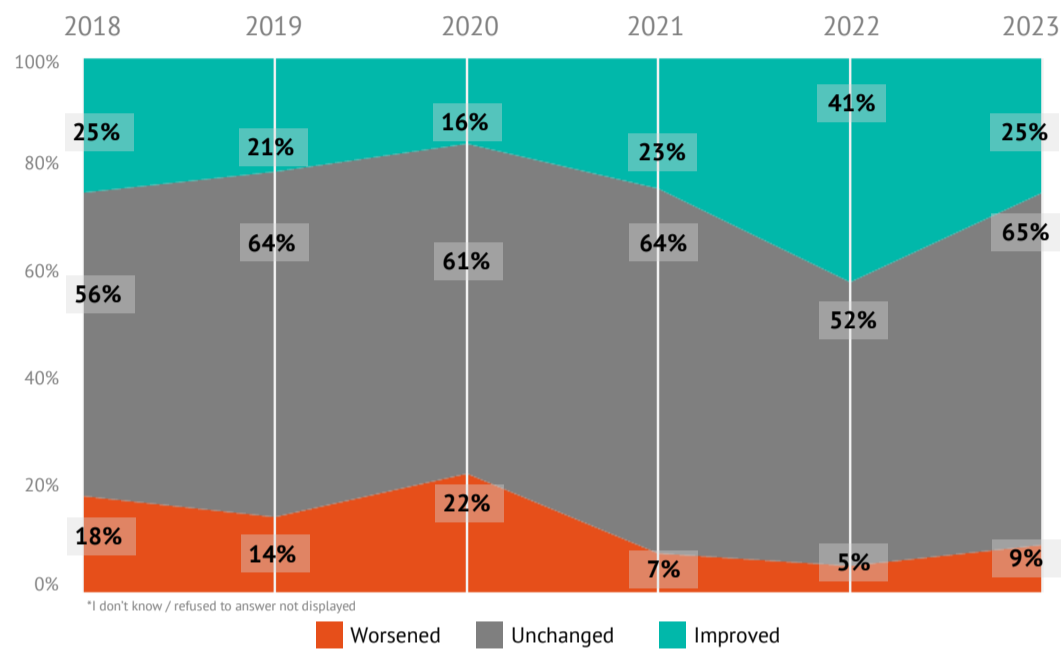


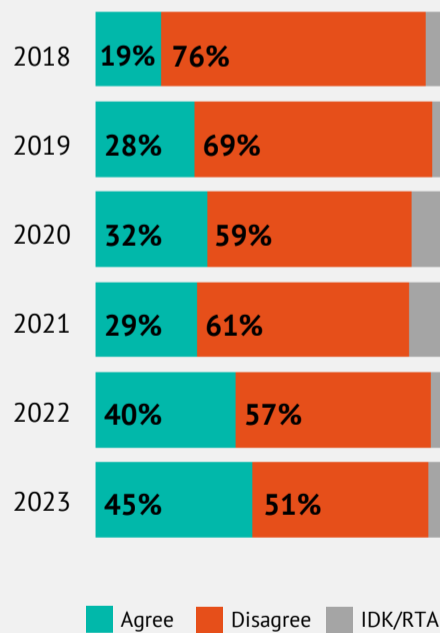
Human Security Survey

Iraq, Basra

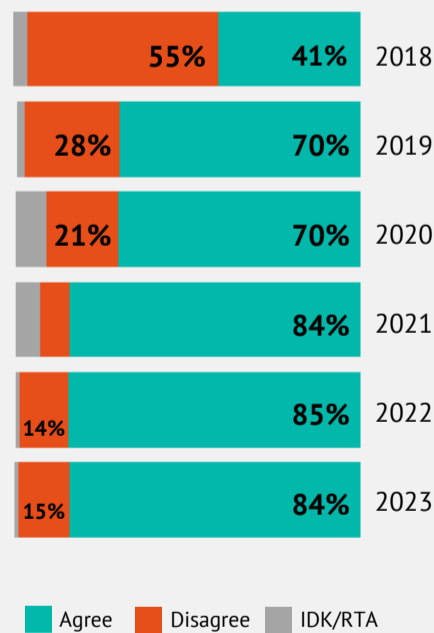
HOW IS YOUR PERSONAL SECURITY SITUATION COMPARED TO A YEAR AGO?



