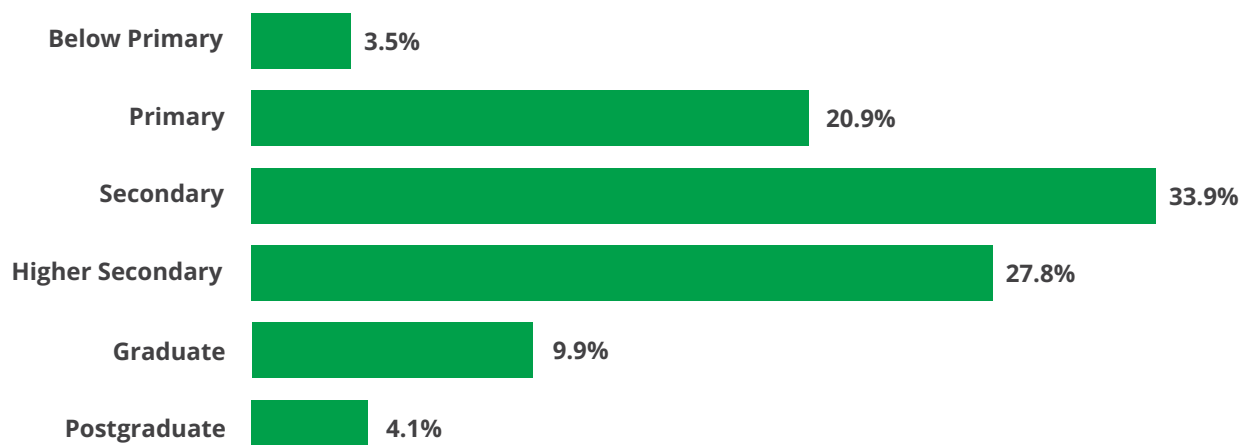
Do you have any disabilities?



Do you identify with any ethnic community?

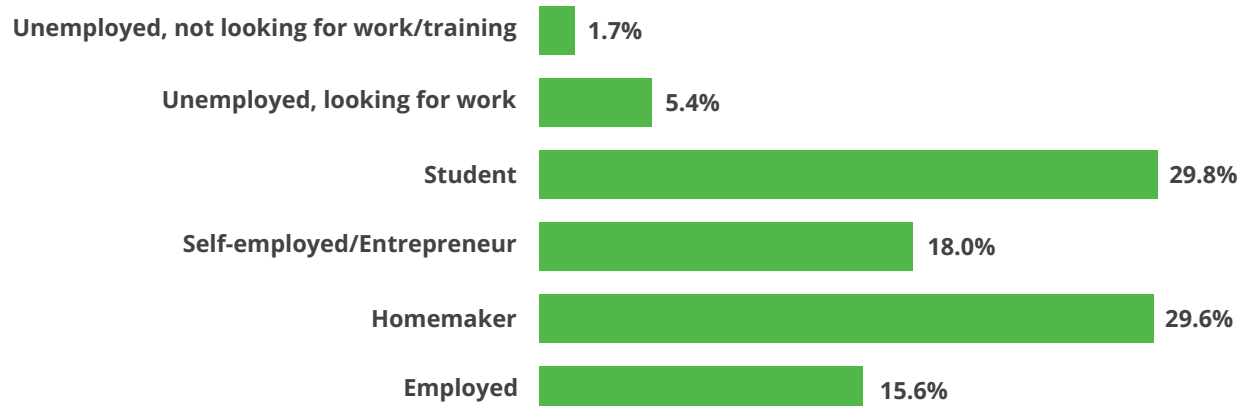


Educational Qualification

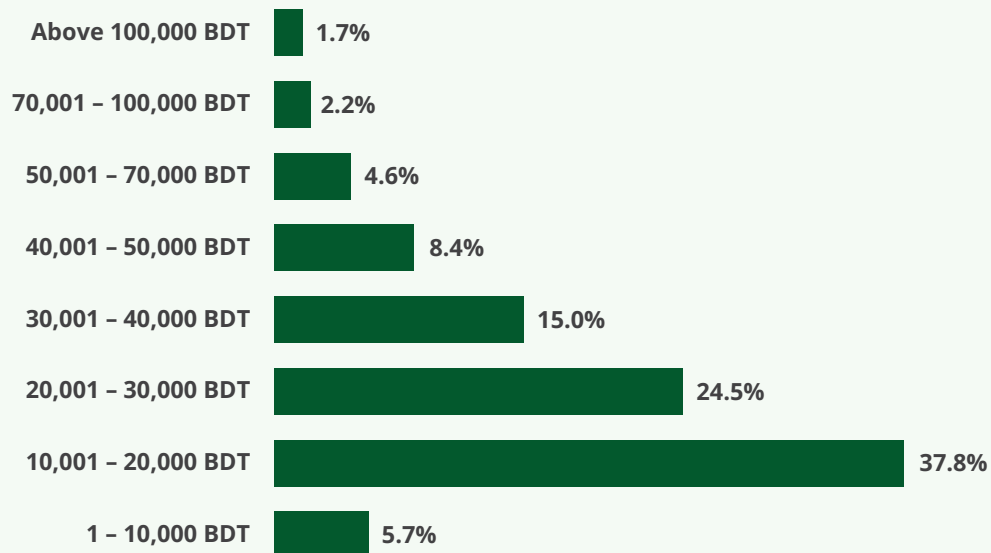


DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

Employment Status



What is your household's monthly income?



