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# WE ARE LOOKING FOR HOPE II

Report on the Post-Earthquake Needs of Young People in  
Adıyaman



December, 2025

## **SOLIDARITY PEOPLE ASSOCIATION**

A SOLIDARITY PROJECT GROWING FROM THE LOCAL LEVEL

WE ARE LOOKING FOR HOPE 2 - REPORT ON THE NEEDS ANALYSIS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN ADIYAMAN AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE.

Adıyaman, Türkiye  
December 2025

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The earthquakes centered in Kahramanmaraş on February 6, 2023, caused severe destruction in 11 provinces across Turkey, particularly in Adıyaman; creating profound and multifaceted problems in fundamental areas such as housing, education, health, and employment. Young people, one of the groups most affected by this process, faced high levels of vulnerability both physically and psychosocially; and at the same time, emerged as a critical social actor in the city's reconstruction, recovery, and social integration processes.

This research aims to reveal, from a holistic perspective, the changing needs of young people living in Adıyaman in the post-earthquake period, the structural obstacles they face, and their expectations for the future. Supported by quantitative and qualitative data, the study aims to make visible the well-being of young people, their levels of participation in social and economic life, their access to public services, and their relationship with decision-making processes.

This research was designed using a mixed-methods approach to analyze the experiences of young people living in Adıyaman in a multidimensional way. Quantitative data obtained through face-to-face surveys (1002 young people) revealed the general trends and common needs of young people; while focus group interviews (50 young people) and in-depth qualitative findings made it possible to understand the experiences, perceptions, and daily practices behind these trends. The aim is for the findings to contribute to strengthening policies and programs for young people specifically in Adıyaman; and to provide a basis for developing evidence-based, applicable, and inclusive recommendations for decision-makers and implementing institutions.

The notable findings obtained within the scope of the research are as follows:

### **Experiences Related to Education**

**Economic deprivation is the primary determinant of dropout from education.** More than half of the young people who dropped out of school stated that they could not continue their education due to financial difficulties. Financial difficulties were a more significant factor among young women (53%), while for men, a secondary but frequently cited reason was loss of motivation and "not liking school". **Social pressure and family influence are secondary but influential factors in dropping out of education.**

**The lack of a suitable physical environment for studying is a common problem.** 29% of young students stated that they do not have a suitable study environment.

**Three-quarters of young people preparing for university entrance exams face various challenges.** The interviews indicate that the primary challenges are a lack of physical workspace and economic inadequacy.

### **Employment and Labor Force Participation**

**The rate of registered (secure) employment is low, and even more limited for women.** Of the 253 young people who reported working, only 59% are in formal employment. The vast majority of those in formal employment are men (62%), while the share of women (39%) is significantly lower.

**Job search processes rely heavily on informal relationships.** 70% of young people found their jobs through their network, family, or friends. This shows that institutional employment mechanisms have a limited impact. **The vast majority of young people do not believe they can find a suitable job in Adiyaman.** Only 29% of young people believe they can find a suitable job in the city. This negative perception is more common among young women.

**There is a significant gender inequality in employment.** 58% of working young people are male, and 39% are female. Female participation in the workforce is lower than that of men.

**Women are by far the majority among young people who are neither in education nor employment (NEET).** There are seven young women for every three men in this group.

#### **Household Economics and Financial Vulnerability**

**Young people's perceptions of the economic situation of their households are predominantly at the moderate level.** While 19% of young people rated their family's economic situation as good/very good, 26% rated it as bad/very bad.

**Households' livelihoods largely depend on market-based income models.** 39% of families depend on salaried employment, 32% on self-employment or trade, and 16% on income from agriculture and livestock farming.

**There is a strong correlation between economic status and family relationships.** Two-thirds of young people who rate their economic situation as the lowest level state that they experience financially-related tensions within their families.

#### **Opportunities and Obstacles to Socialization**

**Young people in Adiyaman have limited opportunities to socialize.** Sixty percent of young people stated that they do not have the opportunity to socialize. **Socialization abilities differ according to gender.** While 44% of men say they are able to socialize, this figure drops to 37% for young women.

**The most fundamental obstacle to socialization is lack of space.** 54% of young people stated that there are insufficient spaces for socializing in Adiyaman. **Spatial constraints are mentioned more frequently by women.** The percentage of people who stated that they have limited opportunities to socialize is 58% for women and 47% for men.

**Financial constraints are the second major obstacle to socialization.** Fifteen percent of participants stated that they were unable to participate in social activities due to economic



reasons. **Financial constraints are slightly more pronounced in men.** The percentage of those who cite economic reasons as an obstacle to socialization is 17% for men and 13% for women.

### **Hobbies and Leisure Practices**

**The hobbies most preferred by young people consist of activities that are compatible with daily life and easily accessible.** Listening to music (61.3%), walking and strolling (54.2%), and spending time with friends (53.4%) are the most common preferences. Playing games was also mentioned at a high rate (49.8%). **Creative and productive hobbies are preferred by a more limited segment of the population.** Painting (21.2%), playing a musical instrument (20.6%), dancing (18.3%), writing (16.4%), and gardening and animal husbandry (16.3%) were reported at lower rates.

**Gender-based differences are observed in regular leisure activities.** While 28% of women stated that they read books regularly, this figure was 17% for men. In contrast, the rate of regular exercise was 22% for men and 9% for women.

**Gender differences are also noticeable in activities that are not performed at all.** The percentage of people who do not exercise is 23% for women and 11% for men. The percentage of people who do not read books is 16% for men and 6% for women. The percentage of people who never go to the cinema is 46% for men and 37% for women.

**Harmful habits are at a limited level among young people.** 76% of young people stated that they never consume alcohol, 17% said they smoke regularly, and 61% said they never smoke.

### **Social and Cultural Spaces and Access**

**The number of spaces where young people can pursue their hobbies and leisure activities is limited.** Only 43% of young people stated that such places exist in the city. **Access to existing facilities is a widespread difficulty.** 63% of young people stated that they do not have access to existing spaces. While 67% of women indicated that they do not have access to spaces suitable for their hobbies and leisure activities, this rate was 57% for men.

**Participation in youth centers is limited.** The percentage of people attending youth centers is 35%, and the rates are very similar across genders. **The use of sports centers is low and differs by gender.** 80% of young people stated that they do not go to sports centers. Usage rates are 28% for men and 15% for women.

**Young people's spatial expectations are primarily focused on nature, sports, and socialization.** The most frequently cited requests were for hiking, cycling, and camping clubs (44.1%), youth and sports centers (41.5%), and music workshops and rehearsal studios (41.4%).

### **Young People's Life Satisfaction and Emotional State**

**A quarter of young people rate their happiness, life satisfaction, and overall psychological well-being negatively.** In all three indicators, the combined total of "very bad" and "bad"

responses ranged between 25–30%. There was no significant gender difference in the evaluations.

**The thing that makes young people happiest is being healthy.**Thirty percent of participants stated that being healthy was the most important source of happiness.**Family ties and economic security are other key factors in happiness.**"Being attached to family" ranks second with 19%, while "money/wealth" is third with 15%. Being attached to family is a greater source of happiness among women (21%) compared to men (15%).

**Friendship relationships are a more significant source of happiness for men.**While 12% of men cited friendships/social relationships as their greatest source of happiness, this figure dropped to 5% for women.

**A significant number of young people are still feeling the psychological and physical effects of the February 6th earthquakes.**Approximately 45% of young people state that they still feel the psychological and physical effects of the February 6th earthquakes. This rate is 48% for women and 39% for men. In contrast, the response "No, I don't feel it" is higher among men (15%) compared to women (9%).

### **Social Relationships and Family Ties**

**The vast majority of young people describe themselves as "social."**Approximately 74% of men and 73% of women described themselves as social people.**Young people generally have large social circles.**The vast majority of young people, both men and women, reported having a social circle of 10 or more people.

**The vast majority of young people have a functioning relationship with their families.**40% of young people stated that they did not experience any problems with their families, while 43% said that although there were occasional conflicts, the overall relationship was good.**Perceptions of family relationships differ somewhat according to gender.**While 44% of men stated they did not experience problems in their relationship with their family, this figure was 38% for women. Conversely, the percentage of those who said, "we sometimes clash, but generally we are fine," was higher among women (47%) compared to men (36%).

**Family stands out as both a supportive and challenging relationship environment for young people.**Many young people describe family as a fundamental source of security and solidarity, noting that family ties have become even more important, especially in the post-earthquake period.**The shrinking of social circles makes family relationships more dependent.**The limitation of social spaces and opportunities for independent movement transforms young people's relationships with their families into a structure that is both protective and stressful.

### **Need for and Access to Psychosocial Support Services**

**Young people's channels for sharing emotions differ according to gender.**When faced with a problem, 26% of young people first share it with their friends, and 26% share it with their

mothers. 26% of young people stated that they don't share it with anyone. For women, the top three channels are mother (30%), friends (26%), and not sharing (22%). For men, the top three channels are not sharing (31%), friends (27%), and mother (20%).

**The need for psychological support is widespread.** 42% of young people stated that they needed psychological support, while 58% said they did not feel such a need. **The need for psychological support is expressed more highly by women.** 48% of women stated that they needed support, while this figure was 33% for men.

**Psychological distress is being visibly expressed in the post-earthquake period.** Young people report experiencing anxiety, uncertainty, low motivation, sleep problems, and insecurity about the future; some indicate that they are experiencing this emotional burden but find it difficult to share it with those close to them.

**The rate of people seeking help from a psychologist is low.** Only 15% of young people stated that they had visited a psychologist. This rate was 17% for women and 12% for men. Of the young people who indicated that they needed psychological support, only 32% had actually visited a psychologist. **The reasons for not seeking help from a psychologist are multifaceted.** Difficulty scheduling appointments and long waiting times, limited availability of free/low-cost services, fear of stigma (especially among men), and the perception that existing services do not offer young people a suitable/comfortable space for expression are among the prominent reasons.

### **Life Satisfaction and Expectations in Adiyaman**

**Satisfaction levels with living in Adiyaman are low, and indecision is high.** 38% of young people stated that they were not satisfied with living in Adiyaman. The percentage of those expressing satisfaction was limited to 17%, while the rate of satisfaction was 21% for men and 15% for women.

**Young people tend to leave Adiyaman.** It is observed that 72% of young people tend to leave the city (32% say "I will move immediately," while 40% say "I would like to move over time"). While 68% of men stated that they wanted to leave Adiyaman, this rate was 75% for women.

**In Adiyaman, opportunities for participation in social, cultural, and economic life are considered insufficient.** Only 7% of young people say there are enough opportunities, while the percentage of those who think there are not enough opportunities is 51% for men and 56% for women.

**Young people's top priorities for a more livable city are focused on social life and employment opportunities.** Increasing social and cultural spaces specifically for young people (68%) and improving employment opportunities for young people (67%) were cited as the most frequently mentioned issues.

### **Participation in Reconstruction Processes**

**Young people have a low level of knowledge about the reconstruction process.** Only 25% of respondents stated they were knowledgeable about the reconstruction process. This figure dropped to 22% for women, compared to 32% for men. **Young people's participation in decision-making mechanisms during the reconstruction process is extremely limited.** While only 14% of young people stated that they were able to express their views during this process, 90% of women and 81% of men said they were unable to participate.

**The most fundamental expectation for the participation of young people in the reconstruction process is the creation of feedback mechanisms.** 34.9% of participants prioritize the establishment of systems that take into account and reflect the views of young people. This expectation is higher among women (39.7%) compared to men (27.8%).

### **Social Participation Practices**

**Youth membership in civil society organizations is low.** Only 21% of participants stated that they were members of any association or foundation, with this figure rising to 27% for men and just 17% for women.

**Although organized membership is limited, participation in volunteering and social responsibility activities is more common.** 44% of young people stated that they participated in a social responsibility project or volunteer activity outside of school or work. While 48% of men said they participated in volunteer or social responsibility work, this rate was 38% for women.

**A significant number of young people experience difficulties accessing public services.** 22% of young people say they have not experienced any difficulties.

### **Gender Equality, Inclusion, and Access**

**Young people believe there is no equality of opportunity between women and men.** 56% of participants stated that women and men do not have the same opportunities, while only 15% believed that there were equal opportunities. **The perception of inequality of opportunity is higher among women.** The percentage of people who believe there is equal opportunity is 23% for men and 10% for women.

**The perception that women and men can participate equally in local governments, NGOs, and decision-making mechanisms is weak.** Approximately 18% of people believe that equal participation has been ensured. **The perception of unequal participation is higher among women.** Those who said "there is equal participation" were 28% of men and 12% of women.

**Safety concerns are common in public spaces at night.** The combined responses of "I am very anxious/scared" and "I am scared" is 33%. The combined responses of "I am not scared/not scared at all" is 27%. The percentage of those who stated that they are afraid at night is 36% for women and 28% for men.

**It is believed that young people of immigrant or diverse ethnic backgrounds do not have equal access to education and employment opportunities.** 42% of participants stated that there

was no equal access, while 26% said there was partial access. Only 19% believed there was equal access.

**The experience of exclusion is common.** When asked, "Have you ever felt excluded at social events or in public spaces?", 43% answered "yes," 30% answered "partially," 20% answered "no," and 7% said "I'm not sure."

**There is a strong perception that there are not enough accessible spaces for people with disabilities.** 54% of participants stated that accessible areas were insufficient, while 29% said they were partially sufficient. Only 4% considered them sufficient. Of 31 young people with disabilities, only 1 responded that they were sufficient.

These findings, ranging from education and employment to economic conditions, psychosocial well-being, access to social spaces, and social participation, indicate that the current situation should not be merely identified; it points to the need for a concrete roadmap that must also be implemented at the policy and practice levels. Accordingly, the following recommendations aim to develop intervention areas that are sensitive to the needs of young people, feasible, and adapted to the local context, based on the priority problem areas indicated by the findings.

#### **Short-Term Priority Recommendations (0–12 months, focused on rapid impact and improvement)**

- For young people at risk of dropping out of education due to economic deprivations **scholarships, transportation, meals, and educational materials support** increased in a targeted manner.
- For students living in crowded households and container camps **neighborhood-scale study areas and quiet workspaces** rapid creation.
- For young women in the NEET group **emergency passage supports** (skills development, consulting, guidance) implementation.
- For young people **accessible, free or low-cost psychological support services** Widespread adoption; implementation of short-term and online support models to reduce waiting times.
- For young people to use free of charge or at low costs **safe social and cultural spaces** (Youth areas, multipurpose halls, cultural centers) need to be rapidly strengthened.
- To reduce security concerns felt in public spaces, especially at night. **lighting, transportation and visible safety measures** Improvements should primarily be made in areas heavily used by women.
- Regarding reconstruction and local decision-making processes **transparent information** and where young people can express their views **accessible feedback channels** creation.
- To understand the problems that young people with disabilities face in accessing public spaces and services. **rapid needs assessments** and the implementation of urgent accessibility arrangements.

#### **Medium-Term Priority Strategic Recommendations (1–3 years, focused on structural transformation and sustainability)**

- Supporting the continuity of education and employment for young people, especially **a local youth employment and livelihood strategy that centers young women** development.
- To increase the participation of young women in the workforce. **reducing the burden of maintenance, providing safe transportation and flexible working models.** Implementation of structural reforms including.
- To prevent dropout from education **early warning and monitoring mechanisms** (to be established through school-family-social services collaboration).
- Addressing psychosocial support, employment, and vocational guidance together. **holistic youth support models** development.
- Focusing on the social life needs of young people **youth-focused spatial planning and urban design strategy** creation.
- In social, cultural and sporting fields **sustainable policies and practices that promote gender equality** institutionalization.
- This will ensure the regular and meaningful participation of young people in local decision-making processes. **institutional youth participation mechanisms** Establishment of youth councils and advisory boards.
- Making accessibility in public services a fundamental principle, and including individuals with disabilities. **inclusive urban design and service standards** development.
- Aimed at strengthening the connection between young people and the city, **a long-term local youth strategy focused on citizenship, access to rights and participation** implementation.

## ABOUT THE SOLIDARITY PEOPLE ASSOCIATION

**People of Solidarity** Following the earthquakes of February 6, 2023, on the second day after the earthquake... **On February 7, 2023, in Adiyaman** led by young people, in order to respond to urgent needs on the ground. **an organic solidarity network** They have come together as a group. This initiative aims to make the experiences gained in the field sustainable under an institutional structure. **On May 17, 2023, it was officially established as a non-governmental organization under the name "Solidarity People Association".** It started its activities as follows.

The association supports its practical experience gained in the field after disasters with the training it receives, the research it develops, and application-oriented projects. **to carry out impact-oriented work for the benefit of society** It aims to achieve this. In its studies, especially **youth prioritized** People of Solidarity **voluntarily** him the **professional teams** It adopts a participatory and inclusive approach that is sensitive to local needs. A significant portion of the association's members are directly involved. **from young people living in the earthquake zone** This ensures that the activities carried out are based on local realities and that quick responses can be produced to the needs on the ground.

The Solidarity People community comprises individuals with diverse areas of expertise, professional backgrounds, and cultural experiences; **solidarity, volunteerism and collaborative production** It has been shaped on the basis of these principles. This diversity allows the association to develop multifaceted and holistic solutions in both its field applications and its policy and advocacy work.

People of Solidarity, their work **three main thematic focuses** It continues around this: **Youth Studies, Disaster Studies with Cultural and Economic Development Studies** In addition to these thematic areas; **gender equality, equal opportunity, psychosocial support, rights and fundamental freedoms** It organizes training programs on these topics and conducts advocacy activities in these areas.

The association aims to promote a sense of solidarity throughout society and make it a lasting value; primarily **disadvantaged groups** It works to ensure that all segments of society and living beings have access to necessary resources when needed. This approach includes not only short-term aid activities, but also... **long-term, sustainable solutions that strengthen local capacity** It is based on...

People of Solidarity adopts the approach that young people are not a homogeneous group; their needs differ according to age, gender, socioeconomic status, and living conditions. In line with this, their work with young people... **multifaceted research, analysis, and participatory methods** He believes that it is necessary; for young people to both **active citizenship awareness** him the **their participation in societal decision-making processes** It aims to increase.