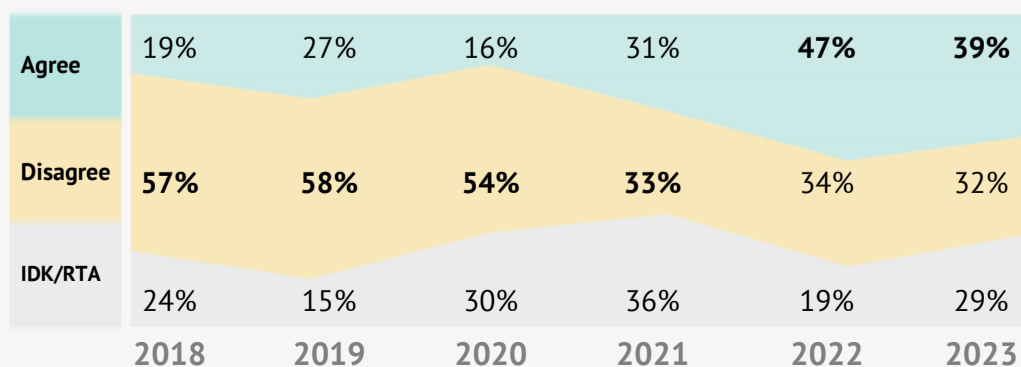
"I FEEL SAFE FROM VIOLENCE AND CRIME IN MY COMMUNITY"



"I FEEL SAFE FROM VIOLENCE AND CRIME IN MY HOUSEHOLD"



"THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IN BAGHDAD IS TAKING CLEAR STEPS TO REDUCE VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY"



TREND ANALYSIS

2018-2023, Basra



Security perception:

Unchanged-Improved



Factor most likely to cause conflict:

Poverty



Most needed improvement:

Disarmament

HSS Respondents:



Total number respondents (2018-2023):

4688



Gender distribution of respondents:

53% Male

47% Female



Age distribution of respondents:

42.5%

16-30 yrs

37.7%

31-45 yrs

18.6%

45-65 yrs

Executive Summary

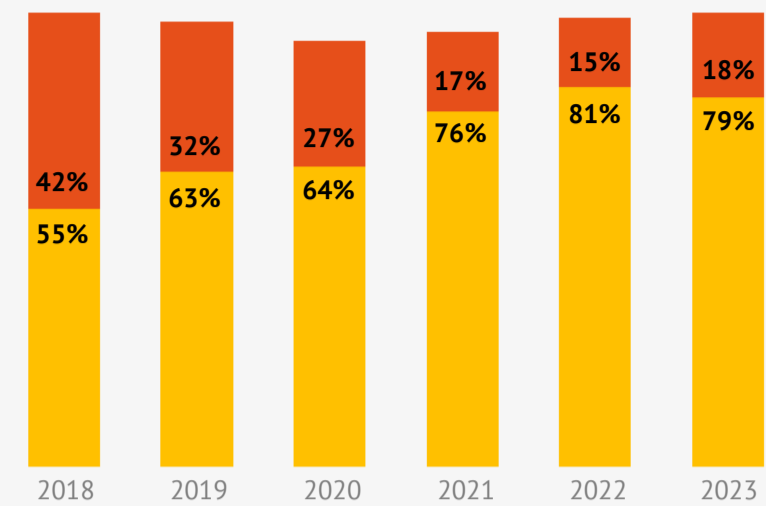
From the onset of data collection in **2018**, the general security perceptions of local communities across the districts of Basra have improved, despite deteriorated security levels reported between **2019-2020**. Generally, the trend in security perceptions post **2020** reflects a neutral-positive shift that may suggest a general improvement in local conditions, this is further supported by a higher percentage of respondents reporting 'feeling safe from violence and crime' in both their community and household year-by-year.