KEY FINDINGS

Livelihood

Education

**Democracy, Governance,
and Institutions**

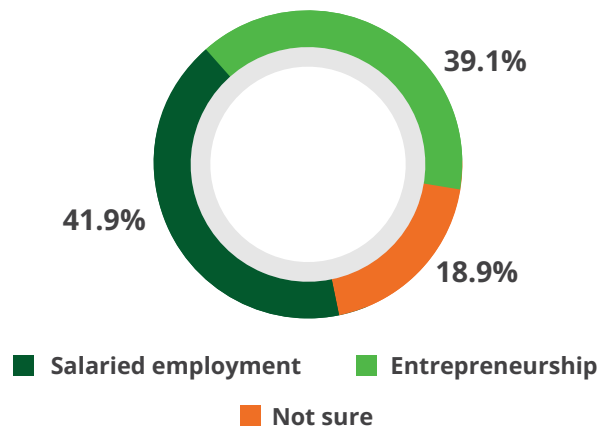
Peace and Justice

Migration

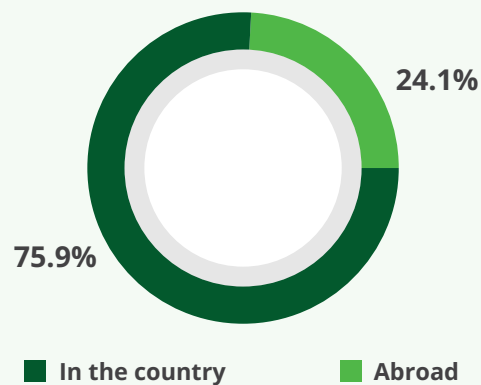
Information and Perception

LIVELIHOOD

Which career pathway do you want to pursue?



If you want salaried employment, would you like to work in your own country or abroad?

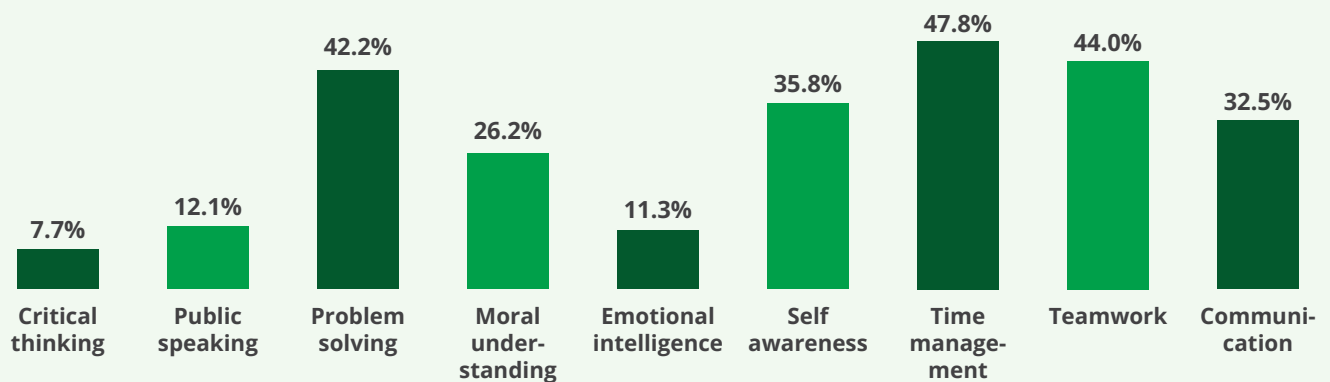


EDUCATION

Which areas should our education system emphasize within the next five years to better equip our youth? *(*multiple responses)*