In the context of disasters, Solidarity People share their experiences, conduct awareness-raising activities regarding what to do in potential disaster situations, and provide post-disaster

support. **Needs assessment and rapid and effective intervention mechanisms** It considers development among its core priorities. In this context, the knowledge and experience gained are shared with the public and relevant stakeholders through organized trainings and published reports.

Especially **to increase the participation of women and young people in economic life** People of Solidarity, who aim to... **sustainable development models in rural areas** It conducts research and develops feasible solutions that are appropriate to local conditions. These groups face... **human rights violations and fundamental rights and freedoms** By conducting awareness campaigns on this issue, the association aims to make a holistic contribution to social development. In all its activities... **sustainability, local ownership and long-term impact** It is based on these principles.

## Projects

**Village Schools Project**, based in the Netherlands *Build a Future for Child* in cooperation with the rural areas of Adıyaman **In 38 village schools** implemented; within the scope of the project **780 educational support kits** It was distributed to the students. This was prepared based on field observations and interviews conducted during the distribution process. *"Children's Access to Education in Village Schools – Adıyaman Report"* This has been shared with civil society organizations across Türkiye, creating a collective awareness of the needs in the field of education.

**Child and Women Support Center Project**, *Hope Worldwide ve Turuş Village Solidarity and Development Association* This project was realized through collaboration; an old stone building in Turuş Village was restored and transformed into a safe and multi-purpose support center for children and women.

**Solidarity Project for Education**, *BCause Foundation* It was carried out with the support of; a needs analysis was conducted in order to systematically identify the needs of village schools, and **Adıyaman School Status and Needs System (ODIS)** An online platform called [Platform Name] was established. The project aimed to strengthen access to quality education and create a sustainable solidarity network that connects donors directly with school needs.

**Youth Needs Survey** Within this scope, a comprehensive field research was conducted to reveal the needs, experiences, and expectations of young people living in Adıyaman after the earthquake; the findings *"Report on the Needs of Adıyaman Youth"* and made accessible to the public and stakeholders.

**Solidarity Through Art Project** The project is designed to support the well-being of young people in Adıyaman through culture and arts-based activities. As part of the project, the association's headquarters has been adapted to accommodate culture and arts events. **20**



**workshops** And film screenings based on human rights themes were held. In addition "*Guide to Cultural and Artistic Activities for Young People in the Earthquake Zone*" It has been prepared.

**A Solidarity Project Growing from the Local Level** This project, supported by the European Union, aims to produce an expanded version of the research conducted on young people in Adiyaman; to present the results to the public through a workshop focusing on youth rights and issues; and to map the services provided to young people in the earthquake zone.

**Adiyaman Youth and Civil Society Empowerment Project** It aims to create a sustainable meeting and capacity-building space for young people and civil society actors. Within this framework, the Solidarity People Association office is a **youth center** It is being restructured and serves as a shared space for NGOs, activists, artists, and educators in Adiyaman.

**Re-Project** to establish implementing communities in Adiyaman; these communities **rights-based approach, child safety ve psychosocial support through art** It aims to strengthen the knowledge and skills of children and young people in their respective fields, and to promote locally and regularly accessible art-focused activities.

## Published Reports

- [Adiyaman Village Schools Report](#)
- [School Status and Needs System](#)
- [We are searching for a glimmer of hope.](#)

## ENTRANCE

In current international literature, disasters are considered not merely as the emergence of natural or human-induced hazards, but as processes resulting from the interaction of these hazards with social, economic, and governance vulnerabilities. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) defines a disaster as a situation that severely disrupts the functioning of a society and leads to losses, resulting from a combination of exposure to a hazardous event, existing vulnerabilities, and insufficient coping capacity. This approach indicates that disaster risk is largely shaped by societal conditions.

The earthquakes centered in Kahramanmaraş on February 6, 2023, caused widespread physical destruction in southern Turkey, particularly in Adıyaman; furthermore, they created lasting effects in the areas of housing, education, health, employment, and social life. While the effects of the earthquake encompassed all segments of society, they were felt more intensely by groups that were socioeconomically more vulnerable before the disaster. Among these groups, young people stand out as a significant population group that simultaneously experienced the multifaceted consequences of the disaster.

Adolescence is a critical stage of life, marked by the transition from education to employment, and the shaping of social relationships and senses of belonging. Disasters can disrupt these transitional processes, negatively impacting young people's opportunities to participate in life. Losses in educational processes limit employment opportunities for young people in the long term; and post-disaster economic downturns increase unemployment and precarious work among young people.

However, young people are not only considered a group that needs support in post-disaster recovery and reconstruction processes, but also an important social actor that can contribute to the process. International policy documents emphasize that the participation of young people in disaster risk reduction and recovery processes is important for strengthening social resilience.

In this context, it is important to systematically and evidence-basedly identify the needs, difficulties, and expectations of young people living in Adıyaman after the earthquake. This is being carried out by the Solidarity People Association. *We Are Looking for Hope 2* This research aims to analyze the current situation of young people from a holistic perspective; and to create a guiding information base for policymakers, implementing institutions, and civil society actors through the findings obtained. The research findings are intended to contribute to the development of social support mechanisms and advocacy efforts for young people specifically in Adıyaman.

## **CHAPTER I ABOUT THE RESEARCH**

### **1. PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH**

This research aims to gain a closer understanding of the daily life experiences, challenges, needs, and expectations of young people living in Adiyaman during the reconstruction process on the 2nd anniversary of the February 6, 2023 earthquakes, through their own narratives and perceptions. The fundamental starting point of this study is to address, from a holistic perspective, how young people experienced the post-disaster period in the areas of education, employment, housing, psychological well-being, social relationships, urban life, and community participation.

The research considers young people not only as a group exposed to the effects of the disaster, but also as a key actor in the processes of reconstruction, recovery, and social resilience. Within this framework, the study aims to reveal the relationship that young people living in Adiyaman have established with their city in the post-earthquake period, their satisfaction and sense of belonging to the city, their experiences accessing public services, and their opportunities to participate in decision-making processes. The distinctive consideration of the experiences of young women, young people with disabilities and special needs, and those from different socioeconomic profiles is an important part of the research's inclusive approach.

This study also aims to understand the psychosocial well-being, future expectations, and hope levels of young people; and to reveal how factors such as post-earthquake uncertainty, economic vulnerability, and the shrinking of social spaces are reflected in their lives. Through the combined evaluation of quantitative and qualitative data, the goal is to discuss the relationship between young people's daily practices and structural problems in a more in-depth manner.

The aim of this research is to contribute to the development of policies and practices targeting young people specifically in Adiyaman, and to create a guiding knowledge base for local governments, public institutions, civil society organizations, and other relevant actors. The conclusion section of the study presents improved recommendations based on the findings; these recommendations are intended to serve as a reference for advocacy efforts aimed at supporting young people in a rights-based, inclusive, and participatory manner.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research aims to reveal, in a multidimensional way, the life experiences, needs, and expectations of young people living in Adıyaman after the earthquake. karma yöntem (mixed-methods) It was carried out with this approach.

This mixed-methods approach aimed to deepen the understanding of general trends presented by quantitative data through qualitative data, and to contextually interpret the experiences of young people. In this context, both quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques were used in the research; the obtained data were evaluated within a holistic analytical framework.

### 2.1. Data Collection Process

The total amount included in the research **To 1000 participants** The aim was to conduct a survey, and the data collection process was carried out through three main channels:

**University Channel:** With the support of Adıyaman University academics, in-class face-to-face surveys were conducted in various faculties and departments. In addition, online survey announcements were made through the Youth Office and student associations.

**Youth Centers Channel:** Under the coordination of the Provincial Directorate of Youth and Sports, both face-to-face and online access was provided through youth centers in Adıyaman, Kahta, Gölbaşı, Besni, Tut, and Çelikhan.

**Civil Society Channel:** The survey was disseminated through active NGOs, volunteer communities, and social media groups in the youth field; access to young people, especially those active in districts and in the workforce, was strengthened through this channel.

Surveys used to collect quantitative data **70% are face-to-face., 30% are online.** This has been implemented. The face-to-face method reinforced the realities of the field, while the online method increased access to young people in the districts.

The qualitative data collection process was conducted through focus group interviews aimed at gaining a deeper understanding of young people's post-earthquake life experiences, needs, and expectations. Within this scope... **A total of 50 young people will be interviewed: 15 young women in 3 different focus groups for young women, 15 young men in 3 different focus groups for young men, and 20 young people in 4 different mixed focus groups.** An interview was conducted with...

The locations where the interviews were conducted were chosen from among environments where participants could feel safe and which were close to their daily life practices. Adıyaman Provincial Public Library, youth centers, and cafes and open social areas where young people frequently meet were among the preferred locations in this context. This spatial choice allowed participants to express their experiences in a more natural, pressure-free, and sincere manner. All interviews were conducted by experienced moderators; while discussions were guided along

the themes determined within the framework of the research, participants were also given the opportunity to present their own agendas. The sessions were recorded through moderator notes and transcribed after the interview.

## **2.2. Data Analysis Process**

The quantitative and qualitative data obtained within the scope of the research were evaluated within a holistic and systematic analysis framework; the analysis process was based on a multi-layered structure including data cleaning, coding, statistical analysis, and interpretation steps. The first stage in quantitative data analysis is...**data cleaning and preprocessing**The process involved combining all datasets obtained from face-to-face and online surveys, checking the integrity of the surveys, identifying missing, erroneous, or inconsistent responses, and excluding them where necessary. Duplicate entries were eliminated, entries containing logical errors (e.g., discrepancies between age and educational status) were corrected, technical errors originating from the online form were resolved, and a consistent dataset was created for analysis.

After the dataset was prepared, the quantitative analysis phase was initiated; frequency distributions, percentage analyses, and comparative evaluations revealing the relationships between variables were carried out. These analyses, conducted across categories such as gender, age group, district, education level, employment status, and living area, revealed measurable trends regarding the demographic structure of young people, their education-labor force dynamics, access to services, psychosocial status, and future expectations.

In qualitative data analysis, the focus is on quantitative data findings.thematic analysisThe process was carried out. Through analysis of statements regarding young people's post-earthquake experiences, living conditions, education and employment journeys, social relationships, gender-based perceptions, and future expectations, these statements were grouped under themes and sub-themes.

Throughout the analysis proces**triangulation principle**A fundamental approach has been adopted; general trends revealed by quantitative findings have been cross-checked with narrative content obtained from qualitative data. This method strengthens the validity of the findings while enabling a contextual understanding of young people's experiences and perceptions beyond numerical indicators. Thus, a set of findings of greater depth and robustness than could be obtained with a single method has been achieved; the research results have been elevated to a high level of reliability in terms of policy recommendations and program design.

## **2.3. Ethical Principles**

The research process was conducted in accordance with national legislation and international ethical standards. The following ethical principles formed the basis of all field activities:

**Voluntary participation:**Participants were informed of the purpose of the research, participation was voluntary, and they were guaranteed the right to withdraw at any time.

**Explicit information and consent:** Verbal consent was obtained from each participant; it was stated that the data would only be used for research purposes.

**Privacy and anonymity:** Personal data has not been reported in any way that could identify an individual; the data has been stored in secure environments.

**The principle of not causing harm:** The meeting environments were planned to be safe; the psychological well-being of the participants was taken into consideration, especially when discussing sensitive issues in the aftermath of the earthquake.

**Cultural sensitivity:** The communication language and methods have been adapted taking into account Adıyaman's socio-cultural structure, perceptions of privacy, and social norms.

**Transparency and accountability:** Regular information sharing was maintained with the Solidarity People Association throughout the process; all stages of the research were recorded.

SECTION II DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

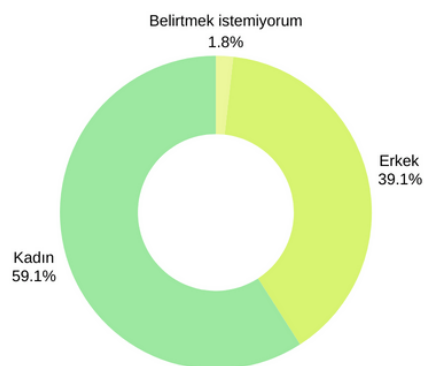
1. Age, Gender, Nationality, and Accommodation Experience

1.1. Demographic Profile

The 1002 young people surveyed as part of the research provide a strong and meaningful sample that allows for an understanding of the socio-demographic characteristics of the young population living in Adiyaman. The size and diversity of the sample ensure that the findings provide a solid foundation for interpreting the daily life experiences, needs, and expectations of young people.

Looking at the gender distribution, 59% of the participants were women (592 young people) and 39% were men (392 young people). 2% of the participants (18 young people) chose not to share their gender information. The relatively high representation of women in the sample allows for a more visible examination of the experiences, challenges, and needs of young women, especially in the post-earthquake period.

Graph 1: Distribution by Gender



When the data on the disability status of the participants were examined, it was seen that 3% (31 young people) of the young people participating in the study were individuals with disabilities. The inclusion of young people with disabilities, albeit

limited, is important not only in terms of accessibility and inclusion, but also in understanding the unique needs and structural barriers faced by this group in the post-earthquake period.

Nationality data indicates that the research is primarily focused on the local youth population living in Adiyaman. 98.4% of participants (986 young people) are citizens of the Republic of Turkey. The proportion of Syrian youth is limited to 1.6% (16 young people). Within this framework, the research presents a dataset centered on the daily life experiences, needs, and expectations of local youth in Adiyaman.

The age distribution reveals that the study focuses on individuals in the early stages of young adulthood. Participants are particularly concentrated in the 18–22 age range. The highest participation occurred in the 18 and 22 age groups, followed by the 20 and 21 age groups. Through this age profile, the research offers a strong insight into the experiences of young people who are either continuing their education or just starting their careers.

Graph 2: Distribution by Age

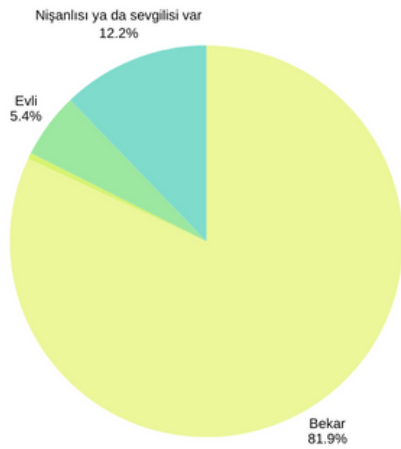
Data on marital status show that the vast

Age	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Number K.	139	90	131	126	139	119	71	69	37

majority of young people participating in the study are single. 82% of participants (821 young people) stated they were single, while only 5.4% (54 young people) were married. 12.2% (122 young people) indicated they were engaged or in a

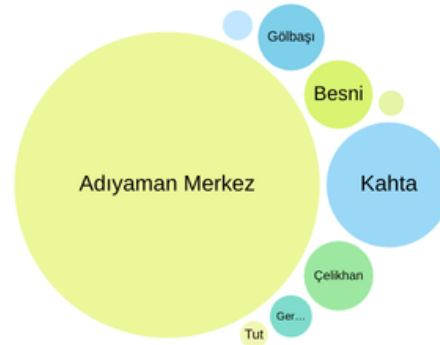
relationship. The number of young people who were divorced or widowed was quite limited. The percentage of young people who reported having children was 4.2% (42 young people), with the majority of this group being married participants. The study indicates that a significant portion of young people are still at an early stage of life in terms of household responsibilities and caregiving obligations.

Figure 3: Distribution by Marital Status and Relationship Status



The distribution of participants according to their settlements indicates that the research has broad coverage throughout Adıyaman. The vast majority of young people interviewed Adıyaman Center He lives in the district. %73,5). Participants from outside the center were predominantly...Two (%12,3), Celikhan (%3,8), Besni (%3,7) ve Gölbaşı (%3,5) It is concentrated in the districts of [unclear name]. The districts with smaller populations are [unclear name]. Gerger (%1,4), Samsat (%0,7), Tut (%0,6) ve Sincik (%0,5) However, it offers a more limited representation. This distribution reveals that the research includes both young people in urban centers and those living in rural and semi-rural districts.

Figure 4 Distribution by Place of Residence



Overall, the research focuses on a profile of young people, largely citizens of the Republic of Turkey, predominantly aged 18–22, and mostly single, with a high representation of women. This profile provides a suitable basis for analyzing the living conditions, challenges, and future expectations of young people living in Adıyaman after the earthquake.

#### Örneklem Grubun;

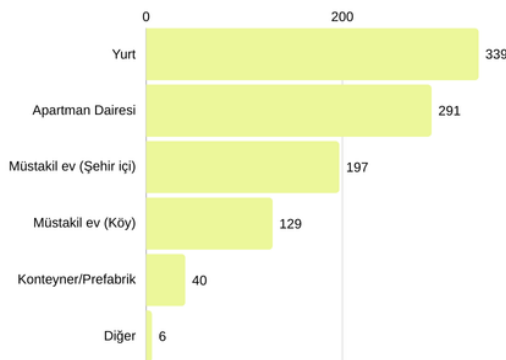
- %59'u kadın, %39'u erkek ve %2'si cinsiyet belirtmeyen
- %3'ü engelli birey
- %98,4'ü T.C. vatandaşı
- Ağırlık 18–22 yaş aralığında
- %82'si bekâr, %5,4'ü evli,
- %73,5'i Adıyaman Merkez'de yaşayan gençlerden oluşmaktadır.



### 1.2. Household Structure and Living Space

Looking at the types of housing the participants owned, the largest group young people living in the dormitories (34%). Those living in apartment buildings (29%) ve Those living in detached houses within the city (%20)is watching.The percentage of people living in detached houses in the village is 13%., The percentage of those living in containers or prefabricated structures is 4.0%.

