





# **OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA IN STATE OF KUWAIT**

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# 1. What Is Open Government Data (OGD)

The concept of publishing a data into a public layer. It can be used freely without any legal constraints, reused and republished with respect to its legal license.



## 2. Introduction

- Many governments are adopting the concept of Open Government Data (OGD) as a way to enhance its transparency, accountability and individual participations.
- Kuwait has many efforts regarding open government data internationally and locally.



### 3. OGD Features

Serial	Feature	Detail
1	Full and easy Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On the Internet Reusable (with respect to its original license).</li><li>• No password.</li><li>• Free of cost (no fees to access the data).</li></ul>
2	Ability to republish and redistribute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Machine-readable. Data is reasonably structured to allow automated processing.</li><li>• Data license must be trusted and support the ability of republish and redistribute.</li><li>• Data is not subject to any copyrights, patent, trademark.</li><li>• Reasonable privacy</li></ul>
3	Ability to share internationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data license should support a full reuse without any exception.</li><li>• Data license should not constraint data on business use only.</li><li>• Data is available to the widest range of users for widest range of purposes</li></ul>



## 4. OPEN DATA ORGANIZATIONS & PROGRAMS

Governments and Individuals realized the importance of Open Data in increasing Transparency and interoperability and decreasing Anti-corruption , Some of the main organizations & Programs.





## 5. OPEN DATA ORGANIZATIONS & PROGRAMS

- **3.a. Open Government partnership (OGP)** :Secure actual commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and utilize new technologies in order to strengthen governance.
- **3.b. PEFA** : blend country level assessment of public financial management across the organizations and Reduce the duplication and costs of several assessments of public finance.
- **3.c. Open Knowledge International (OGI)** : Helps civil society groups to utilize the data and to take actions on social issues and problems.
- **3.d. Open Data Foundation (ODF)**: Fill the gap in the statistical data and metadata management and the Development of open sources solutions and for the management of data.



## 6. Supporting laws & Agreements in State of Kuwait to open government data

Kuwait laws and Regulations encourages transparency in order to promote accountability and to fight corruptions through several means, several laws were established that encourages open data concept in different articles:

- **Laws :**

- Law No. 27 for year 1963 Regarding Statics and Census
- Law No. 2 for the year 2016 Regarding the establishment of Kuwait Anti-corruption Authority

- **Agreements:**

- United Nation Convention Against Corruption Agreement
- The Arabic Convention for Combating Corruption agreement





## 7. Pros of adopting Open Government Data (OGD) in SAB

1. Increased transparency and accountability
2. Improved public relations and attitudes toward government
3. Increased reputation of a public sector body
4. Transparent way of informing the general public about infringement of legislation
5. Improved the quality of services
6. Improved government data and processes
7. Supporting re-use and increasing the value of data
8. Minimizing errors when working with government data
9. Less requests for data



## 8. Risks Related of Open Government Data in SAB

1. Breach and violation of law by publishing data.
2. Country Reputation.
3. Publication of inappropriate data and information
4. Misconception of the data
5. Unwilling to cooperate
6. Requesting and justifying of data



## 9. Kuwait's experience in applying Open government data locally and internationally

- Governmental bodies and institutions in Kuwait
  - **PEFA in Kuwait:**
    - **Mechanism for Strengthening the PEFA Framework in the State of Kuwait:**
- Kuwait State Audit Bureau supports the open of government data by published the annual reports



## 9-1 Kuwait's experience in applying Open government data locally

Kuwait State Audit Bureau supports the open of government data by published the annual reports:

- The State of Audit Bureau reports are available on the web site-home page without any restrictions, such as registration on the site to obtain a copy or even restrictions preventing reuse. Reports are available to citizens or residents without discrimination.
- After discussing the reports of the Bureau in the National Assembly and in the presence of the members of the Council of Ministers, the Bureau is entitled to publish its reports.
- Reports of the SAB are available in PDF format in Arabic, The website also has the possibility of translating these reports into English.





