

# "Architecture in Yemen"

(Results Summary)

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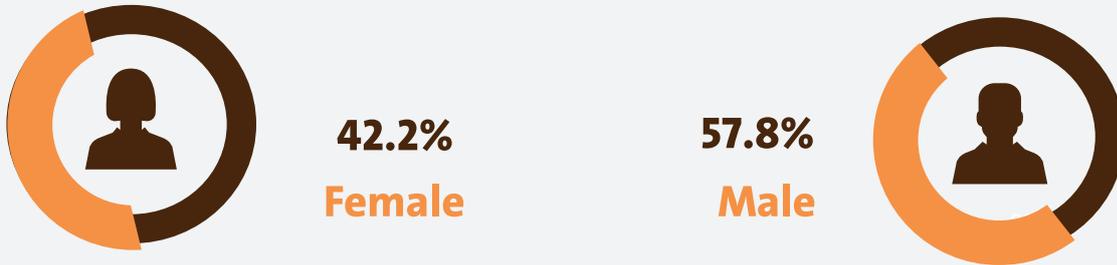


Yemen's architectural heritage, renowned for its beauty and distinct character, has long captivated the world. The unique style of Yemeni architecture seamlessly blends aesthetics and functionality, showcasing intricate engineering and elaborate designs. From traditional houses in ancient cities to grand palaces, opulent mosques, and formidable fortresses, the diverse range of Yemeni buildings reflects the rich cultural and historical tapestry of the nation, epitomizing the evolution of Yemeni society and civilization through the ages.

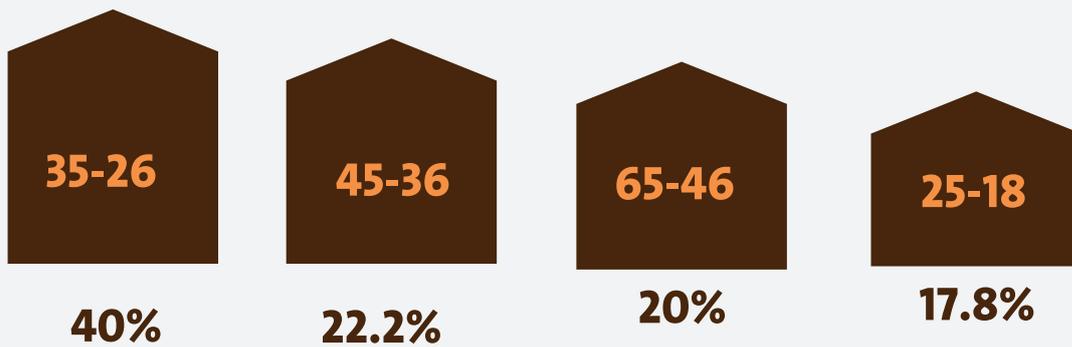
However, the ongoing conflict in Yemen has inflicted severe damage upon this invaluable architectural legacy. Ancient historical and architectural structures have been ravaged and reduced to ruins, resulting in the irreparable loss and distortion of numerous significant landmarks. Neglect and insufficient maintenance further exacerbate the plight of heritage buildings, as the Yemeni people grapple with challenging living conditions, limited funding and resources, and economic instability. These factors make it exceedingly difficult to provide the necessary upkeep and preserve the buildings' splendor and durability.

Moreover, Yemen's architectural heritage faces the additional challenge of climate change. Extreme weather events, including floods and storms, have wreaked havoc on the infrastructure of heritage cities, while heavy rains and strong winds have gradually eroded and damaged historical buildings over time. In light of these pressing concerns, Yemen Information Center's Information and Opinion Survey Unit conducted a comprehensive survey to gauge the perspectives of a representative sample of Yemeni society on “the state of Yemeni architecture and the impact of the conflict upon it”.

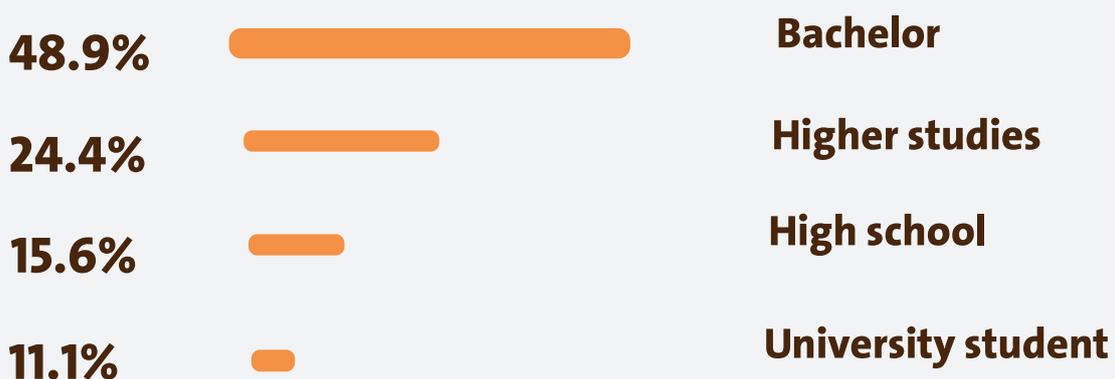
The survey encompassed a diverse sample of over 200 individuals, with a majority of 57.8% being males and 42.2% being females.