Graph 5 Distribution by Living Area/Housing Type

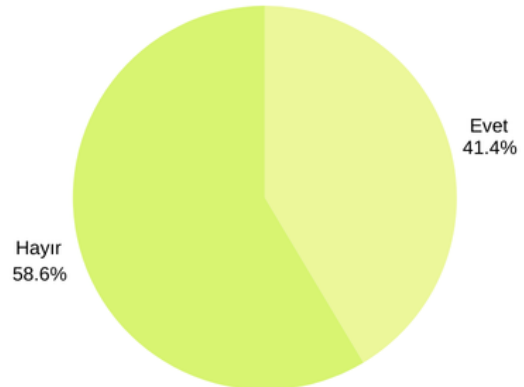


The vast majority of participantsThey live with their families (64%);thisYoung people living with their friends (30%)is watching.

He stated that he lives alone.%3.5A significant portion of this group lives at home; this group1.6%Some live in containers, while the rest stay in temporary accommodation options such as dormitories, apartments, or guesthouses. This distribution shows that the vast majority of young people continue to live with their families, and independent living is quite limited.

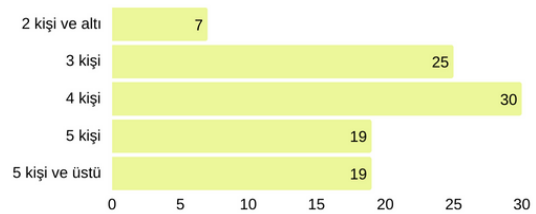
Young people%41'iwhile stating that she had a room of her own,59%However, he stated that he did not have such an opportunity.

Graph 6: Percentage Distribution of Owning Your Own Room



When looking at the number of people young people live with, the most common household structure is...Households of 4 people (30.5%) ve Households of 3 people (24.9%)It appears that this is the case.Households of 5 people (18.5%) with Large households of 5 or more people (19.3%) This distribution shows that a significant proportion of young people live in medium and large-sized households.

Graph 7: Percentage Distribution of the Number of People Living in a Household



#### Gençlerin;

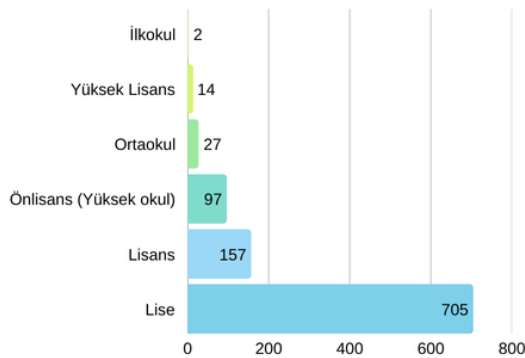
- %34'ü yurttta, %29'u apartman dairesinde, %33'ü müstakil evlerde, %4'ü konteyner ve prefabrik yapılarda barınmakta.
- %64'ü ailesi ile birlikte yaşamakta.
- %59'unun kendisine ait bir odası bulunmamakta
- Ağırlıklı 3 ve 4 kişilik hanelerde yaşamakta

## 2. EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT and ECONOMIC SITUATION

### 2.1. Educational Background and Education-Related Experiences

The profile of the young people participating in the research is predominantly composed of those who have received education at the secondary and higher education levels. Looking at the level of the last school graduated from, the vast majority of young people...high school graduate (70.4%)It is seen. ThisBachelor's degree graduates (15.7%) ve Associate degree graduates (9.7%)is following. A smaller groupmiddle school graduate (2.7%) throw away those with postgraduate level education (1.4%)He stated that.The percentage of primary school graduates is quite low (0.2%)..

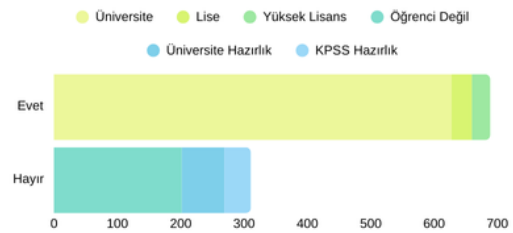
Graph 8: The Last School Graduated From



In addition, 67% of young people (689 young people) are currentlythat he/she is a studentThis group has stated that the majority of this groupIt consists of university students (91%); high school students (5%) **ve** Graduate students (4%)It is represented in more limited proportions.

Of the 313 young people who are not students, only 1% (44 young people) are preparing for the KPSS exam and 2% (67 young people) are preparing for university entrance exams.

Graph 9 Student Status



When examining whether young people who are currently students or preparing for university have a suitable environment for working, among the 689 young people who stated that they are students...Inadequate working conditions stand out as a significant problem..This group29% (199 young people) He stated that he did not have a suitable environment for studying.

Data on young people's preparation for university entrance exams shows that the vast majority of candidates (74.6%) face various difficulties.

The most common problem is the lack of a suitable physical environment for independent studying. 40.3% of candidates stated that they did not have a suitable study environment. From a gender perspective, young women are seen to experience greater disadvantages in the

exam preparation process due to the lack of a suitable study environment and economic difficulties. Another difficulty in the exam preparation process is financial hardship.

When examining the reasons why young people drop out of education, economic deprivation stands out as by far the most decisive factor. Of the 161 participants who dropped out of school, 82 (51%) stated that they could not continue their education due to financial difficulties.

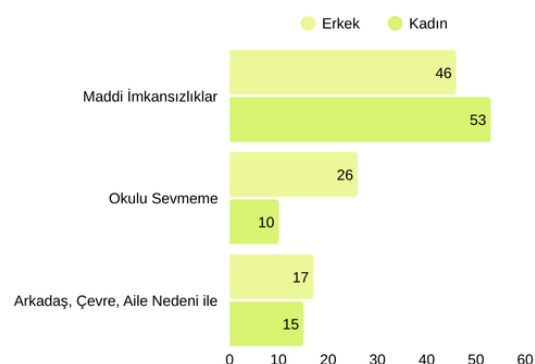
When examined by gender, the rate of young women dropping out of school due to financial difficulties is 53%, compared to 46% for men.

In contrast, loss of motivation related to school is more pronounced among young men, with 21 out of 30 participants who responded "because I don't like school" being male. This represents 26% of all male school dropouts, compared to 10% among young women.

Social environment, peer group, and family pressure were the main reasons for dropping out of education for a total of 24 young people (14.9%), while the rates were approximately the same for women and men.

In addition, health reasons, academic failure, and difficulties in classes are other factors that cause young people to drop out of education. All this data shows that dropping out of education is not due to a single cause; it is a multi-dimensional process in which economic, social, and psychosocial factors are intertwined.

Graph 10: Reasons for Dropping Out of Education



Focus group discussions indicate that the difficulties young people face in their education are primarily related to financial constraints and physical environmental conditions. The high cost of books and question banks, living in containers, and the lack of quiet and suitable study areas make studying difficult and reduce academic motivation. The young people stated that not only their individual well-being but also the overall welfare and education level of Adıyaman should be improved, as this would solve many problems.

The quality and implementation of the education system are also widely criticized. The reliance on rote learning and insufficient clarity in the lessons, the mismatch between exams and the content taught, and the length of classes reinforce perceptions of inefficiency and unfairness among students.

From a gender perspective, young women face more difficulties in accessing academic resources, communication, and academic pressures. Disruptions in library and resource access, educational choices made under family pressure, and the perception of gender-based discrimination negatively impact women's educational experiences.

The experiences of young men are mainly shaped by economic pressures, loss of motivation, and the transition process into working life. Financial insecurity, long education periods, difficulties in finding employment after graduation, and negative expectations about working life increase the anxieties of young men about the future.

## 2.2. Employment and Labor Force Participation

Looking at the employment status of young people, out of a total of 1002 participants...%25'i that he/she%75'i He stated that he was not working.

Among the total number of young workers The participants consisted of 58% men, 39% women, and 3% who did not specify their gender..

Graph 11: Distribution by Employment Status



Based on their most recent school graduations, the top 3 most prominent career paths among young people are as follows:<sup>1</sup>;

Undegraduate and Postgraduate	- Civil servant / Public employee
	- Tradesperson / Employer / Trade / Business Owner
	- Office worker
High school	- Waiter/Waitress
	- Tradesperson / Employer / Trade / Business Owner
	- Worker (with a fixed monthly salary)

Among the young people who responded regarding methods of finding employment (240 young people), 70% of them found their job through their network, family, and friends., 16% found or started a business through their own efforts., the remaining part that they were directed to employment through appointment or İŞKUR (Turkish Employment Agency) He stated.

<sup>1</sup>This survey was prepared based on information provided by 117 young people with bachelor's degrees or higher and 115 high school graduates who indicated their current occupation.

In general, young people%29'u They believed they could find a suitable job in Adiyaman,%71'i He expressed a negative opinion on this matter. When this rate is evaluated within itself among men, young men 36% while believing that they can find a suitable job 64% She stated that she did not believe it. Positive perception is quite low among women; young women only...%25'i while thinking that he/she can find a suitable job %75'i He stated that this was not possible.

Graph 12: Young Women's Perception of Finding Suitable Jobs in Adiyaman



Graph 13: Young Men's Perception of Finding Suitable Jobs in Adiyaman



Looking at registered employment data, 150 of the 253 young people who stated they were working are in registered employment, and this group...62% are men, 36% are women, 2% did not specify their gender. This distribution shows that the already low participation rates of young women in the workforce in Adiyaman are further exacerbated in registered employment. While men are in a more advantageous position in both general and registered employment, it appears that women have more limited opportunities to access registered and secure jobs.

Of the 31 disabled young people who participated in the study, only 10 of them are employed and within this group only 3 people are registered (with social security)

and working It is observed that 7 of them are neither in education nor employment.

When we examine the gender distribution of the 113 young people who are neither employed nor in education, we see that there are 7 young women for every 3 men in this group.

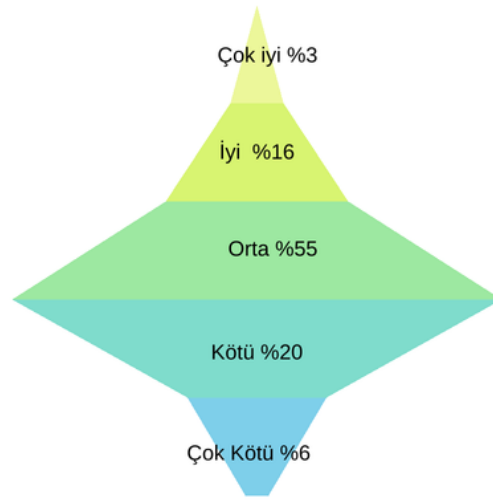
Graph 14: Gender Distribution of Young People Who Are Neither in Education Nor Employment



Focus group discussions confirm this picture. Household Economics and Financial Vulnerability

When the satisfaction levels of young people regarding their place of residence and current living conditions were assessed, the responses were predominantly...concentrated at a moderate level. It is seen that there are a total of 1002 participants. 55% While expressing their satisfaction as "moderate," 26% negative (bad/very bad) and 19% They gave a positive (good/very good) rating.

Graph 15: Young People's Assessment of Their Family's Economic Situation

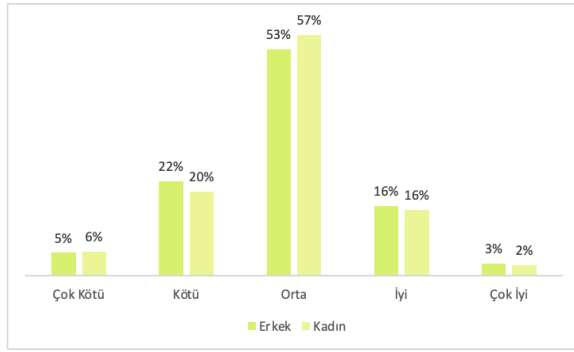


When economic situation assessments are examined according to gender, it is seen that the perceptions of young men and women are largely similar at each level. There are only minor differences between the two groups in the "very bad" and "bad" assessments; this indicates that economic difficulties are felt similarly regardless of gender.

Similarly, the proportion of those who describe their economic status as "average" is by far the highest for both men and women, and there is no significant difference between the two groups.

In the "good" and "very good" evaluations, the perceptions of men and women almost overlap, with positive economic evaluations remaining at low levels in both groups.

Graph 16: Family Economic Status Assessment by Gender



These findings gain even more significance when considered alongside the data from the household livelihood analysis. This analysis examines how young people contribute to their families' livelihoods.<sup>2</sup>when viewed,

- Salaried job (39%) and
- Freelancing/Trade (32%)
- Income based on agriculture and livestock (16%)
- Contractual/daily wage employment (5%)
- Retirement income (4%)
- Government aid (2%)

This shows that the vast majority of households are dependent on market-based or self-production-based income models.

A significant proportion of young people with low economic satisfaction report experiencing problems within their families due to economic reasons; for example, the vast majority of young people who rate their economic status as 1, and approximately two-thirds of those who rate it as 2, stated that they experience economic tension within their families.

In contrast, as the level of economic satisfaction increases, such problems decrease significantly; only a small percentage of young people who rated their economic situation as 4 or 5 reported experiencing problems within the family due to economic hardship.

All focus group discussions clearly revealed that the strongest and most common need of young people, regardless of gender, is financial support and freedom. Young people define being able to pay off debts, having a regular income, and achieving economic independence as fundamental conditions for "well-being." Financial strength is expressed not only as a means of livelihood but also as a prerequisite for planning for the future, making independent decisions, and feeling secure. This is especially true for young people of working age.employment,It is not only an economic necessity; it also stands out as an important component of social acceptance, status, and the perception of individual worth.

For young women, relatively stable career paths based on public sector appointments (such as administrative judgeships or district governorships) are among the prominent goals.

Young men's expectations for the future are more focused on financial investment, status, and starting a business. Becoming a businessman, expanding existing businesses, developing ventures with financial support, and owning tangible assets (such as a car) are frequently cited goals. The need for financial security is often linked by men to their ability to marry, start a family, and "provide a good life." Finishing school, getting a job, working in a

<sup>2</sup> An analysis was conducted on 994 young people who gave meaningful answers to the question.

stable and secure position, and earning a better salary are central to young men's expectations for the future.



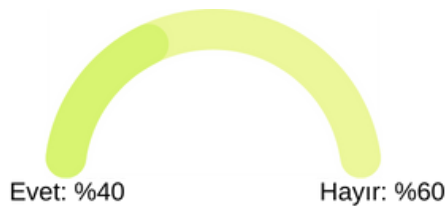
## CHAPTER III DAILY LIFE, SOCIAL LIFE AND CITY EXPERIENCE

### 1. THE SOCIALIZATION STATUS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

#### 1.1. Opportunities for Socialization in the City

Findings regarding the socialization of young people in Adıyaman indicate that, in general, opportunities for socialization remain limited. While only 40% of participants stated that they were able to socialize, 60% of young people indicated that this opportunity did not exist.

Graph 17: Socialization Rate of Young People



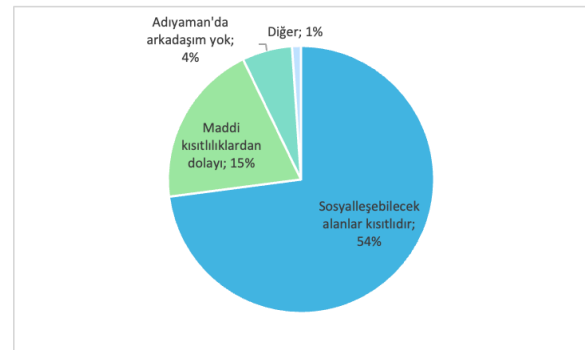
When examined by gender, it is seen that the opportunity for socialization differs between women and men. The percentage of men who stated that they could socialize within their own group is...%44This rate is at that level. In women, this rate is...%37...the overall picture reveals that social life expectations are not fully met for either gender, but women face more limitations in this regard.

#### 1.2. Obstacles to Socialization

When examining the obstacles to young people's socialization, the most prominent problem area is the lack of physical and social spaces. More than half of the participants (54%) stated that there are limited areas where they can socialize in Adıyaman. This indicates that the inadequacy of safe and accessible social spaces where young people can easily spend time is a decisive factor. Financial

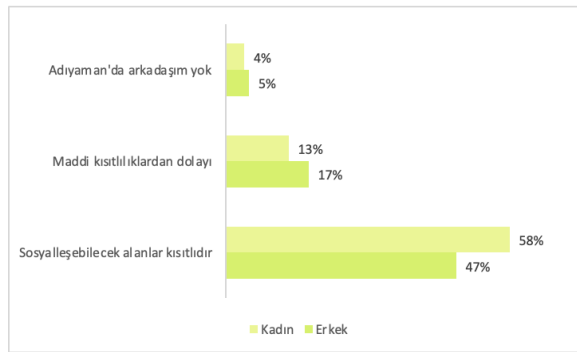
constraints are the second most important reason (15%), revealing that young people's participation in social activities is limited due to economic conditions. A smaller group stated that they do not have a circle of friends in Adıyaman (4%), suggesting that young people who have not had the opportunity to form social connections experience additional difficulties in the socialization process.

Figure 18: Barriers to Socialization



When barriers to socialization are examined from a gender perspective, the limited opportunities for socialization are a major concern for women.%58in men%47This is expressed at a rate that indicates women experience spatial and security-based constraints more intensely; this difference shows that women feel these constraints more intensely. Financial constraints are more prevalent among women.%13in men%17These factors are expressed at a certain level, and economic reasons appear to be slightly more prominent in men.

Figure 19: Barriers to Socialization by Gender



Focus Group discussions revealed that the limited social life opportunities in the city

are one of the most frequently cited problems by young people. The inadequacy of parks, green spaces, and socialization venues for young people is associated with boredom, introversion, and increased social tension. Economic conditions further exacerbate this situation. High inflation limits both the daily expenses and social participation of young people.

## 2. HOBBIES AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

### 2.1. Hobbies

Data shows that the most popular hobbies among young people consist of activities that support daily life and are easily accessible.

Listening to music (%61.3), walking and strolling (%54.2) spending time with friends (%53.4) These areas stand out as key areas that balance the social and individual needs of young people. The tendency to play games is also at a high level. (%49.8) and shows that young people spend their free time playing digital or physical games. Reading books (%42.7), internet and computer use (%34.5), to do sport (%31.6), research activities (%31.2) and watching TV (%27.4) Activities such as these are included in terms of both learning and relaxation practices.