## 9-2. Kuwait's experience in applying open government data locally

Subject	Number of visitors
Total Visitor ( consider Sab Employees attendance system)	336,301
Unique IPs	81,576
Total hits on Publications-Reports	979

Number of those who reviewed the reports of the Bureau during the period (09/02/2016 -4/05/2017)



## 10. Survey: The impact of adopting the open government data

### Aims:

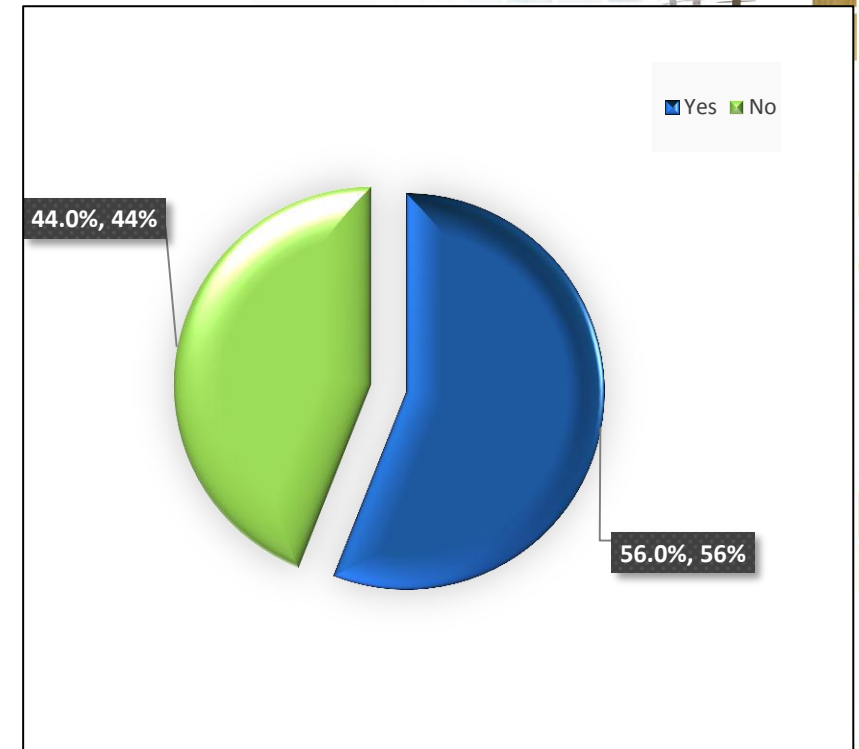
- Measuring the knowledge of the Kuwaiti society about the concept of publishing government data.
- Evaluating their knowledge about the laws that support the concept of publishing government data.
- Measuring the impact of publishing the annual reports of the Audit Office in support of accountability and transparency.
- Adopting Kuwait portal for Government data and loading it with data by Government Entities.