The performance of major domestic security actors (Iraqi armed forces, police, Hashd al-Shaabi, armed political parties) in providing security has seen a relatively similar trajectory in Basra between **2019 and 2023**. Most actors are reported to be effective in the provision of security, however armed political parties show an overall lower baseline of effectiveness, with respondents reporting further declines every year.

In the pursuit of sustainable peace in Basra, respondents have consistently indicated that (civilian) disarmament and security sector reform are vital developments. Fostering improvements in the quality of, or access to, justice is additionally stressed as a priority. Conversely, despite economic development growing less important as a pathway to peace since surveying began in **2018** [40% -> 10%], poverty (and the lack of livelihoods) are the main reported factor to potentially cause further violence in Basra. This perception has been relatively consistent over the years, with the exception of **2022** where respondents elected two alternative factors: competition over resources (oil, land, water, etc.), and fighting/conflict between different tribes.

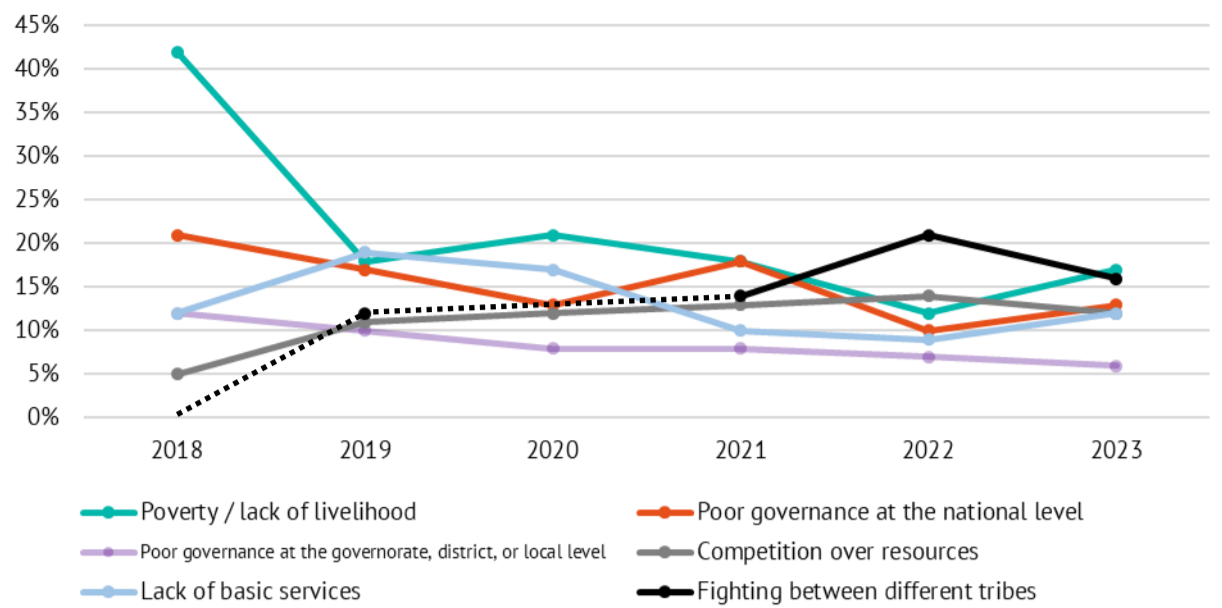
(A) DISARMAMENT OF CIVILIANS IN THIS GOVERNORATE IS NEEDED FOR SECURITY