Graph 20: Most Popular Hobbies



Activities outside of these top 10 hobbies reveal that young people are turning to more specific and diverse interests. Creative activities such as painting (21.2%), playing musical instruments (20.6%), and dancing (18.3%) are preferred by a specific group. Writing (16.4%) and gardening and animal husbandry (16.3%) show that young people are gravitating towards hobbies that involve productivity and contact with nature. Overall, the picture reveals a multifaceted

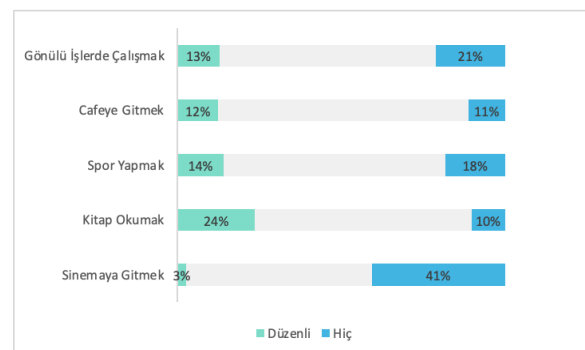
structure in the daily lives of young people, encompassing social relationships, personal development, and leisure practices.

### 2.2. Leisure Time Practices

When the participation levels of young people in leisure activities are examined, reading books stands out as the most frequently performed activity among those done regularly. (%24), doing sports (%14) and working in volunteer jobs (%13) is watching.

Going to cafes is also among the regularly followed activities, although at a lower rate. (%12) Going to the cinema, however, is far from being a regularly practiced activity. (%3).

Figure 21 Leisure Time Activities



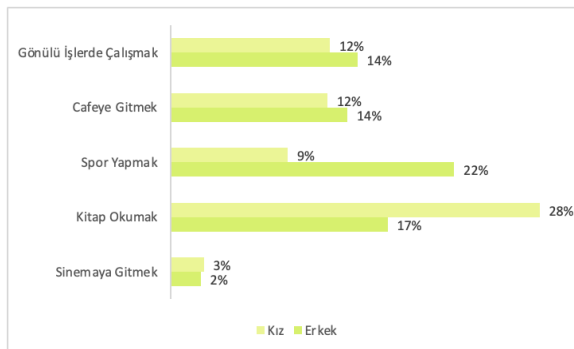
When comparing the distribution of women and men who reported regularly engaging in these activities, some striking differences emerge in certain areas. Women... (%28) While stating that he reads books regularly, this rate is higher among men. (%17) It remains at this level and shows that reading habits are significantly more common among women.

However, the situation is reversed when it comes to sports; men (%22) and While some women stated that they exercise regularly,

this rate was only observed in women.%9This is how it happens. This result reveals that sports activities are one of the areas where gender divisions are most pronounced.

In other activities, a similar distribution is observed. In activities such as going to the cinema, visiting cafes, and volunteering, the regular participation rates of women and men are close, showing no significant difference.

Graph 22: Percentage of Regularly Performed Leisure Activities by Gender



On the other hand, it is noteworthy that some activities are not engaged in at all by a significant number of young people.

- Those who do not go to the cinema constitute the highest group, at 41%.
- The percentage of people who do not do sports is 18%, and the percentage of people who do not participate in volunteer work at all is 21%.
- The percentage of people who do not go to cafes is 11%.
- The percentage of people who do not read books is 10%, which is lower compared to other activities.

These findings can be interpreted as indicating that young people mostly spend their leisure time on low-cost, individual, and

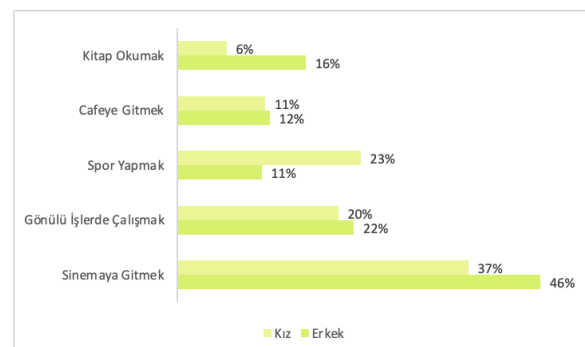
accessible activities, while their participation levels in activities requiring socialization or cultural engagement are significantly lower.

Common themes discussed in focus groups on leisure practices include: Women tend to gravitate towards more individual, introverted activities, while men prefer more active, socially interactive, and extroverted practices. The activities men mention typically include spending time with friends in cafes, playing sports like soccer and basketball, playing PlayStation, and going out. Women, on the other hand, generally spend their free time reading books, writing, listening to music, and watching movies/TV series.

When looking at the gender breakdown of those who never participated in some activities, those who participated regularly... The divergences observed in other activities appear to be repeated here as well.

The rate of not engaging in sports is 23% for women and 11% for men. The rate of those who do not read books is 16% for men and 6% for women, confirming that, as with regular reading rates, women have a higher reading habit. The fact that 46% of men and 37% of women never go to the cinema reveals another striking statistic regarding leisure activities.

Graph 23: Percentage of Unattended Leisure Activities by Gender



Data on harmful habits shows that the vast majority of young people avoid such behaviors. Regarding alcohol consumption, young people are only...%2'and He stated that he regularly drank alcohol,76%He states that he has never drunk alcohol.

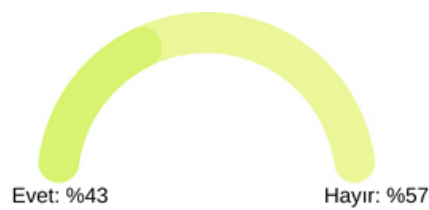
Smoking rates are relatively higher; among young people.%17'andthat he smokes regularly,%61'iHowever, some stated that they never smoked. While alcohol consumption remained at a very low level, smoking was more visible. Nevertheless, it still reveals that a significant portion of young people did not take up this habit.

3. LOCATIONS AND ACCESS OPTIONS

3.1. Existing Venues and Participation

In their evaluations of places where young people can pursue their hobbies and leisure activities, participants43%He stated that such areas exist in the city.

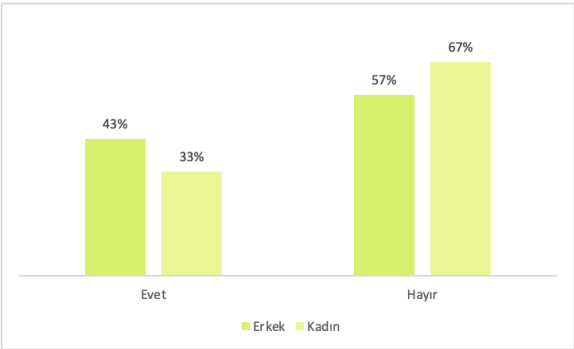
Graph 24: The Existence of Spaces Catering to Young People's Hobbies/Interests



In contrast, young people63%They stated that they experienced difficulties in accessing existing spaces, and this indicated that significant limitations in terms of accessibility persisted even when spatial facilities were available.

When the gender breakdown is examined, it is seen that women are in a more disadvantaged position compared to men in terms of accessing these spaces. Women's%67'andThey stated that they did not have access to spaces where they could pursue their hobbies and leisure activities, and this rate was higher among men.%57It is at that level.

Graph 25: Gender-Based Rates of Young People's Access to Venues Related to Their Hobbies/Interests



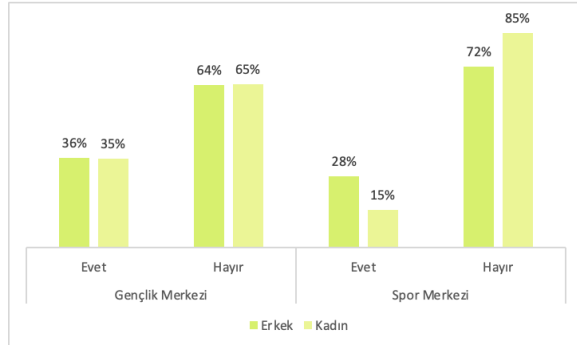
Data on participation in youth and sports centers shows that young people's engagement with such institutional spaces is quite limited. The number of young people who attend youth centers is within the total youth population.354 peopleand this rate is in men%36, in women%35This level is observed. While there is no significant difference between genders, it appears that nearly two-thirds of young people in total do not attend these centers.

When data on participation in sports centers and regular sports activity are evaluated together, it is seen that young people's relationship with sports is quite limited.

The number of young people using sports centers is only205 peopleand the usage rate among all men%28, and in women%15This is the level. This table also aligns with regular exercise habits; men%22'andWhile stating that they exercise regularly, this rate is higher in women.%9It falls to 'a'. Also, among those who never use sports centers, men...%72, and in women%85The fact that rates are so high indicates that the use of sports facilities is more limited for women. It reveals that gender differences in sports

culture significantly restrict sports participation.

Graph 26: Participation Rates in Youth and Sports Centers by Gender



Focus group discussions support similar findings. The common and strongest point of contact among young people is cultural, academic, or recreational activities in the city. sufficient, diverse and safe. The main issue is the lack of socialization spaces. While some participants stated that the spaces were insufficient but safe, the general consensus was that there was a lack of adequate and safe spaces. In addition to general inadequacies, the lack of specific venues such as quiet areas suitable for studying (libraries/study halls) and organized cultural/entertainment events (cinemas, concerts, camps) stands out. Women in Adıyaman feel there is no safe space for socialization; this insecurity is particularly evident in the evenings. The need to be home before 9. This is how they concretize it. Moreover, even in the courses they attend, there is insufficient oversight. And for this reason, they stated that a safe space was not provided.

As for men, they are predominantly men in the city. nightclub, concert or camp organizations. They stated that such social environments did not exist at all. Furthermore...an area where he can

comfortably go with his girlfriend from its absence and due to the lack of green spaces. They complained. While some men thought the socializing spaces were safe and adequate, others felt that the spaces were...troublesome and expensive. It has been stated that young people's social practices are directly shaped by economic constraints and security concerns; this situation particularly restricts the autonomous scope of action for young women.

### 3.2. Spatial Expectations

Findings regarding the types of places young people want to see in Adıyaman, in line with their hobbies and interests, show that demand is predominantly concentrated in areas focused on nature, sports, and socialization.

The three most frequently mentioned preferences are:

1. Hiking, cycling and camping clubs (44.1%),
2. Youth sports centers (41.5%)
3. Music workshops and rehearsal studios account for 41.4%.

This table suggests that young people have a strong need for spaces where they can access both physical and creative activities, relieve stress, and socialize. Other responses are listed below according to their preference rates;

- Cafe/culture house style socializing spaces (35.9%)
- Foreign language conversation clubs (34.8%)
- Youth centers (31.6%)
- Film screenings and short film workshops (30.8%)
- Entrepreneurship and career development centers (30.1%)
- Library and co-working spaces (29.7%)
- Book clubs, discussion and brainstorming workshops (28.2%)
- Theatre/drama studies (26.4%)

- Photography clubs (26.3%)
- Social assistance and solidarity communities (25.4%)
- Disaster volunteer and first aid training centers (24.3%)
- Coding, robotics, or artificial intelligence workshops (23.0%)
- Youth councils and participation platforms (22.7%)
- Alternative sports areas such as skateboarding, roller skating, and climbing walls (22.1%)
- E-sports or table games areas (21.8%)
- Folk dance or modern dance courses (20.8%)
- Science and innovation centers (20.6%)
- Animal rights / stray animal volunteer groups (19.9%)
- STEM activities – science, technology, engineering, mathematics (18.6%)

Overall, these findings indicate that young people prefer to spend their leisure time in active, productive, and socially interactive environments rather than passively. The fact that nature and sports-based activities rank highly suggests a need for open spaces that support the physical and mental well-being of young people in the post-earthquake period.



## CHAPTER IV PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING, SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS, AND PERCEPTIONS OF THE FUTURE

### 1. GENERAL LIFE SATISFACTION AND EMOTIONAL STATE

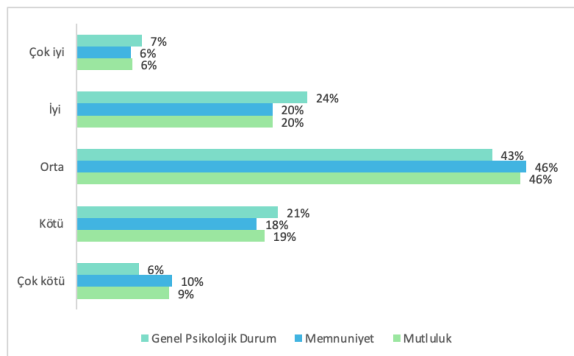
#### 1.1. Life Satisfaction and Psychological Well-being

Young people's assessments of happiness, life satisfaction, and overall psychological state largely show a parallel picture.

The overall proportion of those falling into the “very bad” and “bad” categories across all three indicators hovers around 25-30%; this suggests that a quarter of young people define themselves as being in a negative state of well-being.

In contrast, the largest response group is concentrated at the “moderate” level across all indicators, ranging from approximately 43-46%. This trend reveals that a significant portion of young people are in a more cautious and undecided position, expressing neither clear satisfaction nor overt dissatisfaction.

Graph 27: General Psychological State, Happiness and Satisfaction Rates



The distributions by gender also largely coincide with this general picture; no significant difference is observed in the well-being assessments of young women

and men, and they are seen to be in similar proportions in the moderate and negative categories.

#### 1.2. Sources of Happiness

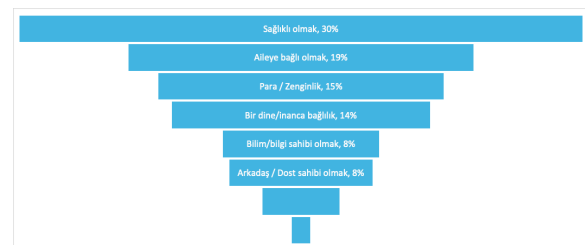
When examining the factors that make young people happiest, it is seen that the overall distribution falls under a few main headings.

The highest percentage, at 30%, was "being healthy"; this finding can be interpreted as young people defining happiness primarily through their own physical and mental well-being.

In second place, with 19%, is "being attached to family," revealing that family relationships are a strong source of resilience in young people's perception of happiness.

In third place, with 15 percent, is “money/wealth”; financial security and economic comfort stand out as important determinants of happiness for young people. This is followed by “adherence to a religion/belief” with 14 percent; knowledge and friendships are mentioned with 8 percent each.

Graph 28: Sources of Happiness for Young People



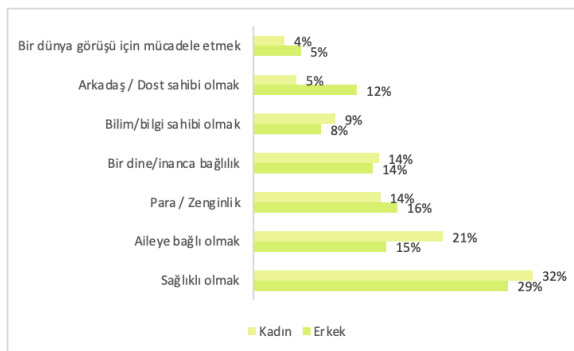
When this data is broken down by gender, it shows a similar overall ranking of the factors that make young people happiest, but there are significant differences in some areas.

The highest value for both sexes is clearly "being healthy"; with 32% for women and 29% for men, health is the most fundamental determinant of young people's perception of happiness.

In addition, "being attached to family" stands out as a stronger source of happiness for women (21%) compared to men (15%).

The most significant difference among men is seen in friendship/social relationships; 12% of men state that having friends is one of the factors that makes them happiest, while this rate is only 5% among women. When these three differences are considered together, it becomes clear that health and family ties shape women's happiness more, while social circles and friendships have a relatively higher weight in men's happiness.

*Graph 29: Things That Make Young People Happiest, by Gender*



Findings from focus group discussions reveal that young people's experiences of happiness in daily life are shaped around three main areas. Social relationships and

emotional support are among the strongest sources of happiness for young people. Spending time with friends, socializing, and receiving attention and support from family members or close relationships contribute to young people feeling safe, valued, and understood. Even a sincere message or a brief moment shared in daily life can positively affect young people's mood.

Personal achievement and a sense of control stand out as another important element that fuels the happiness of young people. Being able to spend the day as planned, fulfilling responsibilities, and making progress towards academic or personal goals strengthens the sense of satisfaction and competence in young people. In particular, seeing a tangible result from a process that has been worked on increases the motivation and well-being of young people.

However, physical comfort and small pleasures in daily life play a complementary role in young people's perception of happiness. Sufficient sleep, rest, reduced pressure from work and responsibilities, consumption of favorite foods, and even short-term financial relief reduce stress levels in young people, enabling them to feel more positive in their daily lives.

### ***1.3. Psychological and Physical Effects of Earthquakes***

When examining young people's assessments of the psychological/physical effects of the February 6th earthquakes, it is observed that, especially when considering the "Yes, I feel it" category and the second category that immediately follows it, approximately 45% of young people in total stated that they felt the psychological effects of the earthquake.

While this ratio is similar between genders, it is noteworthy that the level of impact felt by women is slightly higher compared to men. In young women, the total of the first two categories reaches approximately 48%, while in young men this rate remains around 39%.

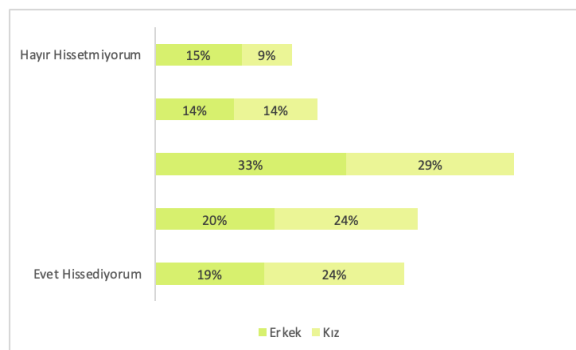
Similarly, the response "No, I don't feel anything" appears to be higher among men; 15% of men stated that they did not feel the psychological impact of the earthquake, while this rate was 9% among women.

These findings indicate that the psychological impact of the earthquake persists for a significant portion of young people, and is felt particularly acutely by young women.

social opportunities, frequently mentioned in the interviews, were interpreted as key factors weakening happiness, satisfaction, and overall psychological resilience.