## 10-1. RESULTS: The participant awareness of the concept of open government data

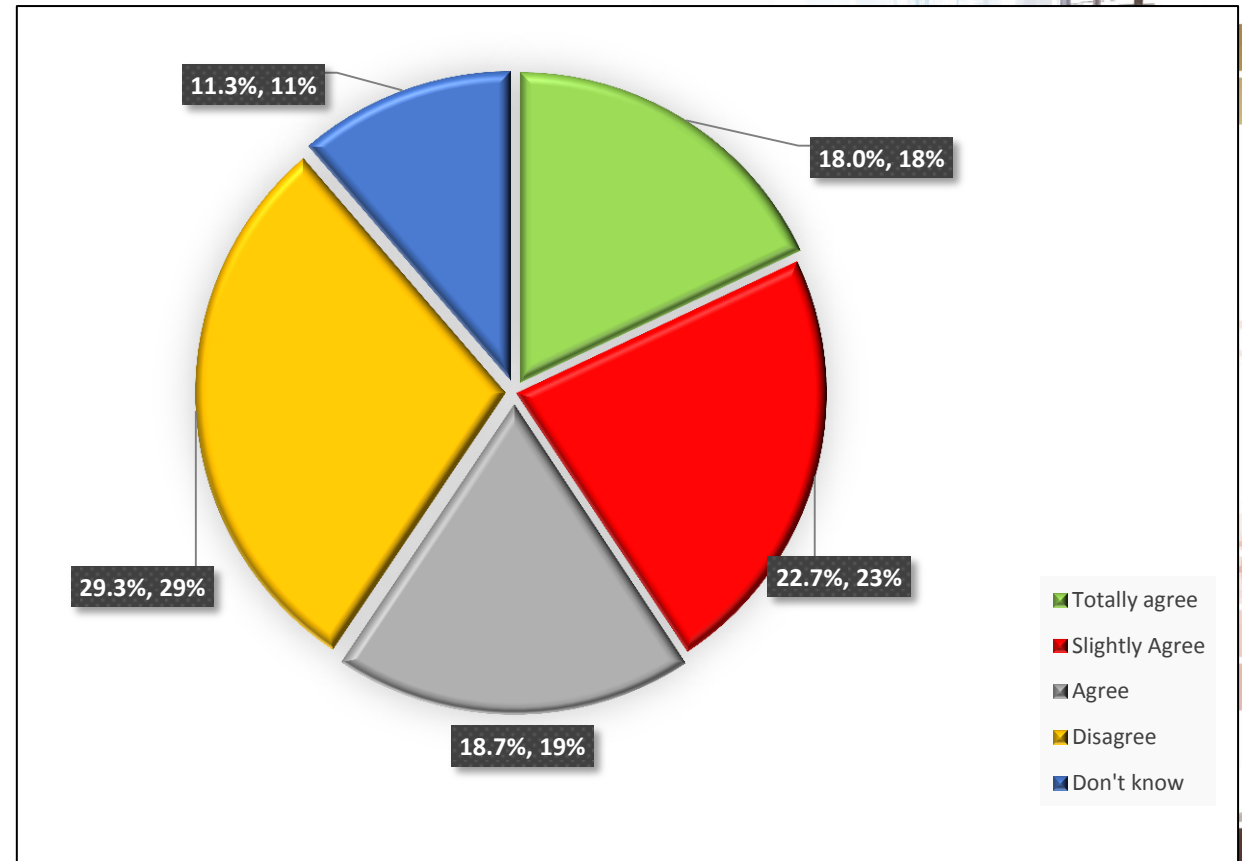
- 56% has awareness of the concept of open government data.
- High portion has the ability of benefit of the published government data once the government provide a full adoption of such concept





## 10-2. RESULTS: Governmental entities provide its data easily and without constraints

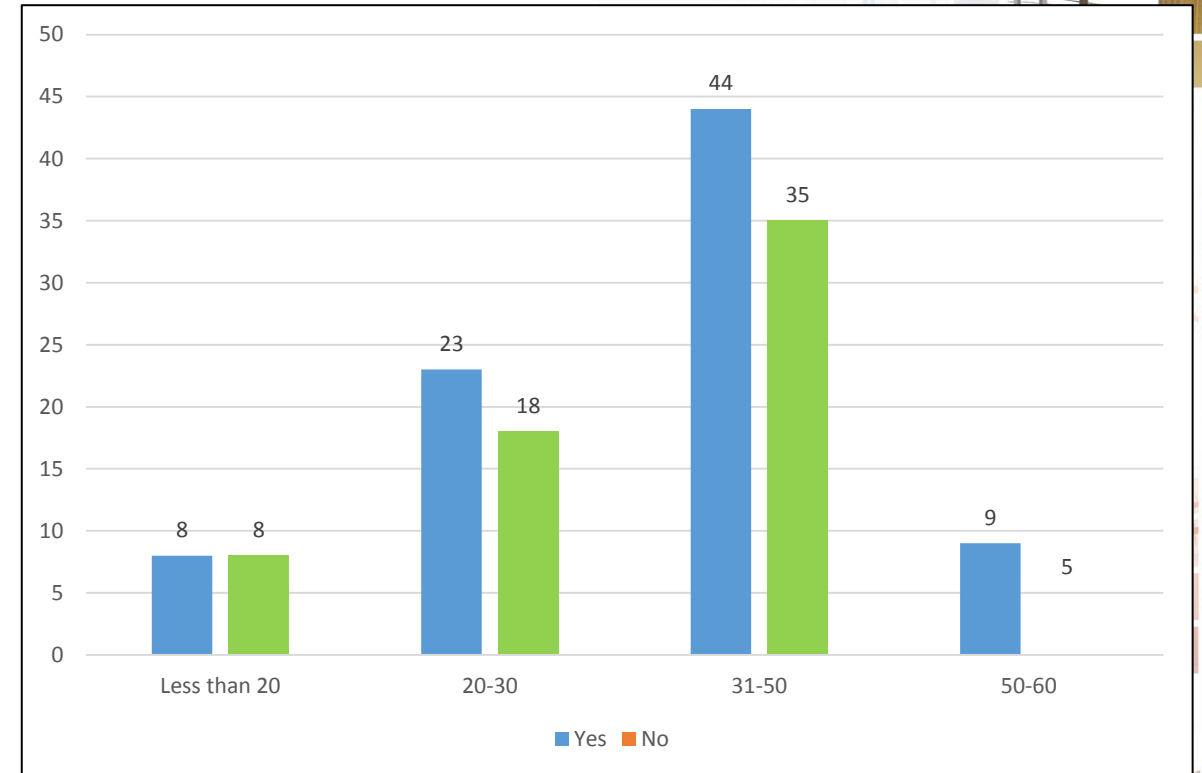
- 88% of the sample had an experience with the published governmental data.
- 11.3% of the sample could not decide a proper answer.
- The sample response shows a good level of having individual experience with open government data without knowing its concept and impacts.