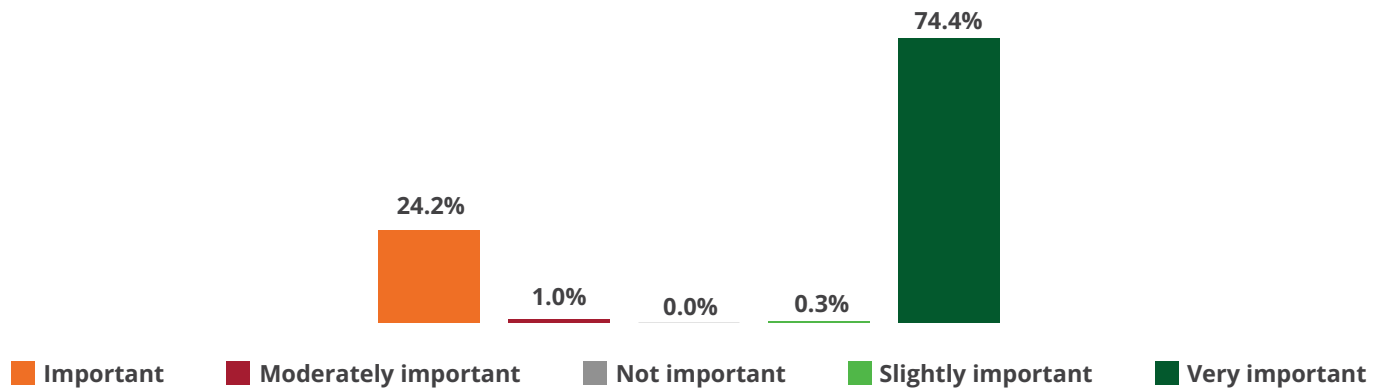


Which 3 soft skills do you think are most important? *(*multiple responses)*

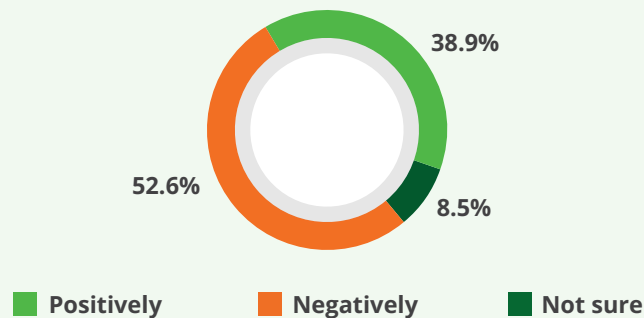


EDUCATION

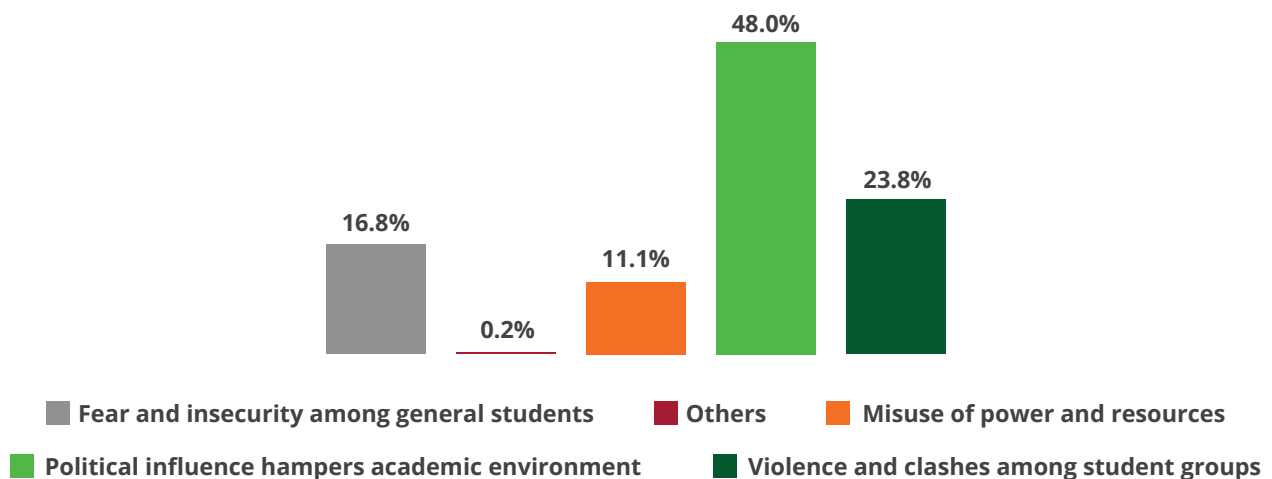
How important do you think soft skills are for academic and professional excellence?



How do you view student politics in terms of its impact on carrying out educational activities fairly and smoothly in educational institutions?

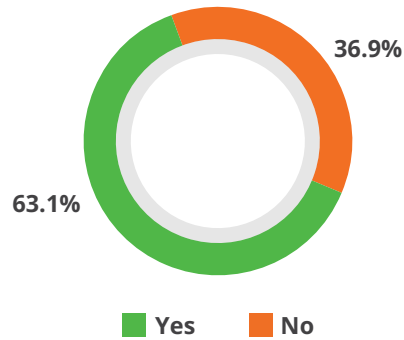


If negatively, then what is the main reason behind your opinion?

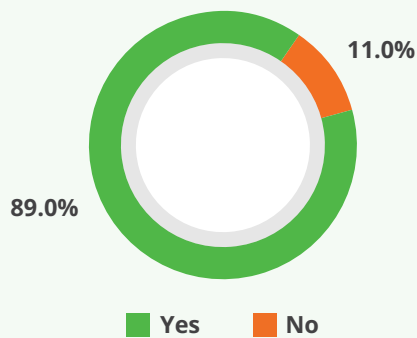


DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE & INSTITUTIONS

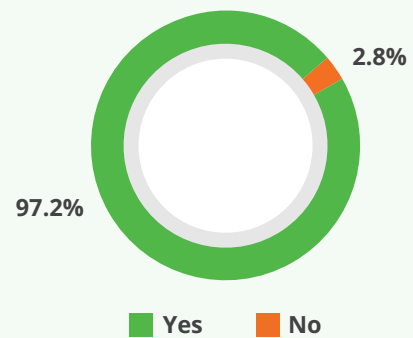
Do you feel safer expressing your opinions on public platforms under the interim government compared to the previous one?



Are you a voter?

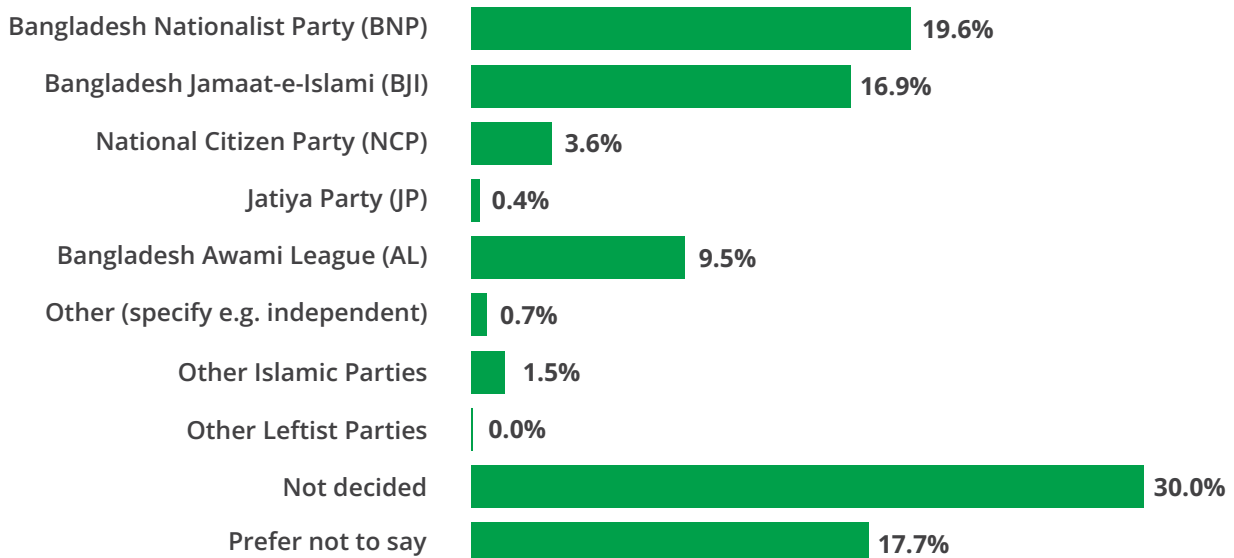


If yes, will you cast your vote in the upcoming parliamentary election? (n=2,203)