Participants spanned across various age groups, with 40% falling between 26-35 years old, 22.2% between 36-45 years old, 20% between 46-65 years old, and 17.8% between 18-25 years old.



Regarding educational attainment, the majority of participants held a bachelor's degree, accounting for 48.9% of the sample. Those with graduate degrees constituted 24.4% of the participants, while 15.6% possessed a high school certificate. University students comprised only 11.1% of the respondents.



The survey encompassed 10 Yemeni governorates, representing a geographical scope that covered approximately half of 21 governorates. The distribution was as follows: Sana'a accounted for 33.3%, Hadhramout for 17.9%, Aden for 11.1%, Al-Hodeidah and Taiz each represented 6.7%, Abyan and Dhamar each accounted for 4.4%, while Hajjah and Imran individually constituted only 2.2% of the surveyed population.



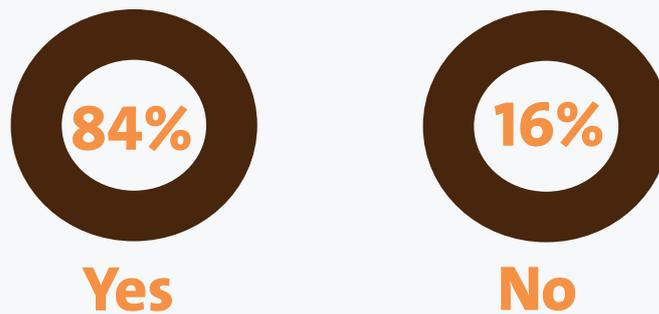
## Governorate

<b>Sana'a</b> <b>33.3%</b>	●	<b>Hadhramout</b> <b>17.9%</b>	●	<b>Aden</b> <b>11.1%</b>	●	<b>Ibb</b> <b>11.1%</b>	●	<b>Taiz</b> <b>6.7%</b>
<b>Al Hodeidah</b> <b>6.7%</b>	●	<b>Abyan</b> <b>4.4%</b>	●	<b>Dhamar</b> <b>4.4%</b>	●	<b>Hajjah</b> <b>2.2%</b>	●	<b>Amran</b> <b>2.2%</b>

## Main Results

First: 84.4% believe preserving traditional Yemeni architecture is vital for Yemen's cultural heritage, while 15.6% disagree.

### Is preserving the traditional Yemeni architectural style important for safeguarding Yemen's cultural heritage?



When asked why it is important, 97.8% said it reflects Yemen's historical and cultural identity, while 2.2% disagreed.

### Do you believe that Yemeni architecture reflects the identity and heritage of the Yemeni people?



Regarding the challenges that hinder the preservation of traditional architectural features, survey respondents provided the following insights: s (multiple-choice question, each response was analyzed as a separate sample, with a percentage estimated at 100%):

- 
- **82%**  
**Dominance of modern architectural style**
  - **51%**  
**Lack of popular interest in this art**
  - **20%**  
**Lack of skilled workforce**
  - **2.2%**  
**Neglecting the significance of traditional architecture preservation.**

According to the survey, 73.3% of participants believe that the armed conflict in Yemen significantly impacts traditional Yemeni architecture. Historical cities, known for their traditional architectural style, have suffered greatly during the conflict, experiencing direct destruction, neglect, and lack of restoration. These factors, combined with the effects of climate change, have led to the collapse of some damaged buildings. In contrast, 13.4% of respondents stated that the conflict has no significant impact on traditional cities and buildings, while another 13.3% claimed there is no impact at all on structures reflecting traditional Yemeni architecture.

## How much does the conflict impact Yemeni architectural art?

**73.3%** Yes, to a great extent

**13.4%** Yes, to some extent

**13.3%** No, not at all

In conclusion, survey participants unanimously agree that historical cities and buildings, representing the rich heritage of traditional Yemeni architecture, have suffered extensive destruction and damage in recent years. The armed conflict, lack of maintenance, and the detrimental effects of climate change pose significant threats to Yemeni architecture and its cultural legacy. The survey participants emphasize the urgent need for joint attention and efforts from the Yemeni government and the international community to protect, restore, and revive this invaluable heritage. These actions are crucial for preserving Yemen's identity and ancient history.