## 10-3. RESULTS: The relation between Age categories and awareness of the concept of open government data

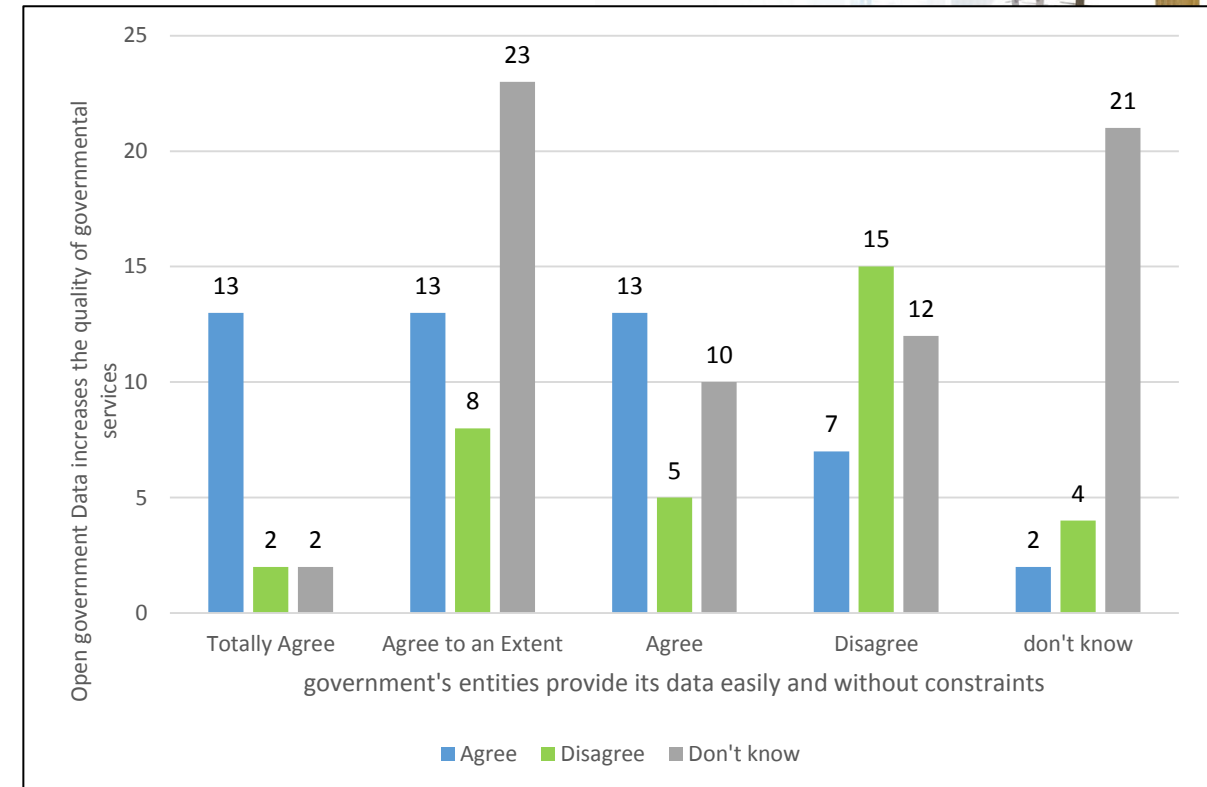
- The graph indicates a non-decreasing level of awareness among all categories of age.
- 56% was highest within category (31-50) with percentage among the overall sample.