They stated that their lifestyles before the earthquake had completely changed, that family ties had weakened, and that they felt their traditional culture had disappeared. The disintegration of social circles, weakening friendships, and increased family stress make young people's psychological state even more fragile; and limited access to psychological support mechanisms makes it difficult to alleviate this burden.

Figure 30: Assessment of the Effects of the February 6 Earthquakes.



Focus group discussions have provided a comprehensive picture of young people's happiness, satisfaction, general psychological state, and their experiences regarding the ongoing effects of the February 6th earthquakes.

Young people stated that they are in an ongoing process of recovery and adjustment in many areas of their lives following the earthquake; this directly affects their emotional well-being. Economic difficulties, uncertainty, security concerns, and limited

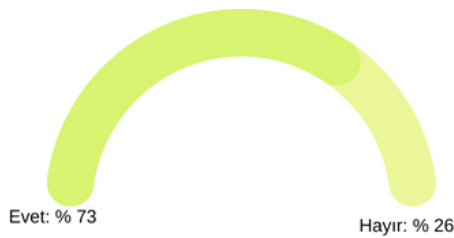
## 2. SOCIAL/CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS AND FRIENDSHIP NETWORKS

### 2.1. Perception of Sociality and Friendship Networks

When young people's self-perception as "social" is assessed, a high percentage of both young men and young women answer "yes."

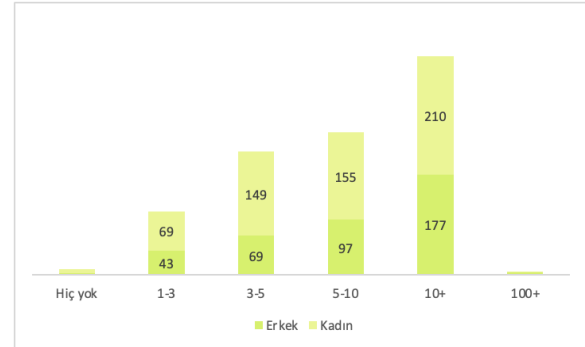
Approximately 74% of young men and 73% of young women described themselves as social. This reveals that young people generally rate their level of sociability as high in their subjective perceptions, and there is no gender-based disparity in this regard.

Graph 31: Perception of Sociality



Looking at the distribution of young people's social circle size, it is seen that the vast majority of both men and women stated that they have a social circle of 10 or more people. Those who stated that they have a more limited circle constitute a relatively small group within the total, indicating that young people generally have broad and multifaceted social connections.

Graph 32: Number of Friends by Gender



Apart from their peer groups, the rate of having a girlfriend, partner, or spouse is limited among young people. This rate is approximately 35% for men and 31% for women.

Unlike quantitative data, focus group discussions indicate that young people experience disappointment in their social relationships. They stated that they struggled with trust and that the number of people they truly believed to be sincere was small. This situation leads to disappointments, especially among young people who trust easily. Because of this insecurity, young women are cautious when getting close to people and are careful to protect their boundaries in social relationships. A significant portion of young people stated that they are able to empathize, conduct the process within a framework of respect and love, and try to adapt in order to avoid difficulties in both family and friendship relationships. Even when disagreements arose on political issues, a tendency to compromise was generally common.

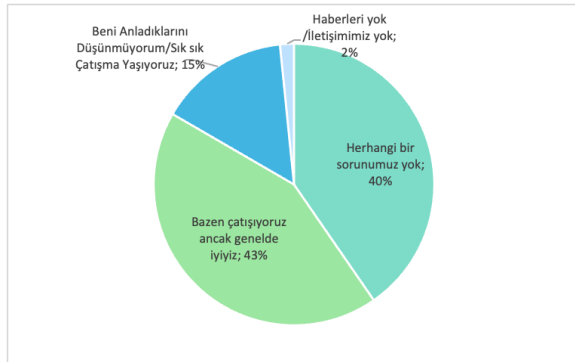
## 2.2. Family Relationships

According to young people's assessments of their relationships with their families, 40% of participants stated that they did not experience any problems, while 43% described the overall relationship as good, even though there were occasional conflicts.

In contrast, 15% of respondents stated that they felt misunderstood by their families or experienced frequent conflicts, while around 2% reported a complete breakdown in communication with their families.

These findings indicate that the vast majority of young people have a basic, functioning relationship with their families, but a particular group experiences emotional distance and communication difficulties.

Graph 33 Relationship Status with Family



When family relationships are evaluated according to gender, it is seen that young men report a higher rate of problem-free relationships with their families compared to young women (44% for men, 38% for women).

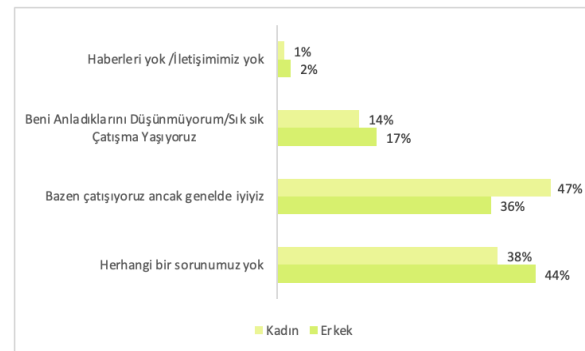
In contrast, a higher percentage of women said, "We sometimes clash, but we're generally fine" (47% vs. 36%); this suggests that young women describe their family

relationships in a more turbulent but generally positive light.

The percentage of those who reported feeling misunderstood by their family or experiencing frequent conflicts was similar for both sexes (17% for men, 14% for women).

This distribution can be interpreted as men tending to perceive family relationships as smoother, while women, although experiencing more frequent conflicts, generally evaluate the relationship positively.

Graph 34: Assessment of Family Relationships by Gender



Focus group discussions highlight that family relationships, for young people, represent a dual experience ranging from a strong sense of support and security to conflict and tension. While some participants stated that they did not experience problems with their families and that family support played a protective role, especially in the post-earthquake period, others indicated that disagreements, communication problems, and forced cohabitation made relationships difficult. This situation leads to the family being experienced as both a source of security and a structure that restricts personal space.

Family tensions are often rooted in differences in values stemming from generational gaps. Differences in religious, conservative, and political views cause young people to feel pressured, while increased economic hardship and financial worries following the earthquake stand out as significant stressors that exacerbate family disputes.

From a gender perspective, young women's experiences are largely shaped by conflicts over personal freedom and values. Some young women, expressing feelings of oppression due to generational differences and conservative attitudes, state that they avoid expressing their feelings to avoid conflict. In contrast, a significant group of

young women emphasize that their relationships with their families are problem-free and that they feel safe.

In young men's family relationships, economic responsibilities, early employment, increasing burdens, and the desire for independence are decisive factors. Restrictions on social life and pressure to marry stand out as a significant source of tension for young men; while being forced to live in the family home is described by many young men as a situation that limits their social and individual development.

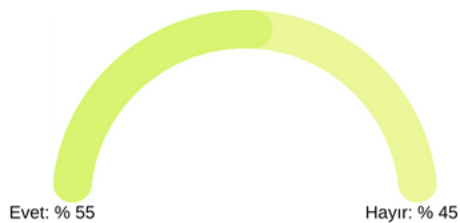
### 3. NEED FOR AND ACCESS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT

#### 3.1. Ability to Express Emotions Clearly

In assessments of young people's ability to express their feelings openly, approximately 55% of participants stated that they could easily express their feelings, while 45% indicated that they had difficulty doing so.

There is no significant difference between genders; both young women and young men report similar rates of difficulty expressing emotions or feeling comfortable with their families regarding this issue.

Graph 35: Percentage of Ability to Express Emotions Openly



The findings regarding who young people share their emotional support and experiences with indicate a highly fragmented but significant distribution. 26% of participants stated that they primarily share problems with their friends, while the same percentage reported sharing them with their young mothers.

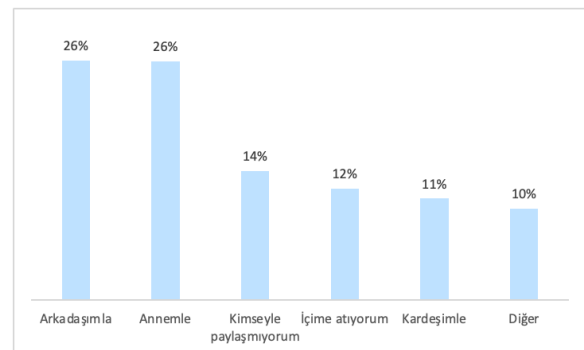
26% of young people said they didn't share their experiences with anyone, indicating a tendency toward introversion, insecurity, or a lack of a suitable support system.

Within the 10% group that makes up the "Other" category, only 4% of young people stated that they share their child with their father.

When this data is considered together, it is seen that young people's primary support networks are their peer group and their mothers; sharing with their fathers is limited.

Furthermore, the fact that a significant number of people do not share their feelings with anyone is another important finding that reveals the need for psychosocial support.

Figure 36: Channels for Sharing Young People's Problems



When these findings are examined by gender, significant differences are observed in who young women and young men primarily share their problems with. For young women, the most frequent sources of sharing are their mothers and friends, while young men do not appear to have a higher tendency to share their problems with anyone.

This situation indicates that additional pressures stemming from gender roles can be effective in expressing emotional needs. In this context, the top three sharing channels that stand out for both genders can be summarized as follows:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Young Woman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Anne (%30)</li> <li>○ Friend (26%)</li> <li>○ Those who did not share (22%)</li> </ul> | <p>Young Man</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Those who did not share (31%)</li> <li>○ Friend (27%)</li> <li>○ Anne (%20)</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

Similarly, focus groups show that young people's coping mechanisms for psychological and emotional difficulties primarily involve solving and internalizing problems on their own. The vast majority of participants stated that when feeling down or facing a problem, they prefer to be alone, think, and resolve the situation internally before seeking external support. This approach is the most common coping strategy among both young women and young men; seeking external support is seen more as a secondary option, only resorting to situations where the situation becomes insurmountable.

When seeking external support, it is noteworthy that young people have very limited channels for seeking help and that these channels are largely based on personal relationships. Their support network is mostly limited to mothers, older sisters, or very close friends; institutional support mechanisms (psychologists, official institutions) are almost never preferred. Some young people state that, instead of directly sharing their emotional burden, they prefer to balance it through activities such as playing games or sports, or by turning to spiritual practices such as praying and performing religious rituals.

From a gender perspective, young women's search for support tends to revolve around emotional sharing and peer support. In challenging situations, they primarily turn to close friends, and within the family,

especially their mothers and older sisters. Mothers' health and the support they receive from them are cited as the strongest source of security by young women. In addition, the need for spiritual support, faith, and inner empowerment is frequently emphasized. The desire to stand on one's own two feet is directly linked to this need for spiritual empowerment.

One of the most fundamental needs for young women is the existence of a safe space where they can express themselves openly, talk about their problems, and be understood. Being able to speak, share, and have their feelings taken seriously is defined as a prerequisite for feeling good. However, some young women highlight a tendency towards reticence and introversion, stating that they hide their problems and try to solve them internally in order not to show that they are struggling.

For young men, the search for support tends to revolve around themes of independence, solitude, and spirituality. Young men report preferring to be alone to think, pray, or engage in religious practices when they face difficulties. Some men express avoidance of sharing their problems for fear that consulting someone will make them appear "weak." While they often discuss their problems with their mothers and older sisters within the family, they indicate that they often present their issues superficially and ultimately try to find solutions themselves.

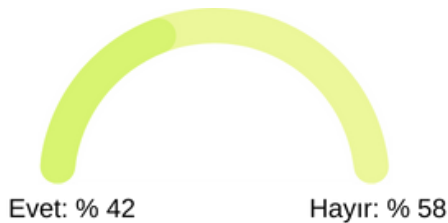
This situation reveals that cultural pressure on emotional expression is particularly strong in men, while women, despite having more open support networks, still exhibit a strong tendency towards individual coping.



### 3.2. Need for and Access to Psychological Support

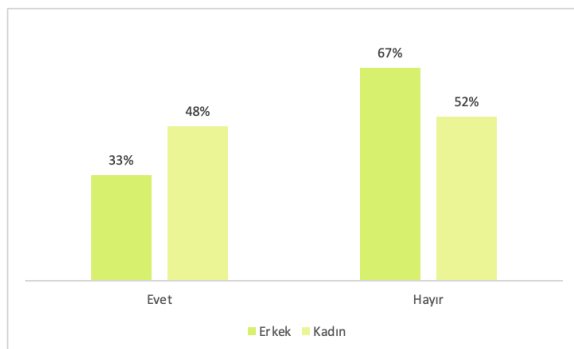
The findings regarding young people's psychological support needs show a significant disconnect between expressing a need and accessing the service. While 42% of participants stated that they needed psychological support, 58% said they did not feel such a need.

Graph 37: The Need to See a Psychologist



Gender discrimination makes this picture even more visible. While 48% of young women state that they need psychological support, this rate is 33% for men. The fact that 67% of men say they do not feel the need suggests that gender norms may have an impact on how the need for psychological support is expressed.

Graph 38: Need for Psychological Counseling by Gender



Focus group discussions also indicate a significant vulnerability in the mental well-being of young people in the post-earthquake period. Participants frequently reported emotional difficulties

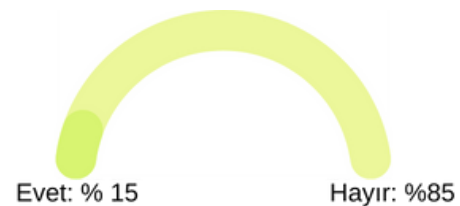
such as intense anxiety, feelings of uncertainty, low motivation, sleep disturbances, and insecurity about the future. Education, unemployment, and financial pressures further exacerbate this situation, making feelings of insecurity and loss of control more apparent among young people.

Some young people have reported that the emotional burden they are experiencing is affecting their daily functioning, but they have found it difficult to share this with those close to them.

While male participants tended to be more reserved in sharing their feelings, women were more open about expressing their difficulties, but faced similar limitations in accessing solutions and support mechanisms.

However, the rate of seeking help from a psychologist is quite low. Only 15% of young people report having visited a psychologist.

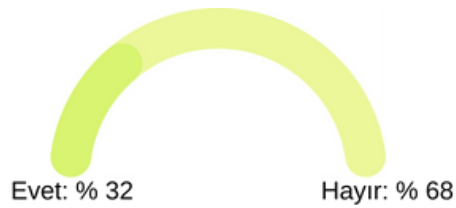
Graph 39: Seeking Psychologist Services



This rate is 17% for women and 12% for men. Therefore, women show a higher tendency than men to both be aware of their needs and to seek out services.

There is also a significant access gap among young people who state that they need psychological support. Only 32% of young people who declare a need have seen a psychologist, while 68% have not.

Graph 40: Psychologist Seeking Status Among Young People Who Indicate a Need to See a Psychologist.



Overall, while there is a significant need for psychological support among young people, this need appears to be largely unmet. This clearly highlights the need to strengthen accessible and youth-friendly psychosocial support mechanisms.

Another fundamental need of young people, as revealed in focus group discussions, is...It is a yearning for a calmer, more peaceful, and more stable living environment, both psychologically and physically..Healthy interpersonal relationships, a conflict-free social environment, a comfortable and safe home, and a need for a quiet and peaceful surroundings were frequently expressed. The desire for therapeutic support, the need for emotional support, and feelings of inner emptiness were explicitly voiced in the groups.

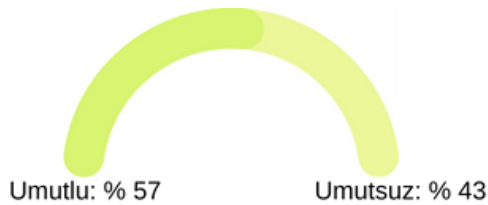
## 4. FUTURE EXPECTATIONS AND HOPE

### 4.1. Hope for the Future

There is a significant fragility in young people's overall level of hope for the future. 43% of young people stated that they have no hope for the future.

The lack of a significant difference in feelings of hopelessness between young women and men suggests that this feeling is gender-independent.

Graph 41: Optimism about the Future



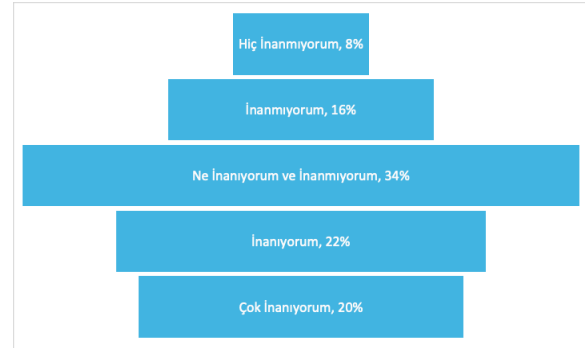
Expectations for five years from now present a more balanced picture. In responses to the statement, "My life will be better in five years," 20% of young people said they strongly believed in this improvement, while 22% said they simply believed it.

In addition, 34% adopted a more cautious approach, stating neither that they believed nor that they did not.

With 16% of young people saying "I don't believe it" and 8% saying "I don't believe it at all," a total of 24% reported negative expectations.

This distribution, This shows that while some young people are struggling with the current difficulties, they continue to harbor considerable hope that living conditions can improve in the medium term.

Graph 42: Belief that Life Will Be Better in 5 Years



### 4.2. Future Expectations

The responses regarding young people's future expectations are concentrated on specific themes. The most frequently expressed expectation is "having a good job" at 49%; this finding shows that young people primarily envision their future through employment and professional success.

In second place, with 21%, is "having a good family"; this reveals that starting a family continues to be an important life goal for young people.

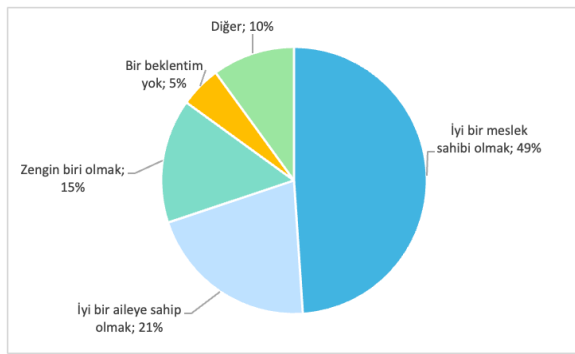
The third most common response, "to be rich," at 15%, indicates that economic security is a central expectation for young people.