(B) CIVILIANS NEED ARMS TO PROVIDE THEIR OWN SECURITY IN THIS GOVERNORATE

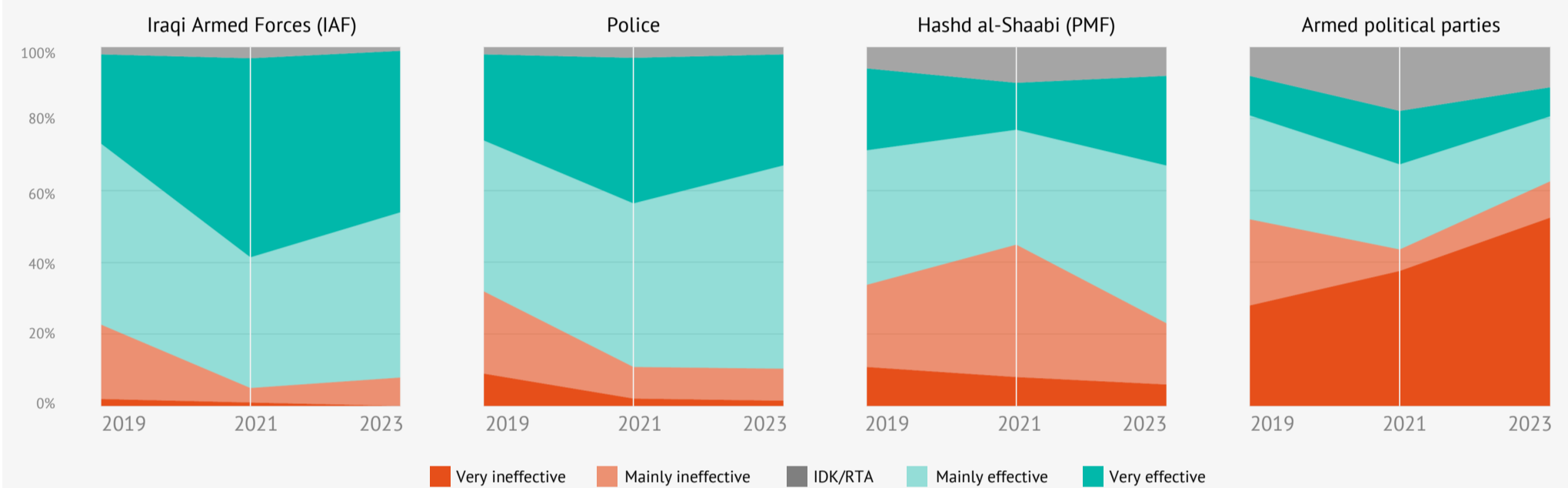


*I don't know / refused to answer not displayed

WHAT FACTORS ARE MOST LIKELY TO CAUSE CONFLICT IN THE NEXT YEAR?



HOW ARE THESE SECURITY ACTORS PERFORMING IN YOUR AREA? (IF PRESENT)