## 10-4. RESULTS: The relation between the participant response regarding the status of open government data in Kuwait and its impact on the provided governmental services

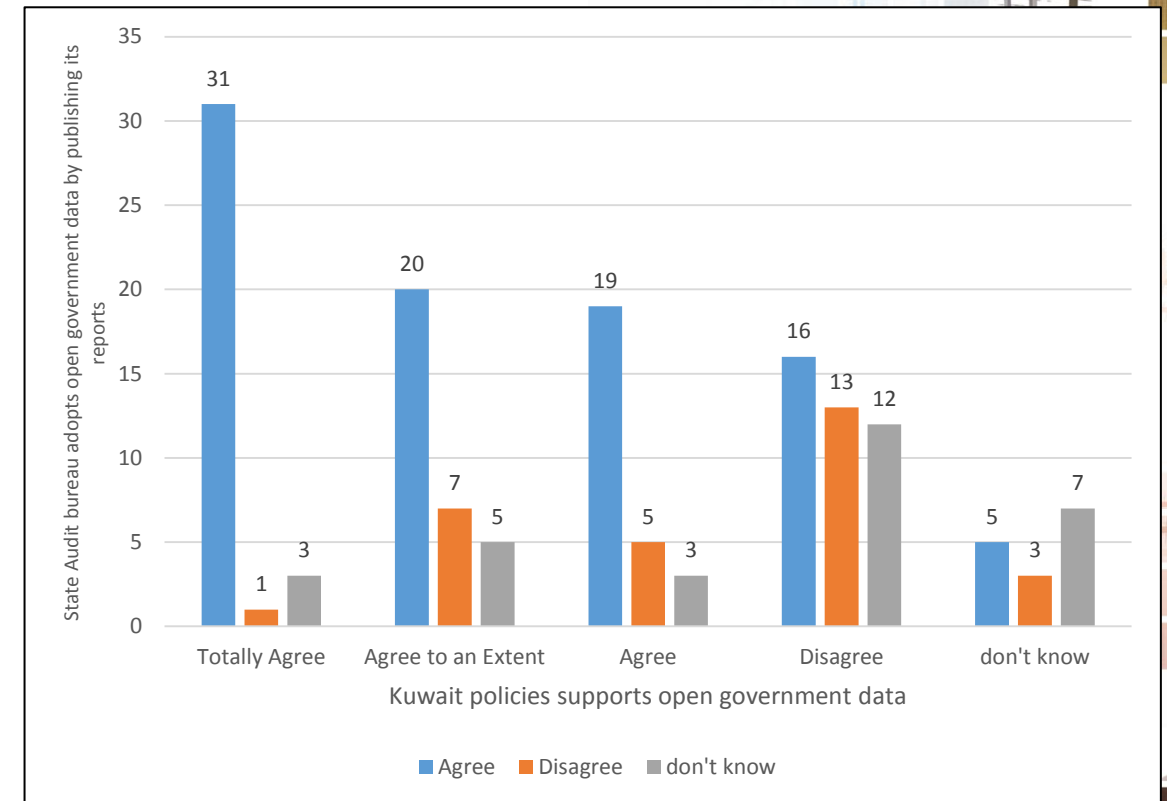
- 43.8% of participants approved on the positive relation between the open governments data in Kuwait and its quality of services.
- 56.1% could not indicate the relation between such factors due to their awareness level of such concept and its high impact.





