



people's survey 2010

ANU Enterprise

key results

6

provinces (plus Honiara)

66

interviewers and facilitators

4939

questionnaires

The *Solomon Islands Government-RAMSI People's Survey 2010* was the fourth annual survey commissioned by RAMSI and the Solomon Islands Government and carried out by an independent consultant, ANU Enterprise.

This sheet summarises information collected from representative sample of 4939 Solomon Island men and women in Central Province, Guadalcanal, Honiara, Honiara settlements, Makira, Malaita, Rennell Bellona and Western Province.

Education

- Ten per cent of respondents had no primary school education, and 10% of all respondents had post-secondary education. The average number of years of education was 7.1 years.

Living conditions

- Fifty-seven per cent of walls and 58% of roofs of respondents' homes were constructed from traditional materials. Nine per cent of respondents in Honiara Settlements lived in homes constructed from temporary materials.
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- Fifty-three per cent of respondents used surface water from rivers, streams and springs as their main source of clean water (59% in rural areas and 34% in urban areas).

Access to services

- Fifty-three per cent of respondents used surface water from rivers, streams and springs as their main source of clean water (59% in rural areas and 34% in urban areas).
- Eighty-five per cent of respondents said they could reach a primary school within an hour (83% in 2009), and 14% in one or two hours. Respondents in Guadalcanal (27%) and Malaita (21%) were most likely to have long journeys.
- Seventy-two per cent of respondents had no access to a computer. Twelve per cent of urban respondents said they had access to a computer at their own house, and 5% of urban residents were able to access a computer at work.

Business activity and finance

- Thirty-nine per cent of respondents said they were engaged in some kind of business.
- Sixty-six per cent of respondents said their main source of money was selling at markets.
- Nineteen per cent said their family's financial situation was 'no problem', 55% said 'a little hard' and 27% said 'very hard'.
- Thirty-seven per cent of respondents said that the man or husband in the household makes spending decisions, 22% said the woman or wife makes spending decisions, and 36% said they were made jointly by men and women.

key results

Safety

- Thirty-one per cent of all respondents said their community was 'safe and peaceful' (31% in 2009), 54% said there were sometimes problems (52% in 2009) while 12% said there were many problems (14% in 2009).
- Sixty-one per cent of all respondents said they always feel safe in their community, 35% said they feel safe sometimes and 4% said they hardly ever feel safe.

Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF)

- Twelve per cent of respondents had asked the RSIPF for help in the preceding year, and 55% of those who had sought help were satisfied with the help received.
- Thirty-eight per cent of all respondents said the RSIPF treats people fairly and with respect, and a further 35% said 'sometimes'.
- Forty per cent of all respondents said they had trust and confidence in the RSIPF, 26% said 'sometimes' and 28% said 'no'.

Most significant change

- Fifty-six per cent of respondents said there had been no change in their lives in the past year and 23% mentioned personal factors, such as a births, deaths and marriages. Family problems were mentioned by 4% and new appliances/improved living standard and business improvements by 3%.
- Fifty-two per cent of respondents said there had been no change in their community, 13% mentioned a positive social or law and order development, 7% mentioned negative social developments and 6% mentioned improved facilities.

RAMSI

- Eighty-four per cent of respondents said they support RAMSI (88% in 2009), 10% said 'no' (5% in 2009) and 6% said 'don't know' (7% in 2009).
- Forty-nine per cent of respondents believed that law and order would break down if RAMSI left now, and 29% said *the Tensions* would return.
- Seventy-six per cent of respondents supported the presence of RAMSI military, 16% did not and 8% did not know. Support was highest in Guadalcanal (91%) and least in Honiara and Honiara Settlements (25% and 24%).

Leadership

- Eighty-four per cent of respondents said women make good leaders and 12% said they do not.
- Forty-one per cent of respondents said they trusted their Member of Parliament (MP), 13% said 'sometimes' and 32% said they did not trust their MP.
- Twelve per cent of respondents said their MP had visited their community 'more than once' in the past year, 16% said 'once', and 60% said the MP had not visited in the past year.
- Eighty-six per cent of respondents thought records of MP's expenditure should be made public. The main suggestions as to how this should be done were 'an annual report to the community' (62%) and 'visits and talks' (28%).
- Eighty-five per cent of respondents said there should be women in Parliament and 11% said 'no'.

- Eighty-five per cent of those who favoured women in Parliament supported reserved seats for women, while 10% did not.
- Forty-five per cent said they always trust national government, 10% said 'sometimes' and 28% said 'not much' or 'no'.

Accountability

- Sixty-six per cent of respondents had not heard of the Leadership Code Commission, 27% said 'heard of it but don't know what it does' and 8% gave one or more correct answers.
- Sixty per cent said they had never heard of the Auditor General's Office (AGO), 28% had heard of it but did not know what it does and 11% gave one or more correct answer.

Experience of the 2010 election

- Seventy-five per cent of respondents registered for the 2010 election where the live, 8% returned to their village of origin to vote, while 15% did not register.
- Eighty-seven per cent of voters believed their vote was secret and 9% did not.
- Eighty-three per cent of voters said they made up their own minds who to vote for and 18% said their family told them how to vote.

Resolution of disputes

- Five per cent of respondents had been involved in a dispute involving compensation or justice in the preceding year.
- Forty-three per cent of reported disputes occurred within a community, 35% occurred within a family, 15% between people from different communities and 3% between people from different provinces.
- Thirty-seven per cent of disputes were about land, 34% were violence or assault, and 23% were concerned with a civil matter and 7% with stealing.
- Of 76 reported case of assault, Young Men were most likely to be involved in physical assault (67%) and Young Women most likely to be involved in domestic violence (56%).
- The main suggestions as to how justice and dispute resolution could be improved were 'more respect for chiefs' (46%), '*kastom*' (26%) 'elders' (19%) and 'church' (19%). 'More community policing' was mentioned by 15% and 'more access to RSIPF' by 10%. Less than 10% mentioned courts and other modern sources of justice and dispute resolution.

The complete *People's Survey 2010* report is available to download from www.ramsi.org