The fourth most common response, "I have no expectations," accounts for 5% of respondents and specifically points to young people who are experiencing uncertainty or loss of motivation regarding future plans.

Although the responses grouped under the heading "Other" are numerically low, they

demonstrate that young people have a wide range of expectations that vary according to their personal values and interests. The most prominent are becoming famous or a successful politician. Among the responses in this group are goals of varying individual content, such as living a happy and peaceful life, living independently, being a good person, contributing to society, achieving success in art or sports, or becoming a phenomenon on digital platforms.

Graph 43: Expectations for the Future



When examining the gender breakdown, some differences are noteworthy. For both young women and men, the most prominent expectation is "to have a good profession."

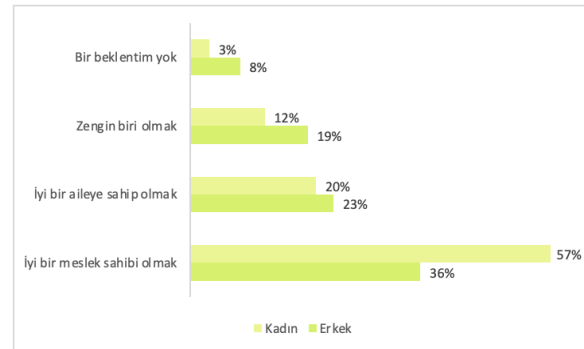
However, while "having a good family" appears more strongly as the second most important factor for women, "being wealthy" is more prominent among men.

Among women, responses that more frequently express the goal of both professional success and starting a family indicate that women consider both economic and social stability together in their expectations for the future.

In contrast, among young men, the emphasis on economic power and wealth appears to be more dominant compared to

family expectations. The response "I have no expectations" is low in both sexes, but slightly higher in men, suggesting that a lack of motivation or uncertainty regarding future planning may be more common among some young men.

Graph 44: Future Expectation Rates by Gender



Focus group discussions provide a framework that supports and deepens the quantitative findings regarding young people's future expectations. For the young people participating in the discussions, "having a good profession" does not only mean economic security; it is also seen as a fundamental tool for independence, self-actualization, and finding a place in life after the earthquake. Professional success was described by many participants as "the most concrete way to improve life." The desire to start a family was expressed, especially among female participants, as being linked to the need for security and stability. Economic expectations were also strongly expressed; for some young people, wealth is seen as a way to hold on to life and regain lost living standards.

Uncertainty about the future is a prominent theme in focus groups, particularly among young people who say, "I have no expectations." This group associates their uncertainty with issues related to education, housing, unemployment, and

the insecurity created by post-earthquake conditions. On the other hand, some young people expressed more individual goals. These included diverse aspirations such as contributing to society, starting their own business, securing a specific profession, achieving artistic success, or gaining visibility in popular culture. These

statements indicate that some young people are envisioning a more personal, interest-based future, going beyond standard definitions of success.

## CHAPTER V. CITIZENSHIP EXPERIENCE, PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES

### 1. LIFE SATISFACTION AND RESIDENCY TENDENCY IN ADIYAMAN

#### 1.1. Satisfaction with Living in Adiyaman

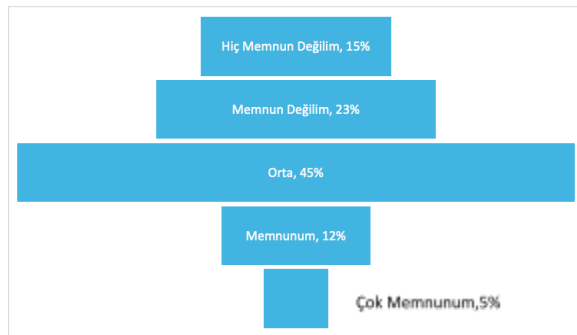
The responses of young people to the question "Are you satisfied with living in Adiyaman?" indicate a general dissatisfaction and a strong tendency towards indecision regarding their experience living in the city.

A total of 38% of participants (15% "not satisfied at all," and 23% "not satisfied") stated that they were not happy living in Adiyaman.

In contrast, only 17% expressed satisfaction (12% "satisfied," 5% "very satisfied").

The largest group, at 45%, were young people who chose the "moderate" option; this indicates that a significant portion of young people avoided expressing a clear satisfaction or dissatisfaction with living in Adiyaman.

Graph 45: Satisfaction with Living in Adiyaman

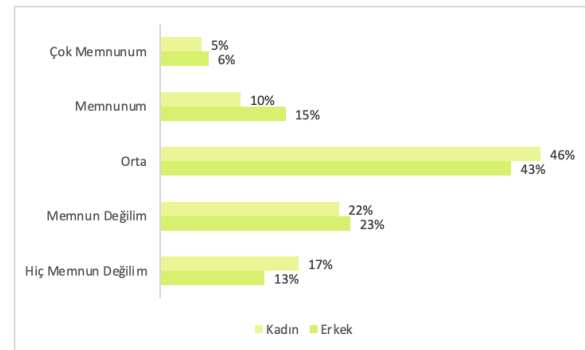


When the gender breakdown is examined, the general picture remains largely the same, although some differences are observed. The total percentage of those

who stated that they were not satisfied with living in Adiyaman was 39% for women (17% "not satisfied at all", 22% "not satisfied"), and 36% for men (13% + 23%). This indicates that women's dissatisfaction with living in the city is slightly higher compared to men.

Those who expressed satisfaction were 21% men (15% "satisfied", 6% "very satisfied") and 15% women (10% + 5%); therefore, the rate of satisfaction among young men living in Adiyaman is higher than among women. The "moderate" response shows no significant difference, with 46% of women and 43% of men.

Graph 46: Satisfaction with Living in Adiyaman by Gender

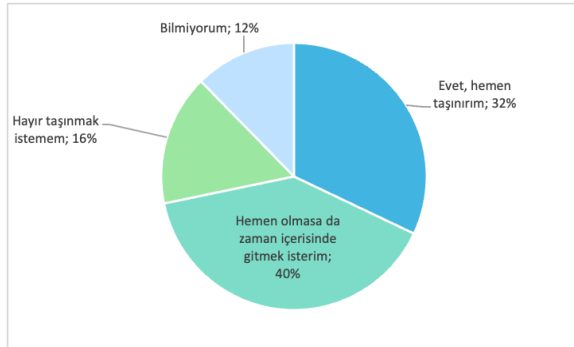


#### 1.2. Tendency to Leave Adiyaman

This shows that young people have a very high tendency to leave Adiyaman. While 32% of participants answered "yes, I would move immediately," 40% said "I would like to leave over time, even if not immediately." When these two groups are considered together, it is seen that a total of 72% of young people have a tendency to leave the city.

In contrast, 16% stated they did not want to move, while 12% were undecided.

Graph 47: Tendency to Move to Another City



When examined by gender, the study reveals that women show a stronger and clearer tendency to leave Adıyaman compared to men; while men have a relatively higher tendency to stay in the city.

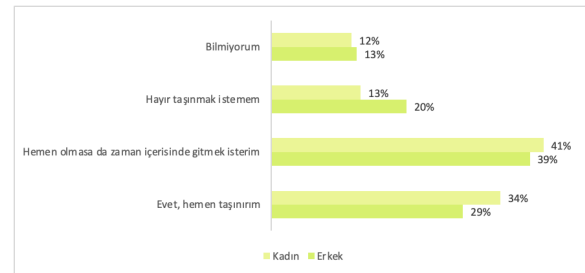
Overall, regardless of gender, it can be said that long-term urban belonging is weak among young people, and moving away emerges as a strong option.

29% of men stated that they wanted to move immediately, while 39% said they were considering moving over time. When these two groups are considered together, 68% of men tend to leave Adıyaman.

The rate is even higher for women: 34% want to move immediately, while 41% plan to move in the future; overall, 75% of women express a desire to leave the city.

The percentage of those who do not want to move is 20% for men and 13% for women. The rates of indecision are quite similar for both sexes (13% for men, 12% for women).

Graph 48: Tendency to move away from Adıyaman by gender.



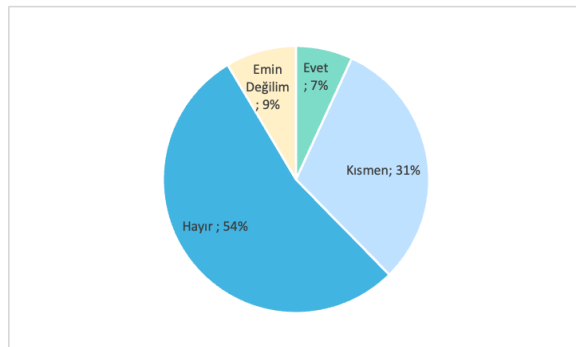
### 1.3. Participation in Social, Cultural, and Economic Life in Adıyaman

Assessments regarding whether there are sufficient opportunities for young people to participate in social, cultural, and economic life in Adıyaman generally point to a strong perception of inadequacy.

Only 7% of participants believed that there were sufficient opportunities for young people in the city, while 31% stated that these opportunities were only partially available. In contrast, more than half of the young people (54%) stated that there were not enough opportunities for participation in social, cultural and economic life in Adıyaman, while 9% expressed uncertainty on this matter.

These findings highlight a widespread perception that opportunities to support young people's active and sustainable participation in urban life remain limited.

Graph 49: Perception of Young People in Adıyaman Regarding the Adequacy of Opportunities for Participation in Social, Cultural, and Economic Life.



When the gender breakdown is examined, it is seen that the assessments of young women and men largely follow a similar trend. 51% of men and 56% of women stated that the opportunities for young people are insufficient; the answer "partially" was also expressed in similar proportions in both groups (28% of men, 32% of women).

The percentage of those who answered "yes" remained quite low for both sexes, measuring 5% for women and 10% for men.

#### 1.4 Expectations for a More Livable City

When examining young people's expectations for a more livable city, it is observed that demands are concentrated in certain areas, with social life, employment, and environmental conditions taking center stage.

According to the findings, the three most urgent priorities for young people are: increasing the number of social and cultural spaces specifically for young people (68%), increasing employment opportunities for young people (67%), and implementing clean environments, green spaces, and climate-friendly policies (58%). These three topics stand out as key areas that directly

affect both the quality of daily life and the sense of security and belonging regarding the future for young people.

Other priorities expressed by young people for a more livable city include:

- Increasing the number of social and cultural spaces specifically for young people (68%)
- Increasing employment opportunities for young people (67%)
- Clean environment, green spaces and implementation of climate-friendly policies (58%)
- Increasing urban transportation options (55%)
- Increasing educational opportunities (53%)
- Increasing cultural, artistic and sporting activities (53%)
- Establishing infrastructure that is better prepared and more resilient to disasters (48%)
- Increasing youth participation in decision-making mechanisms (47%)
- Improving housing conditions and finding solutions to increasing rent problems (46%)
- Support for social solidarity, civil society and volunteer activities (43%)
- Local governments should communicate and cooperate more with young people (43%).
- Facilitating access to psychosocial support services (40%)
- Activities aimed at strengthening gender equality (40%)
- Increased security in public spaces (38%)

This distribution shows that young people's demand for a more livable city is not only focused on physical infrastructure and services; it is also shaped within a



multi-layered framework that includes social interaction areas, economic security, environmental sustainability, and participation in governance processes. The fact that social and cultural areas and employment opportunities rank highly indicates that young people's relationship with the city is not solely based on housing, but also on productivity, socialization, and a sense of belonging to the city.

In parallel with these findings, young people in focus groupsThe need for more social spaces in the city, and the lack of parks and green areas, has been frequently mentioned. This deficiency has been interpreted as leading to boredom among young people and increasing social tension. Students have requested the creation of areas where they can afford financial relief and the organization of free trips. They believe that increasing social spaces will positively impact their motivation to study.

Young men in particular have stated that, in addition to individual material needs, tangible signs of the city's recovery (lights coming on in the evenings, houses being rebuilt, the city coming back to life) would make them feel psychologically better.

## 2. PARTICIPATION IN RECONSTRUCTION PROCESSES

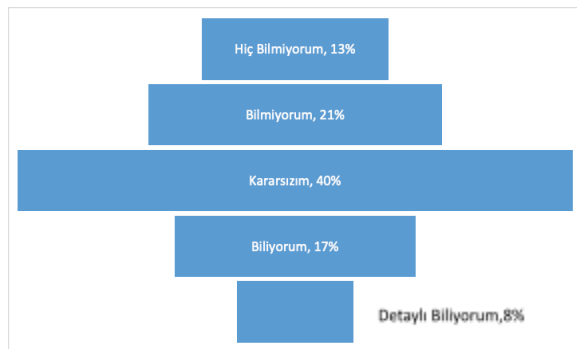
### 2.1 Participation in Reconstruction Processes

Findings regarding the reconstruction process following earthquakes reveal that young people have very limited knowledge about this process.

When considering knowledge of construction processes, the combined responses of "I know" (17%) and "I know in detail" (8%) show that only 25% of respondents reported having knowledge about the reconstruction process.

In contrast, 13% of young people stated they had no knowledge of the process, 21% said they didn't know about it, and 40% were undecided. This distribution shows that the vast majority of young people either do not know enough about the reconstruction process or have not developed a clear understanding of it. It appears that the process is not sufficiently visible to young people, and information and communication mechanisms remain limited.

Figure 50: Level of Knowledge Regarding Reconstruction Processes



When the gender breakdown is examined, a significant inequality in access to information is evident. While the

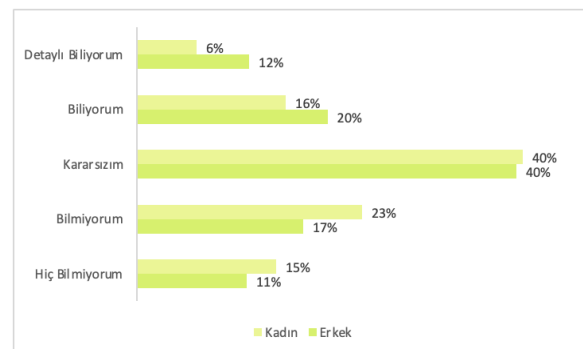
percentage of men who stated that they had knowledge about the reconstruction process reached 32% overall (20% "I know", 12% "I know in detail"), this rate remained at 22% for women.

In contrast, the proportion of those who answered "I don't know" and "I don't know" is higher among women (38%), indicating that women have more limited access to information about the process compared to men (28%).

The fact that the level of indecision is as high as 40% in both sexes reveals that the reconstruction process is perceived with uncertainty by young people; and points to a higher risk of women being left out of this process in particular.

This situation highlights the need to strengthen inclusive and accessible information channels targeting young people, especially young women, in reconstruction and recovery processes.

Graph 51: Gender-Based Awareness of Restructuring Processes



Similarly, it is observed that the level of participation of young people in decision-making mechanisms during the

reconstruction processes carried out after earthquakes is extremely limited.

When the overall distribution is examined, only about 14% of young people stated that they had the chance to express their opinions during this process, while a vast majority (86%) said they did not have such an opportunity.

Figure 52: The State of Idea Sharing During the Restructuring Process



When these data are analyzed by gender, it becomes clear that the lack of participation is even more pronounced for women.

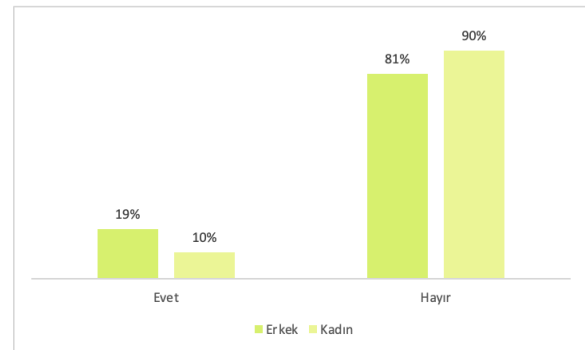
While 19% of men stated that they were able to express their views during the reconstruction process, this figure was only 10% for women.

In contrast, 81% of men and 90% of women stated that they were unable to convey their opinions to decision-making mechanisms. These findings reveal that young people generally feel excluded from reconstruction processes; and that young women, in particular, are even more marginalized in decision-making processes.

The current situation demonstrates an urgent need for inclusive and accessible participation channels that systematically incorporate the views of young people,

especially women, into the design of reconstruction and recovery policies.

Figure 53: Opportunities for Expressing Opinions During the Restructuring Process Based on Gender



Focus group findings on this issue, consistent with quantitative data, show that the reconstruction process is not perceived by young people as a participatory process; they are positioned not as "subjects" of this process, but as a group "affected by its consequences." This situation indicates that reconstruction and recovery policies need to be re-evaluated to encompass not only physical spaces but also the participation of young people in decision-making processes.

In the interviews, the vast majority of young people described the reconstruction process as one that was "carried out outside of their control," one they "only learned about afterwards," and one where "decisions were made at the top." They stated that they were not offered any consultation, feedback, or avenue to express their views regarding the planning of their neighborhoods, living spaces, or needs; and that information about the process was mostly learned through rumors, social media, or third parties.

Young women, in particular, emphasized that they were more excluded from reconstruction processes in focus groups,

both in terms of information and participation. Female participants stated that public meetings were inaccessible to them, that they could not attend such spaces due to safety, time constraints, and societal roles; and that in most cases, they were not even invited. Male participants also stated that while they were not directly involved in the process, they had more indirect access to information compared to women.

## 2.2. Expectations for Participation in Decision-Making Mechanisms for Reconstruction Processes

In line with their individual experiences, young people's perceptions of their participation in decision-making mechanisms during reconstruction processes largely reveal that they feel excluded from these processes.

Only 16% of young people stated that they were able to convey their views and opinions to decision-making mechanisms in the reconstruction process in Adıyaman, while the majority of 84% believe that young people were not included in these processes.