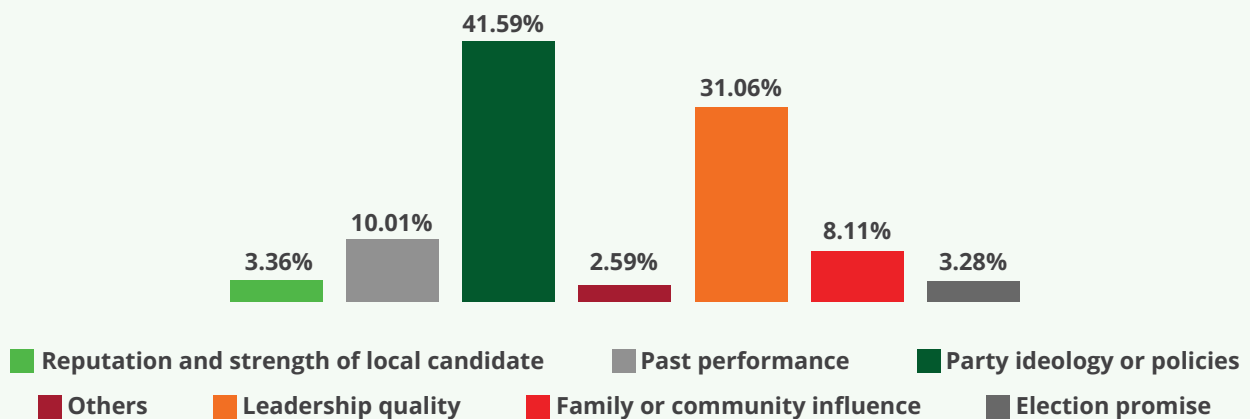


DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE & INSTITUTIONS

If yes, which party will you cast your vote for?



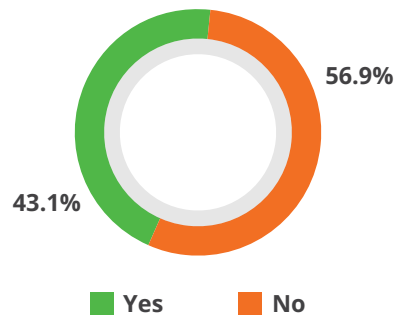
What is the main reason for choosing this party?



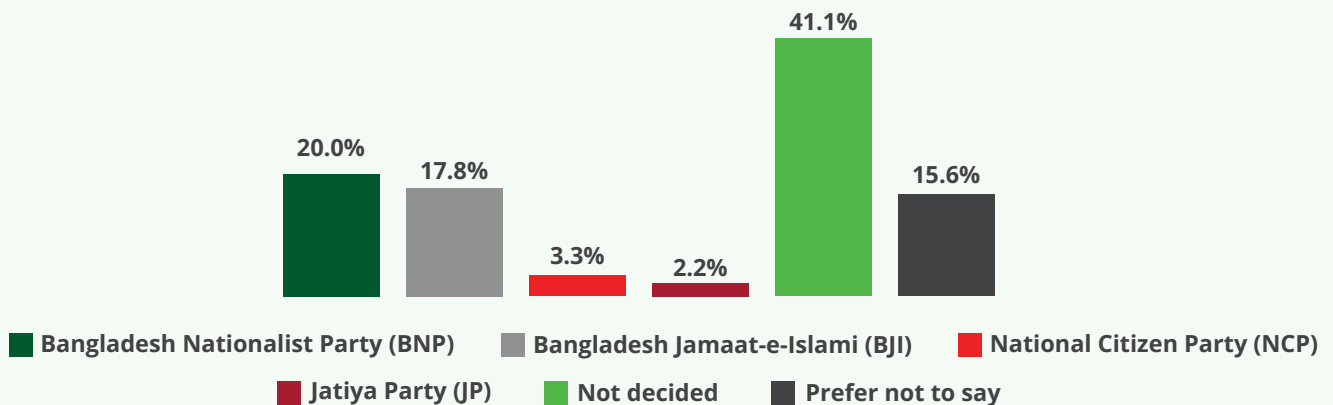
DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE & INSTITUTIONS

This page includes responses only from participants who expressed their willingness to vote for the Bangladesh Awami League (AL).

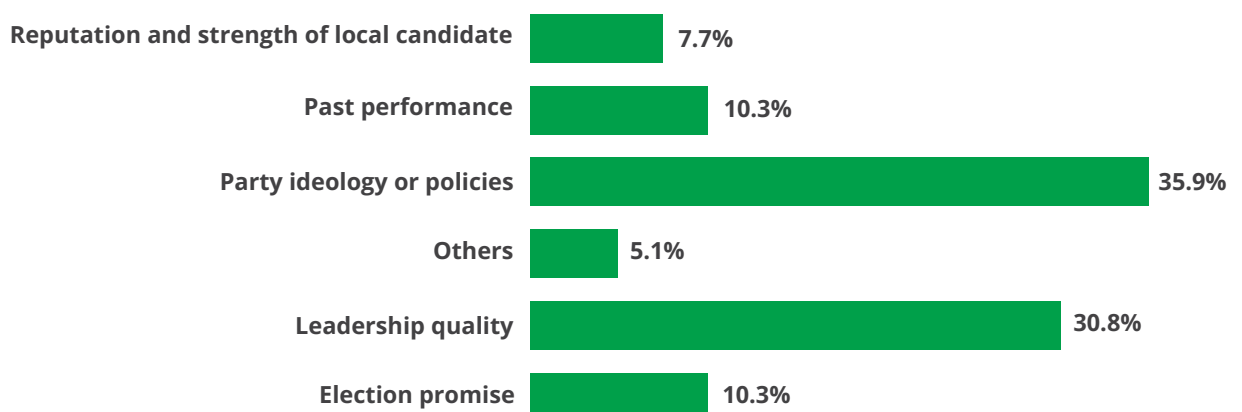
If Bangladesh Awami League (AL) does not participate, will you cast your vote in the upcoming parliamentary election? (n=209)