## 10-5. RESULTS: The relation between the participant response regarding the adoption of open government data in Kuwait and the extent to which this is applied in the State Audit Bureau by publishing reports on its official website

- 74.4% of participants approved on the positive relation between the adoptions in Kuwait through policies and SAB achievements through publishing its reports.
- 25.6% could not indicate the relation between such factors due to their awareness level of such concept or its related policies in Kuwait or SAB reports.

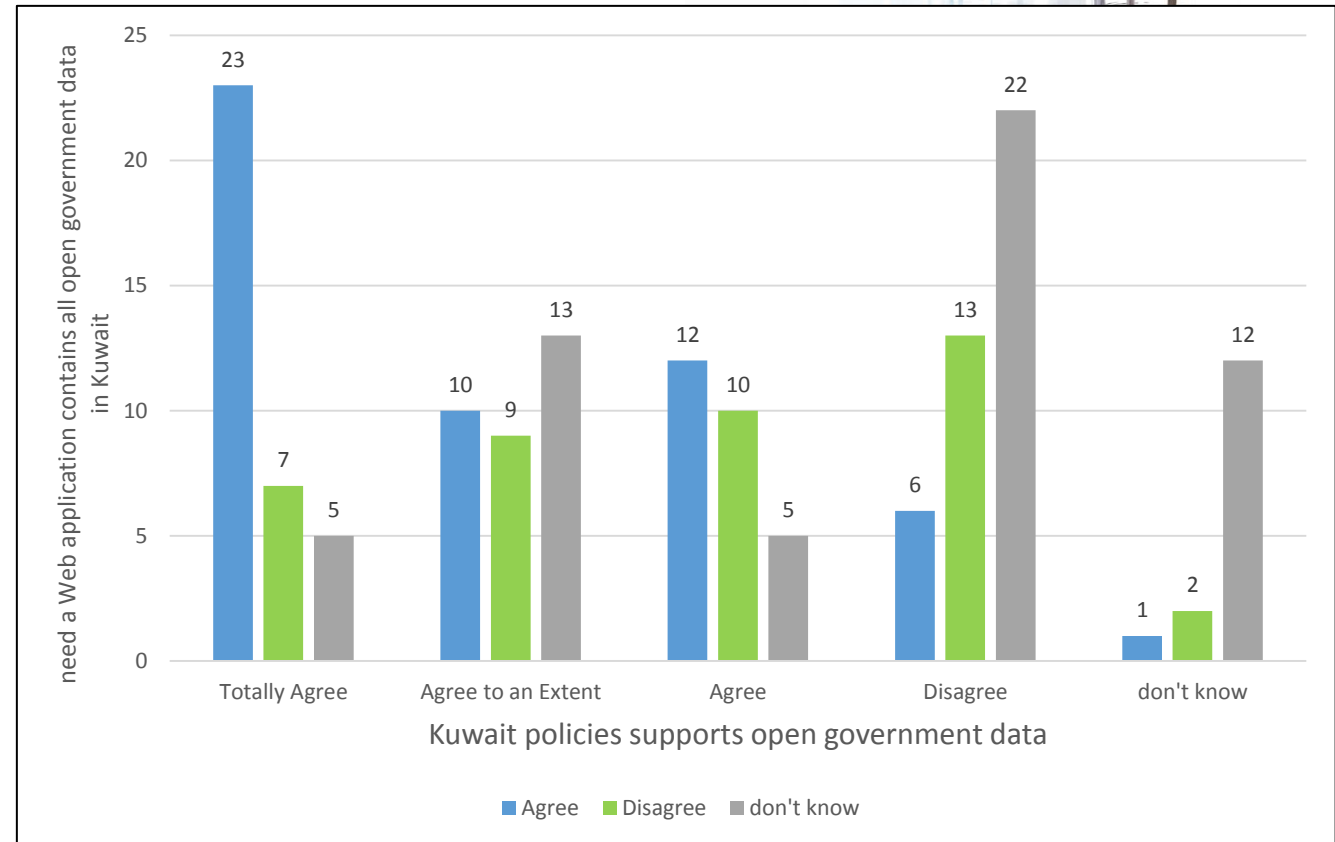






## 10-6. RESULTS: The relation between the participant response regarding the adoption of open government data in Kuwait and the need to create a Website for all government data.