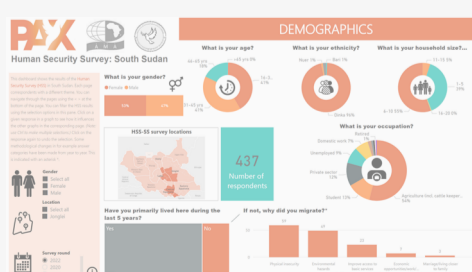


The Human Security Survey

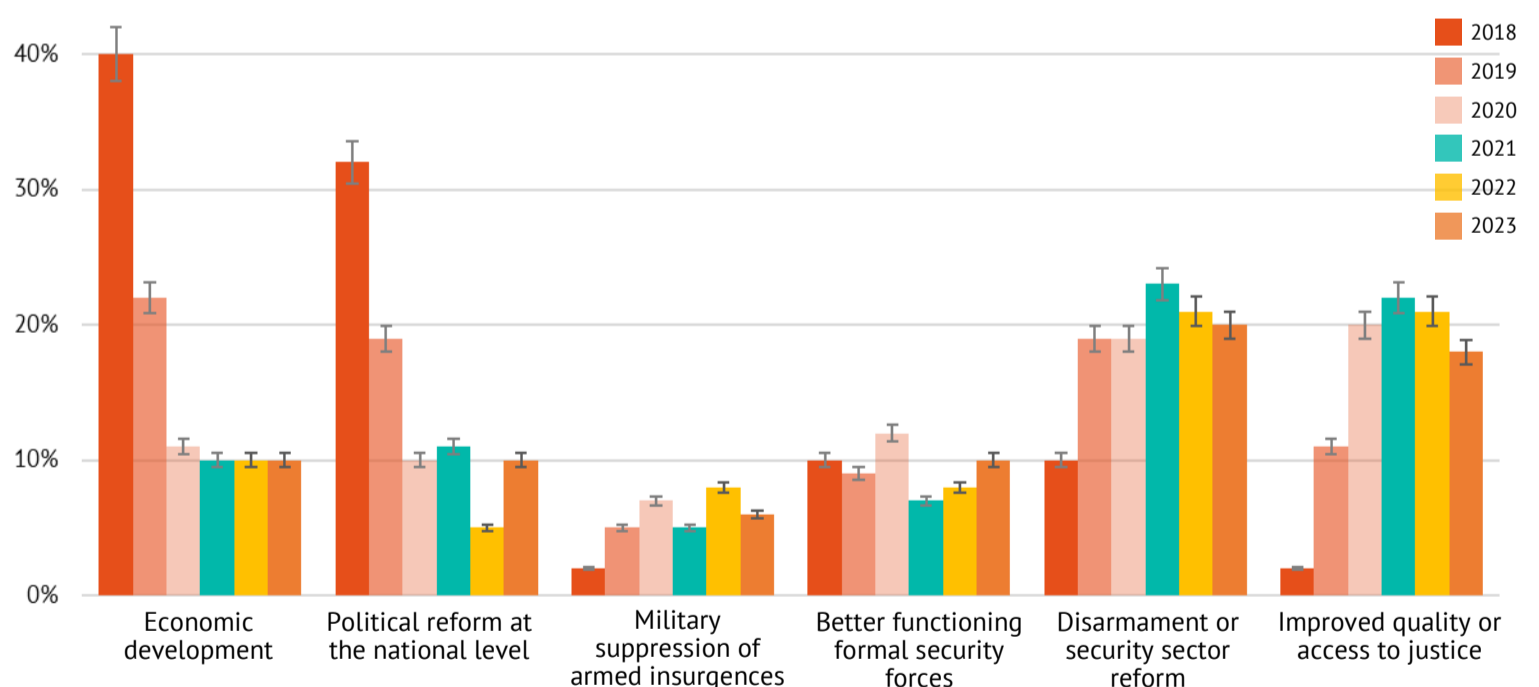
(HSS) is a methodology developed by PAX to collect data and facilitate dialogue about civilians' experiences in conflict situations.

Read more about PAX or the HSS in Iraq on protectionofcivilians.org or contact Saba Azeem (azeem@paxforpeace.nl).

Find more HSS data on our interactive dashboards of [Iraq](#) and [South Sudan](#).



WHAT CHANGES ARE NEEDED TO BRING LASTING PEACE TO IRAQ?



HUMAN SECURITY SURVEY METHODOLOGY

This trend analysis presents data collected in Basra over **6 survey rounds** and across **7 districts (Al-Basra, Abu Al-Khaseeb, Al-Zubair, Al-Qurna, Al-Faw, Shaat Al-Arab, Al-Madaina)**. Surveys took place in March 2018, March 2019, April 2020, April 2021, November 2022, and September 2023. The enumerators collected **4,688** surveys in Basra since 2018.

Questions included in this publication remained (more or less) the same in the reported years. Please find more details on methodology and demographics on the [Basra 2018-2023 publication page](#).