If yes, which party will you cast your vote for? (*Awami League voter) (n=90)

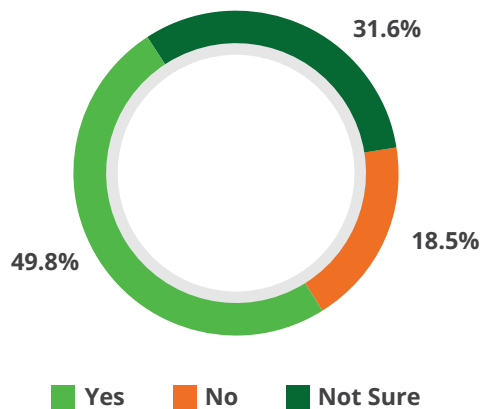


What is the main reason for choosing this party? (*Awami League voter)

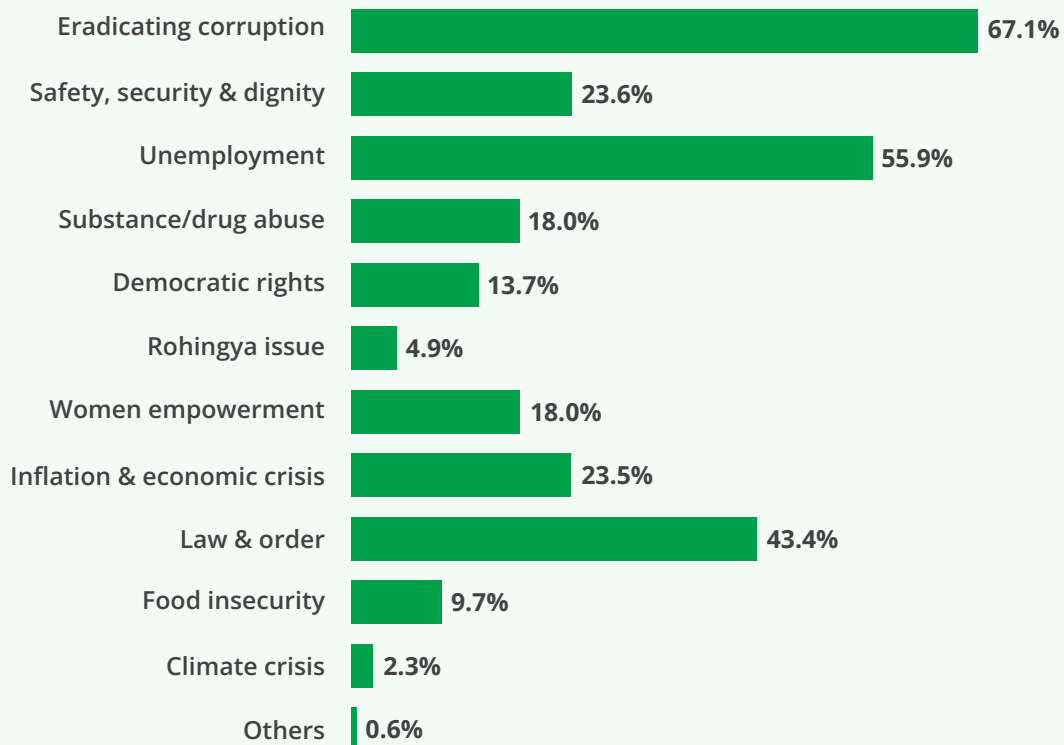


DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE & INSTITUTIONS

Do you feel confident in the transparency and accountability of the upcoming election process under the interim government?

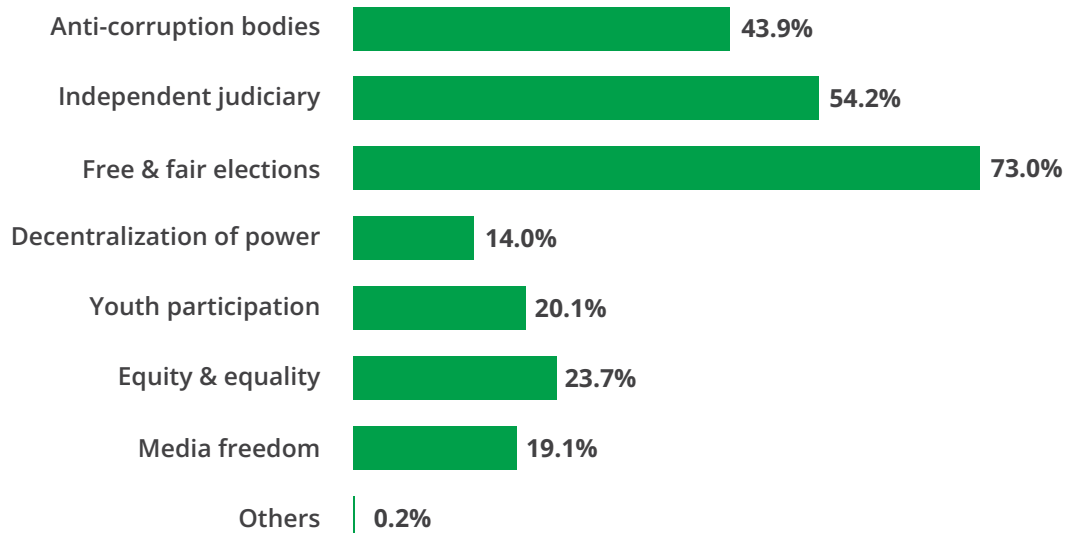


Which areas should Bangladesh prioritize in the next five years? *(*multiple responses)*