Figure 54: Young People's General Perception of Participation in Reconstruction Decision-Making Processes

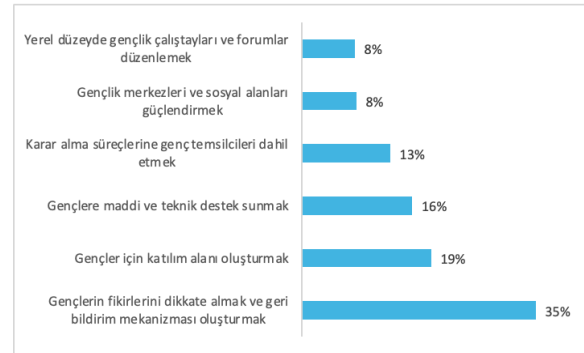


Gender breakdown also supports this general picture; 18% of men and 14% of women state that young people were able to communicate their ideas in the reconstruction process.

In contrast, 82% of men and 86% of women say that young people do not have the opportunity to voice their opinions in decision-making processes.

The assessments regarding the steps that decision-making mechanisms should take to enable young people to participate more in the reconstruction process in Adıyaman show that priority is given to a participatory and feedback-based governance approach.

Figure 55: Recommendations for Participation in the Reconstruction Process



For 34.9% of participants, the most important expectation is that young people's ideas are taken into account and that effective feedback mechanisms are created to reflect these views. This point is particularly strong among young women; 39.7% of women indicated this option as a priority, while this rate remains at 27.8% among men.

Second on the list is the creation of concrete and accessible participation spaces for young people, a suggestion voiced by 19.3% of the total. This topic shows a relatively balanced distribution between genders; 20.2% of men and 18.9% of women consider increasing participation spaces for young people a priority.

Providing material and technical support to young people (16.5%) is emphasized more among men (19.9%) compared to women (13.7%). This finding suggests that young men define participation more through tangible resources and support mechanisms.

While the direct inclusion of youth representatives in decision-making processes (13.2%) was expressed at similar rates for both genders, suggestions such as strengthening youth centers and social spaces, and organizing youth workshops and forums at the local level emerged as more limited but complementary expectations.

Overall, the most fundamental need for increasing youth participation in the reconstruction process is the establishment of inclusive decision-making mechanisms that systematically consider young people's views, are supported by feedback, and where young women, in particular, do not feel excluded.

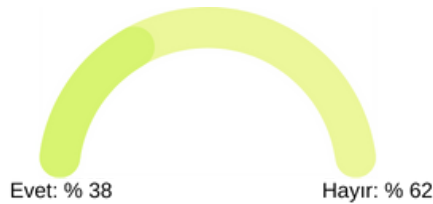
### 3. SOCIAL PARTICIPATION PRACTICES

#### 3.1. Practices for Expressing Local Issues

The study shows that a significant portion of young people living in Adıyaman do not actively use social media to express their views on local issues. While 38% of participants stated that they share posts about local issues on their social media accounts, 62% stated that they have not made any such posts.

These findings indicate that young people have a limited tendency to generate public visibility and make their voices heard on local issues in digital platforms.

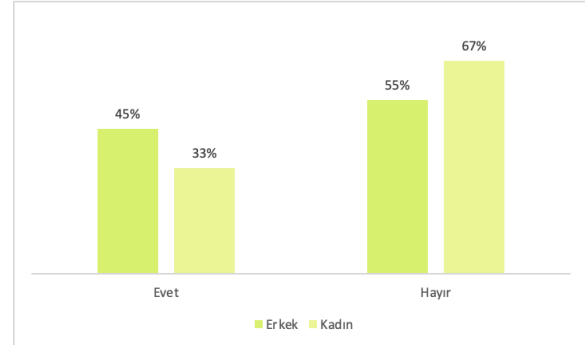
Graph 56: Social Media Sharing Status Regarding Local Issues



A significant difference is observed when examining the gender breakdown. While 45% of men stated that they share posts about local issues on social media, this rate remains at 33% for women.

These findings suggest that young women may be more hesitant or limited in expressing their views on local issues on social media; revealing that digital participation cannot be considered independently of gender dynamics.

Graph 57: Social Media Sharing Status Regarding Local Issues by Gender



#### 3.2. Civic Participation and Volunteerism

Findings on youth membership in non-governmental organizations (NGOs) indicate that organized civic participation generally remains at a very low level.

Only 21% of young people stated that they were members of any association or foundation, while a vast majority of 79% said they were not members of any NGO. This reveals that the ties young people have with civil society structures are weak and their participation in organized civil society structures remains limited.

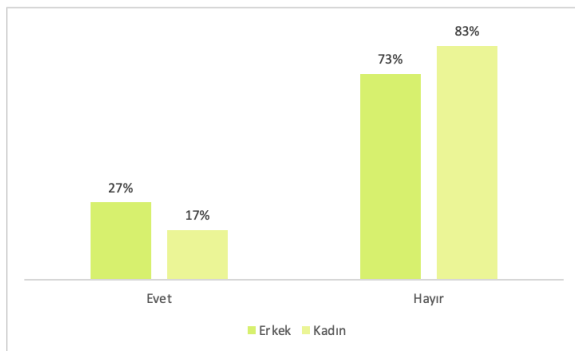
Graph 58 Membership Status in Civil Society Organizations



When the gender breakdown is examined, it is seen that NGO membership is even lower among women.

While 27% of men stated that they were members of some NGO, this rate remained at 17% for women. These findings indicate that there may be structural, cultural, or temporal barriers to the participation of young women in civil society organizations; and show that the gender dimension of civic participation should be given particular consideration.

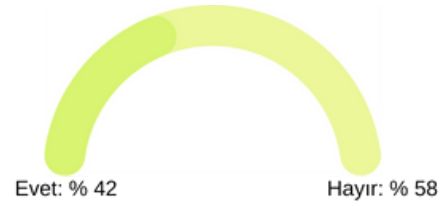
*Graph 59: Membership Status in Civil Society Organizations by Gender*



Despite the low level of NGO membership, it appears that young people's participation in social responsibility projects and volunteer activities outside of school or work is relatively more common.

While 44% of participants stated that they had been involved in some kind of social responsibility project or volunteer work, this rate indicates that young people are turning to more flexible and project-based forms of participation rather than organized membership. This finding can be interpreted as meaning that young people are not entirely indifferent to social issues; however, they experience civic participation more through temporary, practical areas where they can make direct contributions.

*Figure 60 Social Responsibility and Volunteer Practices*



When the gender breakdown is examined, it is seen that participation in volunteer and social responsibility activities is higher among men. While 48% of men stated that they participated in such activities, this rate remained at 38% for women.

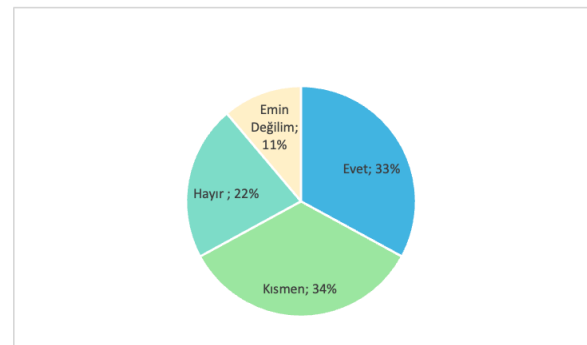
### 3.3. Difficulties in Accessing Public Services

Findings regarding timely and efficient access to public services indicate that a significant proportion of young people experience various difficulties in this area.

While 33% of participants stated that they experienced direct difficulties in accessing public services, 34% said they experienced these difficulties partially.

In contrast, 22% said they experienced no difficulties, while 11% were unsure.

*Figure 61: Timely and On-Site Access to Public Services*



When gender breakdown is examined, no significant difference is observed between women and men. Both young women and men reported experiencing access

problems, or experiencing them partially, at similar rates; indicating that difficulties in accessing public services are experienced as a problem area that is independent of gender, but rather structural and related to the way services are delivered.



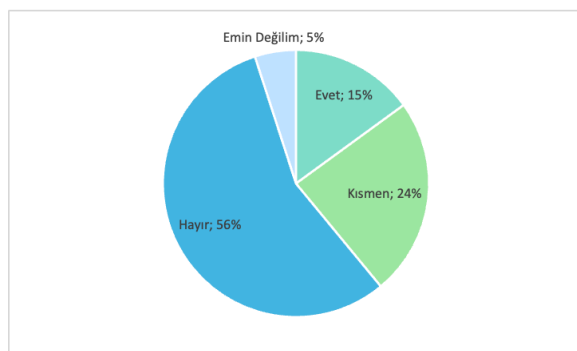
## 4. GENDER EQUALITY, INCLUSION, and ACCESS

### 4.1. Gender Equality

In Adıyaman, the perception of whether young women and young men have the same opportunities points to a significant sense of inequality among young people. The highest percentage among participants was observed between young women and young men.that they don't have the same opportunitiesIt is concentrated in those who think.

56% of young people state that there are no equal opportunities between genders. "Partially" opinions come in second place with 24%, while only 15% believe that young women and young men have the same opportunities. This table shows that gender-based inequality of opportunity is widely perceived by young people.

Graph 62: Perception of Having Equal Opportunities



Gender breakdown reveals that this perception is particularly strong among young women.

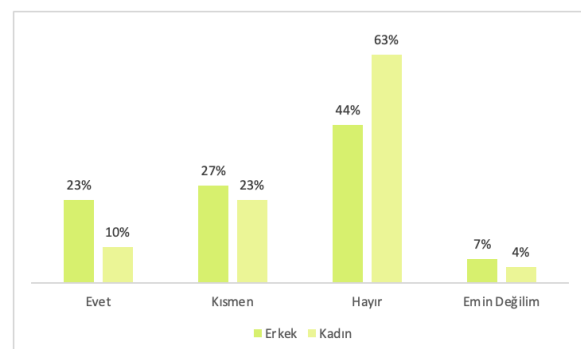
While 63% of young women believe that women and men do not have the same opportunities, this figure is 44% for young

men, with the highest ratings in both groups.

The second most common answer among men was "partially" at 27%, while among women this figure was 23%.

The percentage of those who believe that young women and young men have the same opportunities is 23% for men, but drops to 10% for women. This comparison reveals that inequality of opportunity is felt by all young people; however, this inequality is perceived much more intensely and distinctly by young women.

Graph 63: Perceptions of Equal Opportunities Based on Gender



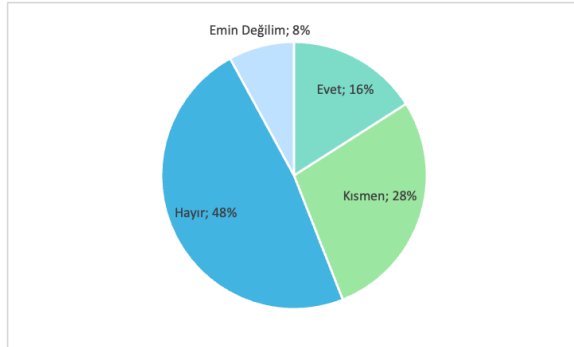
Similarly, perceptions among young people regarding whether women have sufficient access to leadership and entrepreneurial opportunities indicate a predominantly negative picture.

Among young people, the highest rate is for women's access to opportunities in these areas.that you don't have enough It is concentrated in those who think.

48% of young people say that women do not have enough access to leadership and

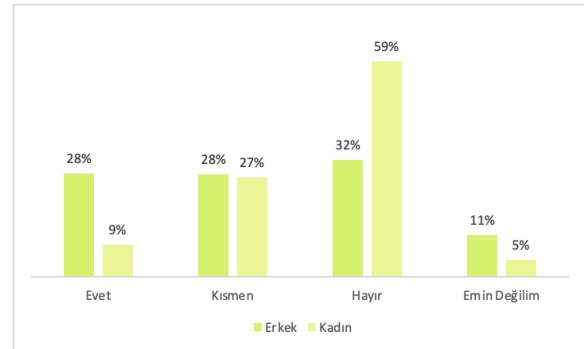
entrepreneurship opportunities. Those who say "partially" access is the second most common response at 28%, while only 16% believe access is adequate.

Figure 64: Perception of Women's Adequate Access to Leadership and Entrepreneurship Opportunities.



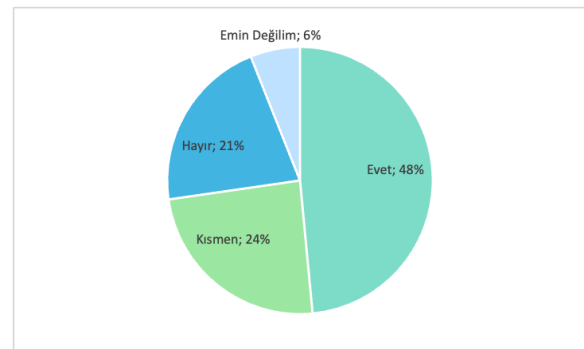
When the gender breakdown is examined, a significant divergence in perceptions is observed. While 28% of men believe that women have sufficient access to leadership and entrepreneurial opportunities, this rate drops to 9% among women. Conversely, the percentage of those who believe that access is insufficient is quite high among women at 59%, while it remains at 32% among men, with the highest rating being concentrated in this option in both groups. The "partially" response is similarly distributed among men at 28% and women at 27%. This comparison reveals that women experience inequalities in leadership and entrepreneurship much more strongly and directly than men; therefore, their perceptions are sharper and more negative.

Graph 65: Perception of Women's Adequate Access to Leadership and Entrepreneurship Opportunities, by Gender.



The perception that gender has an impact on access to education and job opportunities is quite high among young people. 48% of young people explicitly state that this impact exists. The significant number of "partially" responses indicates that a considerable portion of young people believe they experience this impact indirectly or situationally. In contrast, the percentage of those who believe that gender has no effect (21%) remains smaller.

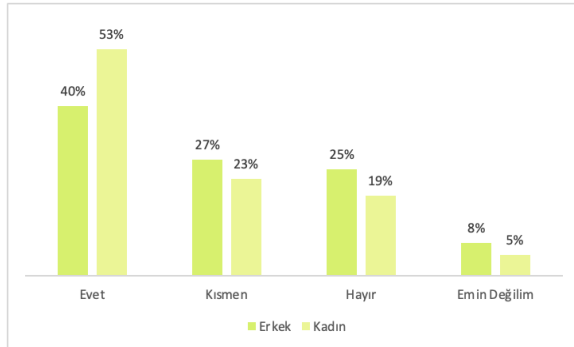
Figure 66: Perceptions of the Impact of Gender on Access to Education and Job Opportunities.



When the gender breakdown is examined, the direction and intensity of perceptions change. While 53% of women believe that gender is a factor in accessing education and employment opportunities, this rate is 40% for men. The percentage of those who think that gender is not a factor is 25% for men and 19% for women. This distribution

reveals that young women experience gender-based barriers in education and employment more visibly and directly; while men perceive these inequalities in a more limited or indirect way.

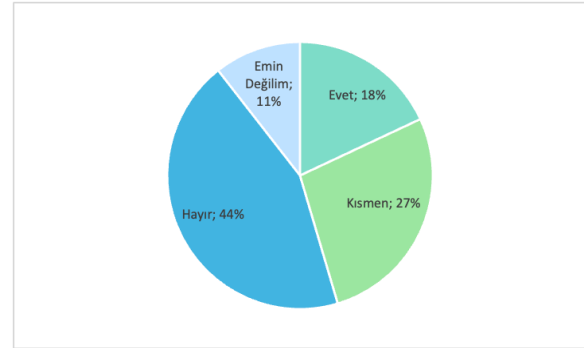
Figure 67: Perceptions of the Impact of Gender on Access to Education and Job Opportunities by Gender



Women and men in local governments, civil society organizations and decision-making mechanisms in general to be able to participate equally. Perceptions regarding this issue are significantly negative among young people. The vast majority of participants believe that equal participation is not ensured in these areas; indeed, approximately 44% of young people state that women and men do not participate equally in decision-making mechanisms.

"Partially" assessments ranked second with approximately 27%, while the percentage of those who believed equal participation was ensured remained at around 18%. The rate of undecided participants was relatively low. This distribution reveals a strong perception that decision-making processes are not sufficiently gender-inclusive.

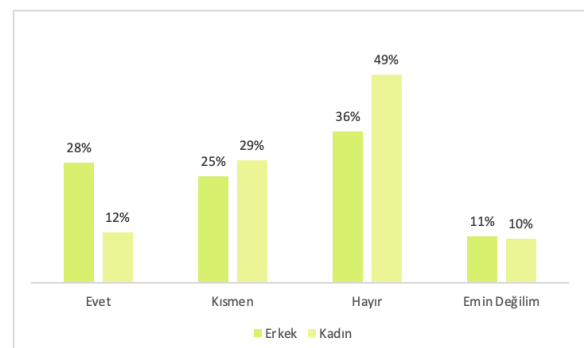
Figure 68: Perceptions of Equal Participation in Decision-Making Mechanisms



The gender breakdown shows that this perception of inequality is particularly intense among young women. While 49% of women believe that women and men do not participate equally in local governments, NGOs, and decision-making mechanisms, this rate is 36% for men, and this option is the highest in both groups.

While 28% of men said "there is equal participation," this figure dropped to 12% for women. The "partially" response was slightly higher among women (29%) compared to men (25%). This comparison shows that women experience a much stronger sense of exclusion from decision-making processes than men; equal representation and participation remain a significant area of need.

Figure 69: Perceptions of Equal Participation in Decision-Making Mechanisms Based on Gender



#### 4.2 Violence and Perception of Security

Findings on exposure to violence over the past year indicate that while a significant proportion of young people have not directly experienced violence, a not insignificant group have faced such experiences.

In total, 105 young people, or 10% of the participants, stated that they had experienced some form of violence in the past year, while 897 young people (90%) stated that they had not had such an experience. When the gender breakdown is examined, it is seen that 47 of those who reported experiencing violence were male and 58 were female. The fact that women numerically report experiencing violence more often suggests that the gender dimension of violence is a significant risk area for young people as well.