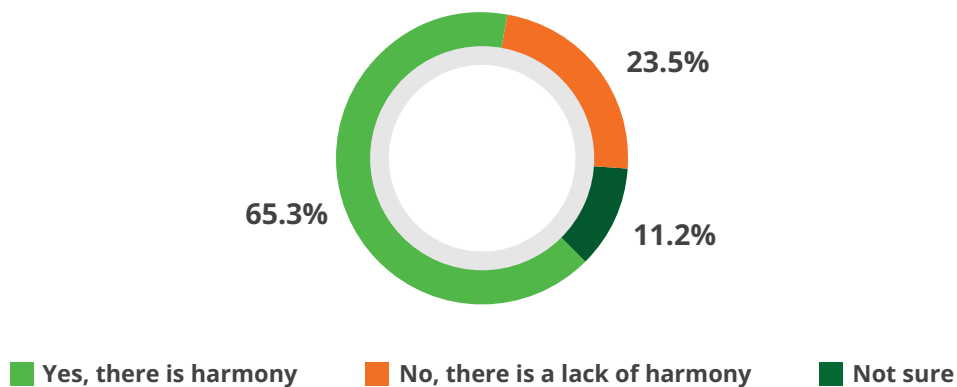
DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE & INSTITUTIONS

Which factors should be prioritized to strengthen democracy and institutions in Bangladesh? *(*multiple responses)*

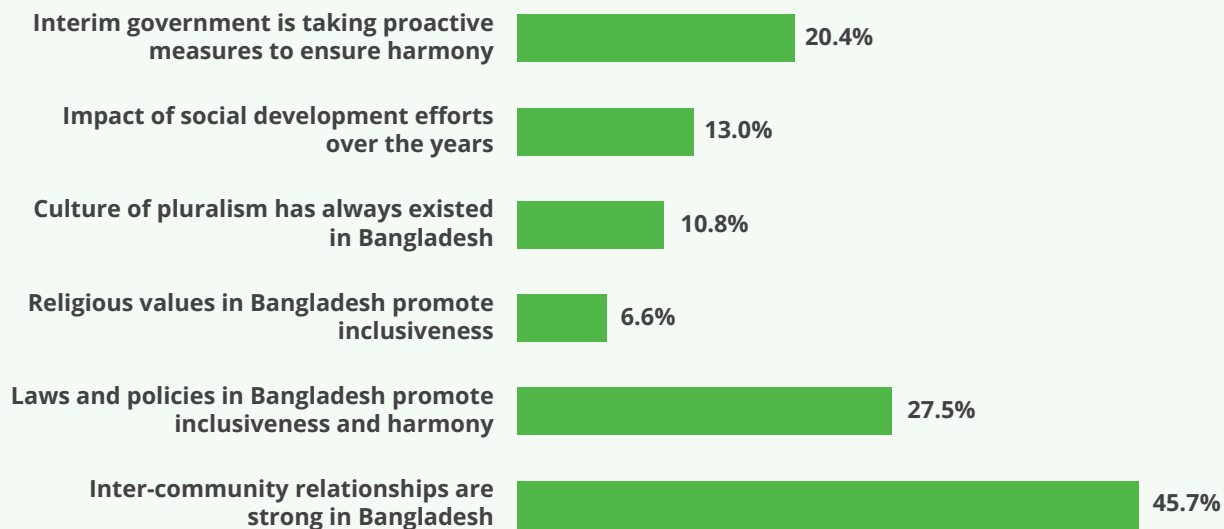


PEACE AND JUSTICE

Do you think there is communal harmony present in Bangladesh in the current situation, considering both religion and ethnicity?

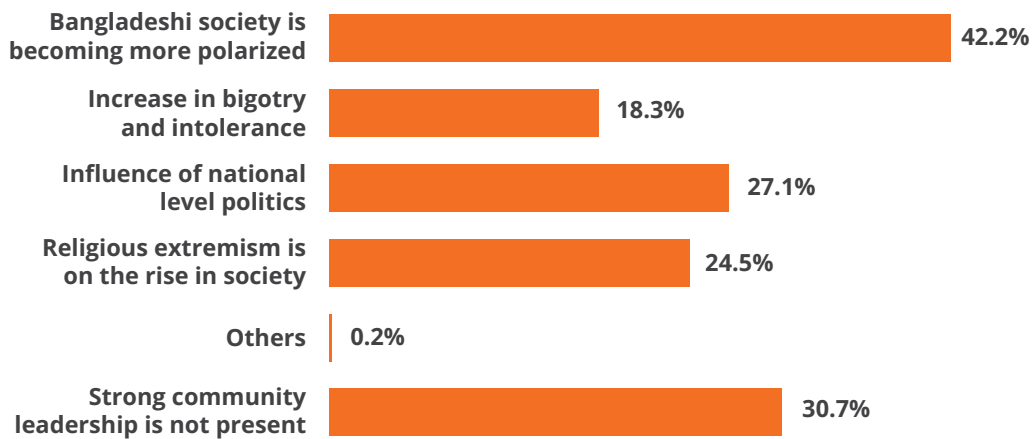


If you believe there is harmony, what factors contribute to this view? (*multiple responses)

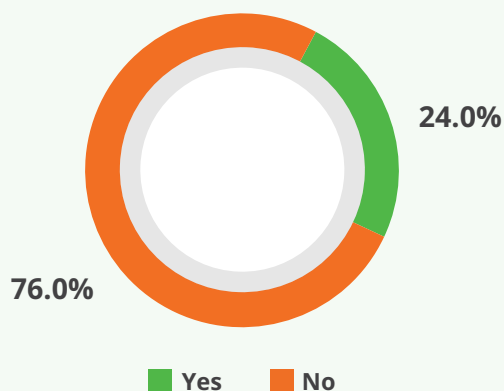


PEACE AND JUSTICE

If you believe there is no harmony, what factors contribute to this view? *(*multiple responses)*

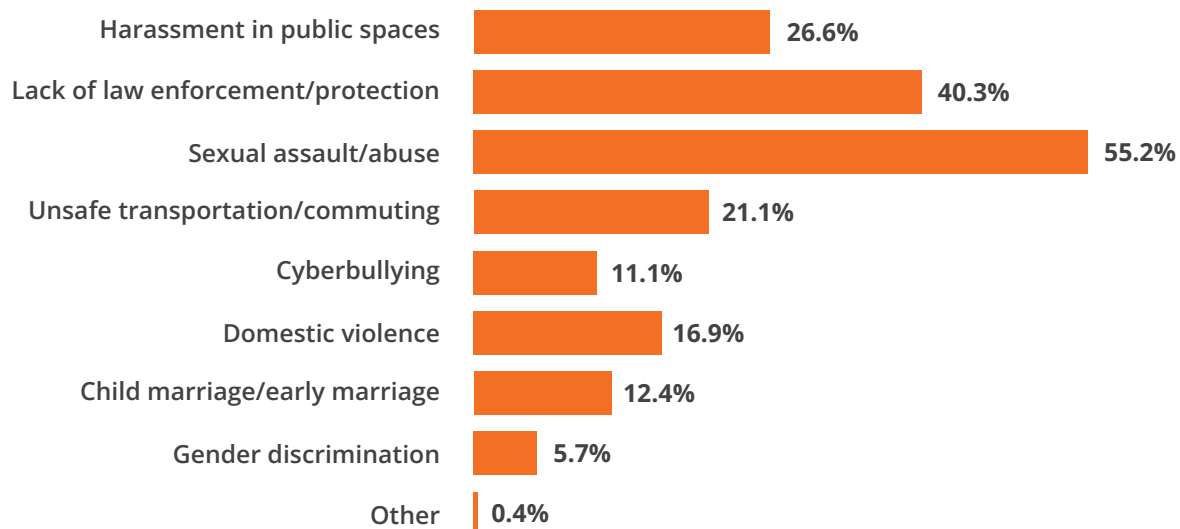


Do you believe that girls and women feel safe in Bangladesh today?



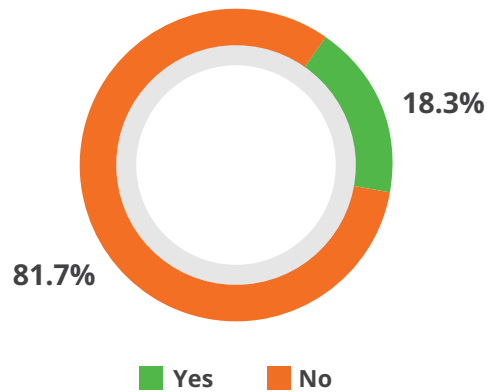
PEACE AND JUSTICE

If no, what are the reasons? *(*multiple responses)*



MIGRATION

Do you plan to settle abroad in the future?

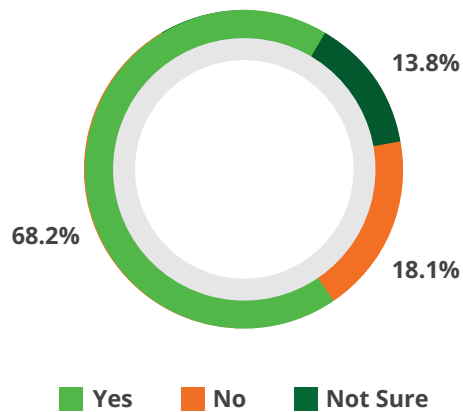


If you intend to leave Bangladesh, what factors have contributed to your choice for leaving? (*multiple responses)



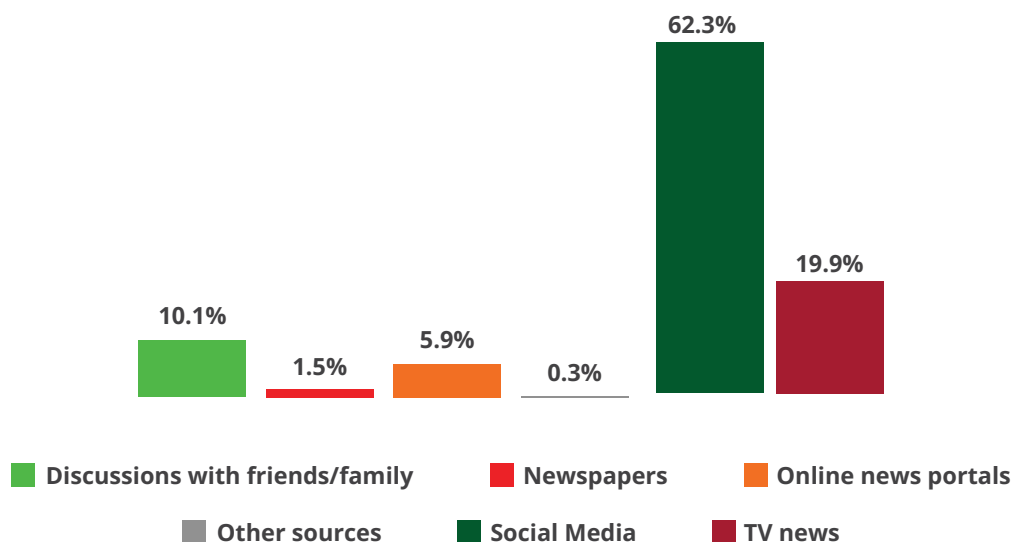
MIGRATION

If you see improvements in Bangladesh in the factors you chose above, would you think about moving back to Bangladesh?