Graph 70: Exposure to Violence in the Last Year

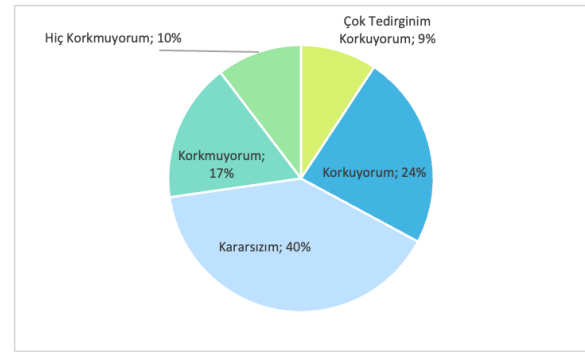


Responses to the question, "How do you feel about safety in public spaces and in your neighborhood, especially at night?" indicate that nighttime safety concerns are quite common among young people. When the findings are aggregated, the percentage of those who selected "very anxious/afraid" and "afraid" reaches 33% overall.

In contrast, the overall percentage of those who describe themselves as "not afraid" or "not afraid at all" remains at 27%; the largest group among young people consists

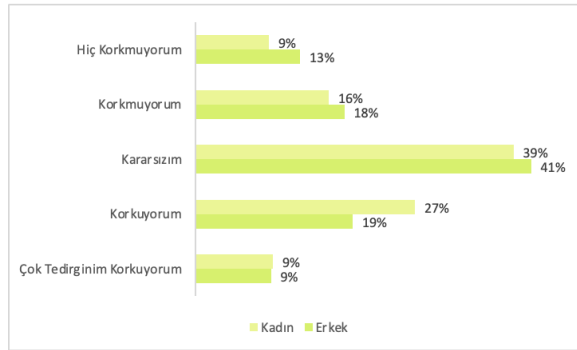
of those who are undecided, at 40%. This distribution reveals that a significant portion of young people do not feel safe in public spaces at night or have not developed a clear perception of safety.

Figure 71: Perceptions of Security in Public Spaces



When the gender breakdown is examined, it is seen that safety concerns are more pronounced in women. While 36% of women stated that they were afraid or very uneasy in public spaces at night, this rate was 28% in men. In contrast, the percentage of those who said "I am not afraid/not afraid at all" was 31% in men, while it dropped to 25% in women. This table indicates that young women, in particular, are in a more vulnerable position in terms of their perception of safety in public spaces at night, and points to the existence of a gender-based safety disparity.

Graph 72: Perceptions of Safety in Public Spaces by Gender

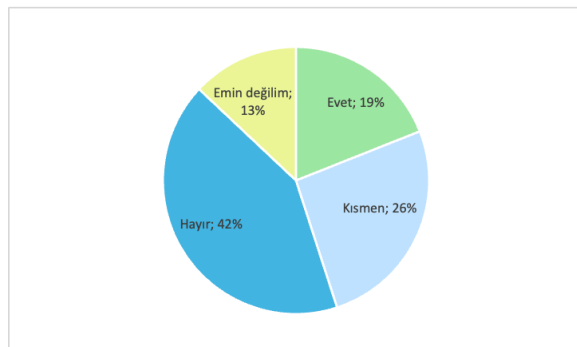


University students in focus group discussions especially the road between the dormitory and the school problematic from a security point of view. He complained about it and increasing environmental safety. They have requested it.

#### 4.3 Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Exclusion

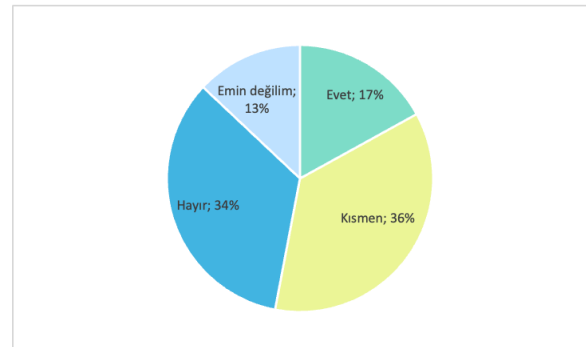
Perceptions regarding whether immigrant or ethnic youth have equal access to education and employment opportunities point to a significant sense of inequality among young people. Only 19% of participants believe that these groups have equal access to education and employment opportunities, while 26% stated that access is partially equal. In contrast, the highest percentage, 42%, indicated that immigrant or ethnic youth do not have equal opportunities in these areas. 13% were unsure on this matter.

Figure 73: Perceptions of Equal Access to Education and Employment Opportunities for Immigrant and Ethnic Youth.



This table shows that perceptions regarding the freedom of expression for immigrants and individuals of different ethnic identities in social life are similarly limited and fragmented. Only 17% of respondents believe that young people with different views or identities can freely express themselves in social life. While 36% of participants stated that this freedom is only partially possible, a significant 34% said that young people cannot express themselves freely. A group of 13% stated that they did not have a clear opinion on this matter.

Figure 74: Perceptions of Immigrant and Ethnic Youth Regarding Their Ability to Express Themselves Freely in Social Life.

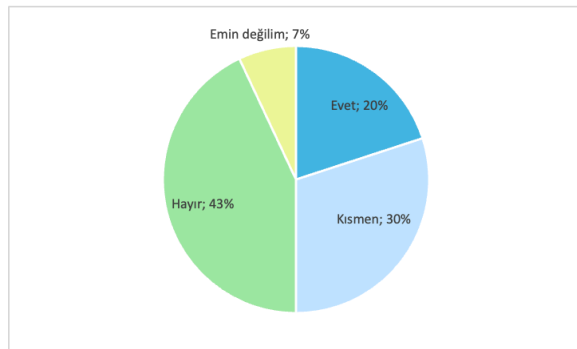


When these findings are considered together, it becomes clear that a significant portion of young people believe that differences are not fully accepted in society; and that freedom of expression is not perceived as a widespread, safe, and inclusive experience. This situation points to the existence of structural and perceptual barriers in terms of social cohesion, participation, and a culture of living together.

Another finding supporting this perception relates to young people's experiences of exclusion in social events and public spaces. Responses to the question, "Have you ever felt excluded in social events or public

spaces?" reveal that social inclusion is limited in practice. 43% of participants stated that they felt excluded in such environments, while 30% said they experienced this partially. In contrast, only 20% said they had not experienced such a situation, and 7% were unsure. This distribution shows that a significant portion of young people do not feel a sufficiently strong sense of belonging and acceptance in public and social spaces; perceptions of freedom of expression and acceptance of differences directly intersect with experiences of exclusion in daily life.

*Graph 75: Young People's Experiences of Feeling Excluded*



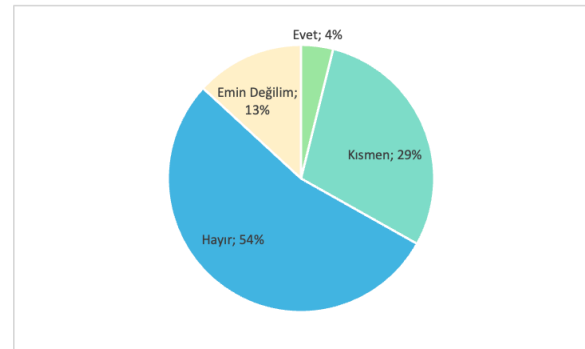
#### **4.4. Accessibility for Young People with Disabilities and Special Needs**

The general responses to the question, “Are there enough accessible areas for disabled individuals in your living environment?” indicate a significant and widespread perception of inadequacy regarding accessibility. Only 4% of participants believed that there were sufficient accessible areas for disabled individuals in their environment, while 29% stated that this adequacy was only partially achieved. In contrast, more than half of the participants (54%) explicitly stated that there were insufficient accessible areas, while 13% expressed uncertainty. This distribution reveals a strong societal perception that public and semi-public spaces have significant structural deficiencies in meeting the needs of disabled individuals.

The responses of the 31 participants who stated they had a disability confirm this situation even more strikingly. Within this group, only 1 person stated that the accessible areas were adequate, while 11 explicitly answered "no." 12 participants stated that they found the accessibility "partially" adequate, and 7 said they were unsure.

These findings, based particularly on the direct experiences of individuals with disabilities, reveal that accessibility issues are not merely a matter of perception; they demonstrate the existence of concrete and persistent obstacles encountered in daily life. This strongly suggests that accessibility should be prioritized within inclusive urbanization, public space design, and local services.

*Figure 76: Adequacy of Accessible Spaces for Individuals with Disabilities*



Assessments of post-disaster processes reveal a strong perception that the needs of individuals with disabilities and young people with special needs are not adequately considered. Only 6% of participants felt that these needs were sufficiently taken into account, while 33% stated that the process was only partially inclusive.

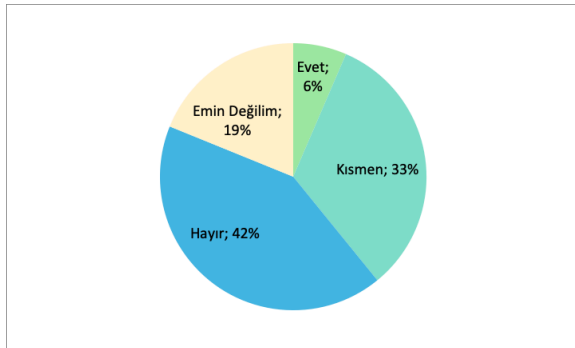
In contrast, 42% stated that the needs of disabled individuals and young people with special needs were not taken into account in post-disaster response, while 19% expressed no clear opinion on the matter. This distribution indicates that inclusivity remains weak in post-disaster planning and response processes, and that special needs are not addressed systematically.

Of the 31 young people who identified themselves as having disabilities, only 3 stated that their needs were taken into account during the post-disaster process, while 11 said their needs were not. 10 participants stated that they found the process "partially" adequate, while 7 expressed uncertainty.

Assessments from individuals with direct experience show that post-disaster services and support mechanisms are often not

designed to be accessible, appropriate, and needs-oriented for individuals with disabilities; this clearly indicates the need to strengthen inclusive disaster management approaches.

*Graph 77: Perception of whether the needs of young people with disabilities and special needs are taken into account after a disaster.*





## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This research examines the living conditions, daily practices, emotional states, and future expectations of young people living in Adıyaman on the second anniversary of the February 6, 2023 earthquakes, from a multidimensional perspective. When quantitative survey data and qualitative narratives obtained from focus group interviews are considered together, it is seen that young people experienced the post-earthquake period not only as a continuation of physical destruction, but also as a long period of uncertainty, vulnerability, and readjustment. It reveals that young people living in Adıyaman experienced multifaceted challenges in the post-earthquake period; however, they also possessed strong resilience and a demand for change. The experiences of young people show that post-disaster recovery cannot be limited to physical reconstruction alone; it requires holistic policies encompassing social, psychological, and participatory dimensions.

The findings reveal that young people face structural barriers in many areas, from education and employment to housing, psychological well-being, social life, and urban belonging.

However, it is also observed that young people are not a completely passive, hopeless, or detached group; on the contrary, they develop strong social bonds, solidarity practices, and a desire to hold on to the future. This dual situation shows that youth should be considered as both a vulnerable and potentially powerful social actor in the post-disaster context.

This clearly highlights the importance of approaches that position young people not

merely as a group to be supported, but as agents in processes of reconstruction, recovery, and social resilience.

Within this scope, the findings and recommendations under the main headings are as follows:

### **EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC SITUATION**

The living conditions and economic outlook of young people in Adıyaman exhibit a high degree of vulnerability. Research findings reveal that the most fundamental factor threatening the continuity of education is economic deprivation. A significant portion of young students lack access to suitable physical environments for studying due to housing conditions such as crowded households and container living.

In the field of employment, a significant gender inequality is evident. The fact that women constitute a vast majority among young people who are neither in education nor employment (NEET) indicates that young women are at a higher risk of both economic and social exclusion. Similarly, the vast majority of young people in Adıyaman do not believe they can find a suitable job; this negative perception is particularly prevalent among young women.

Household-level economic conditions also directly affect the daily lives of young people. A significant proportion of young people view their family's economic situation negatively; this leads to increased financially-related tensions within the household and negatively impacts the psychosocial well-being of young people.

people. **holistic support models**  
(**economic support + counseling + guidance**) implementation.

### **Short-Term Recommendations**

- For young people at risk of dropping out of education due to economic deprivations **scholarships, transportation, meals, and educational materials support** increasing and directing in a targeted manner.
- For students **neighborhood-scale study areas, youth workspaces, and quiet study spots** rapid creation of.
- NEET group **Emergency transition support for young women (skills development, counseling, guidance)** ensuring.
- To reduce the despair of young people about finding a job. **transparent information on local employment opportunities and career guidance services** strengthening of.

### **Medium-Term Recommendations**

- Supporting the continuity of education and employment for young people, especially focusing on young women. **local youth employment and livelihood strategy** development of.
- To increase the participation of young women in the workforce, by easing the burden of caregiving, **structural arrangements including safe transportation and flexible working models** implementation.
- To prevent dropout from education **early warning and monitoring mechanisms (through school-family-social services collaboration)** establishment.
- Examining the relationship between household economics and the psychosocial well-being of young

### **DAILY LIFE, SOCIAL LIFE AND CITY EXPERIENCE**

The study reveals that the social lives and relationships of young people in Adiyaman are significantly restricted. The vast majority of young people state that they lack access to opportunities for socialization in the city; they highlight spatial deficiencies as the primary obstacle to socialization. This situation points to a lack of safe, accessible, and sustainable social spaces for young people in the city. The existence of existing social, cultural, and hobby spaces is limited, and access to these spaces is widespread. Young women, in particular, report experiencing these spatial access restrictions more intensely than men.

An examination of leisure practices reveals low participation in regular activities; a significant gender-based disparity is observed, particularly in sports. While young men report significantly higher rates of regular sports participation compared to women, it appears that young women have more limited access to these activities due to both spatial and social barriers. This picture demonstrates that social life and leisure experiences are shaped in an unequal and inclusive manner within the city.

### **Short-Term Recommendations**

- Young people **safe social spaces that can be used free of charge or at low**

**cost**(Cultural center, youth area, multi-purpose halls) should be implemented quickly.

- To existing social and hobby spaces**Focused research to understand access problems**to be done.
- To reduce access problems to existing facilities**transportation, security and time regulations**making improvements in that direction.
- To increase the participation of young women in social life.**hours and programs specifically for women or women-friendly hours**implementation.
- To increase participation in sports and physical activity**low-cost, neighborhood-based, and regular sports activities**initiation of.

#### **Medium-Term Recommendations**

- Focusing on the social life needs of young people**youth-focused spatial planning and urban design strategy**development of.
- In social, cultural and sporting field**sustainable policies and practices that promote gender equality**implementation.
- **Content, accessibility and usage conditions of youth centers and sports facilities.**restructuring [the organization] in line with the needs of young people.
- To strengthen participation in social life in the city.**Supporting participatory culture, arts and sports programs in which young people play an active role..**

#### **PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING, SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS, AND PERCEPTION OF THE FUTURE**

Research findings indicate that the psychological effects of the February 6th

earthquakes are still ongoing for a significant portion of young people. This effect is more pronounced among young women, who express a higher need for psychological support than men. However, the vast majority of young people who indicate a need for psychological support have not had access to professional services.

Emotional sharing and support networks are limited and fragmented. A significant proportion of young people report not sharing their problems with anyone; this trend is particularly prevalent among young men. This situation weakens the visibility of emotional distress and the accessibility to support mechanisms.

Perceptions about the future are based on fragile ground. While a significant portion of young people express a lack of hope for the future, this despair is largely linked to economic uncertainties and job insecurity. However, the fact that young people's most fundamental expectation revolves around having a good profession reveals that employment is seen not only as a source of income but also as a fundamental pillar of security, independence, and a sense of future.

#### **Short-Term Recommendations**

- For young people**accessible, free or low-cost psychological support services**popularization.
- It will reduce waiting times.**short-term, group-based, and online support models**activation of.
- To reduce the tendency among young boys to not share.**Information and awareness campaigns to reduce stigma**execution.

### **Medium-Term Recommendations**

- ***School, youth center and neighborhood-based youth-friendly mental health service models***institutionalization of.
- ***Holistic approaches that combine psychosocial support with employment and vocational guidance programs***.development of.
- Young people after the disaster***Sustainable monitoring and guidance mechanisms for monitoring psychological well-being***creation of.

### **CITIZENSHIP EXPERIENCE, PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES**

Research findings indicate that the connection between young people in Adiyaman and their city has weakened, and life satisfaction remains low. A large majority of young people express a desire to leave the city; this trend is even more pronounced among young women.

Youth participation in reconstruction and local decision-making processes is extremely limited. A vast majority of young people state that they cannot express their views in these processes; they position themselves outside of decision-making mechanisms.

Security concerns are widespread in public spaces. This unease, particularly felt at night, is more pronounced among young women and limits their use of public spaces. Similarly, a significant number of young people report experiencing difficulties accessing public services promptly and efficiently; this indicates that public services

in the city are not sufficiently inclusive or accessible for young people.

The perception of gender inequality is high; the majority of young people believe that there are not equal opportunities between women and men. In terms of inclusion, there is a strong perception that public spaces and services are not sufficiently accessible for individuals with disabilities. This situation reveals that the principle of equal access is not adequately considered in the planning and implementation processes of public services.

### **Short-Term Recommendations**

- Young people***Social, cultural and safe public spaces for young people to increase their motivation to stay in the city***rapidly strengthening it.
- ***Transparent and regular information regarding reconstruction processes***.and accessible spaces where young people can express their views***feedback channels***creation of.
- In public spaces***lighting, transportation and visible security measures aimed at increasing security***Improving areas that are heavily used, especially by women.
- ***Disabled young people***focused***Research aimed at understanding access difficulties***.urgent measures and improvements in public spaces and services***accessibility regulations***implementation of.

### **Medium-Term Recommendations**

- To ensure the regular and meaningful participation of young people in decision-making processes.***Establishment of institutional youth participation mechanisms (advisory boards, youth councils)***.

- Local services and programs aimed at reducing gender inequality.***institutionalization of gender-sensitive planning and practices.***
- Strengthening the right to a safe life in the city***Development of gender-based security policies.***
- Making accessibility in public services a fundamental principle, and including

individuals with disabilities.***Development of inclusive urban design and service standards.***

- To strengthen the connection between young people and the city.***a long-term local youth strategy focused on citizenship, access to rights and participation***implementation of.