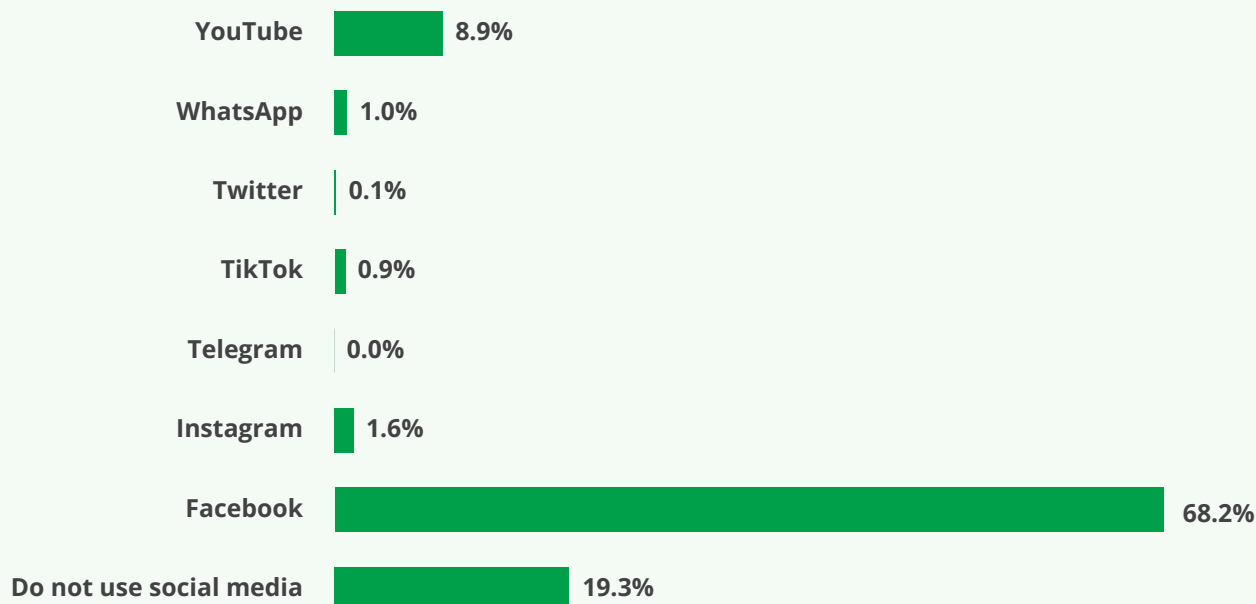


INFORMATION AND PERCEPTION

Where do you get your information on current events in Bangladesh?

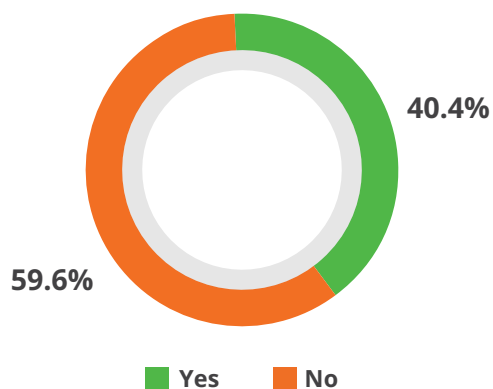


Which social media platform do you use most?

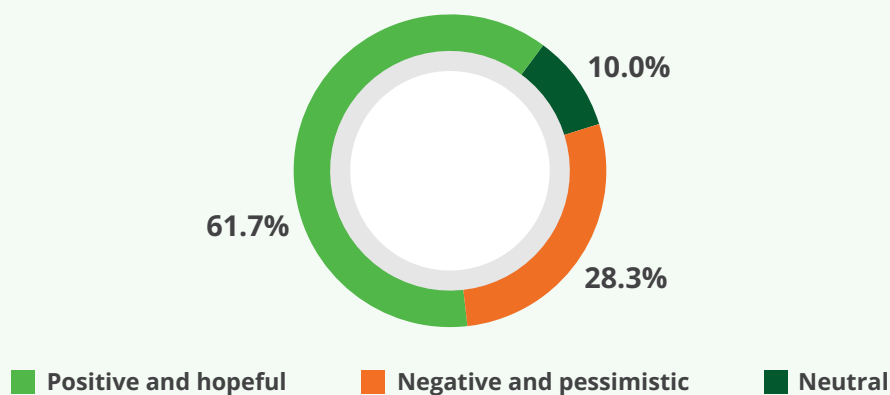


INFORMATION AND PERCEPTION

Do you think social media platforms are providing a correct view of current events in Bangladesh?



How do you feel about the future of Bangladesh?



QUESTIONNAIRE

Annex

For Youth Matters Survey 2025 questionnaire [click here](#) or scan the following QR code.



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Youth Matters Survey 2025 was conducted by Md. Abul Khayer Shajib and Mushfiqur Rahman Khan Majlish from the Research, Monitoring & Evaluation department of the Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC).

The survey was conducted under the overall guidance of Ejaj Ahmad and Tahsinah Ahmed. This collaborative effort and expertise have contributed significantly to the successful completion of this initiative.

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ABOUT BYLC

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC), established in 2009 as the country's first leadership institute, empowers youth from diverse backgrounds with leadership, employability, and entrepreneurship skills. Its flagship Building Bridges through Leadership Training (BBLT) program brings together students from English, Bengali, and Madrassa backgrounds to foster inclusive leadership and bridge societal divides.

To date, BYLC has trained over 65,000 young people, facilitated 3,000+ job placements, supported 73 youth-led ventures creating 1000+ jobs, and enabled 600 community projects reaching 250,000 beneficiaries. BYLC alumni now hold influential positions across Bangladesh's public, private, and civil sectors, including in politics, business, and social enterprises.

Through its holistic approach, combining leadership education, professional development, and entrepreneurship support, BYLC is nurturing a generation of ethical, competent change-makers committed to building a more prosperous, just, and sustainable Bangladesh.