- 47.87% of participants approved on the positive relation between the adoptions in Kuwait through laws and regulations on the need of Enterprise Website for Open Government Data in Kuwait.
- 52.13% could not indicate the relation between such factors due to their awareness level of such concept or its related policies and its impacts.







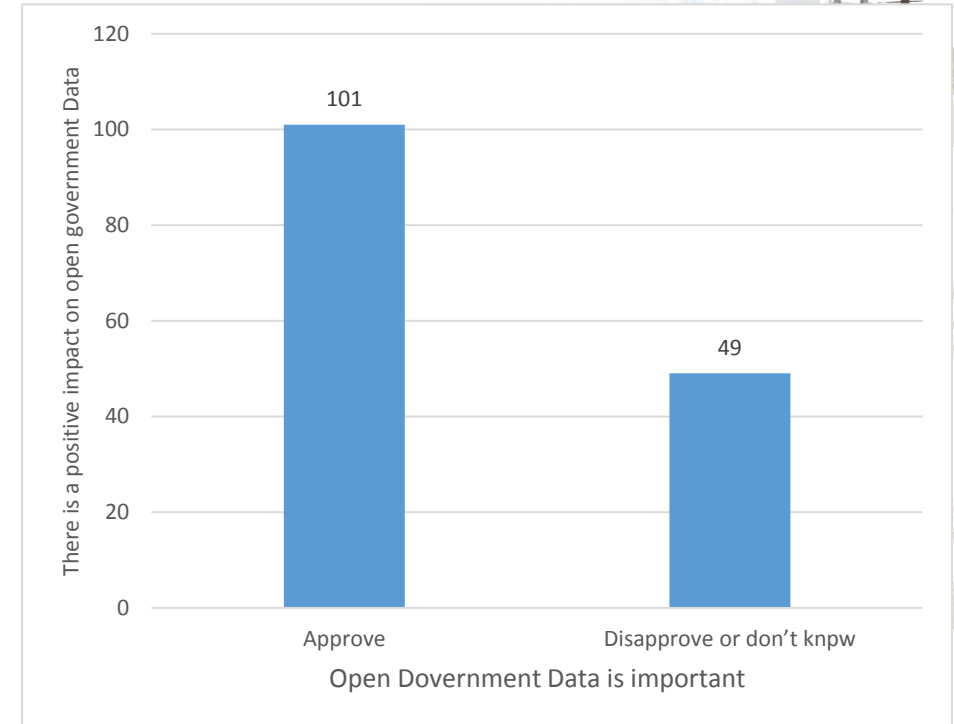
## 10-7. Results: Participant's opinion of the following open government data impacts

The survey studies the following open government data impacts:

- Decrease corruption level in Kuwait
- Support Kuwait to become a financial center
- Increase the quality of governmental services

The results shows

- 67.33% of the sample believed on the positive impact of open government data into the three decided factors.
- 32.26% could not visualize this impact partially due to their awareness level of the concept of open government data.





## 11-1. Recommendation

- Adopt searchable database for all SAB remarks on its official Website.
- Enhance the policies and laws supporting the publishing of government data, with the possibility of modifying the Law No.27 of 1963.
- Strengthening the principle of accountability in Kuwaiti society and supporting the right to access government data while ensuring the reduction of corruption.
- Increase the awareness of the concept of government data in the Kuwaiti society, and adopt the establishment of a governmental unit, as in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain and Oman for OGD.



## 11-2. Recommendation

- Adopting curricula in the intermediate and secondary stages that support the mechanisms of reducing corruption and accountability principles.
- Establishment of a portal or platform for government data (Government Open Data Portal).
- Encourage government organizations to cooperate and participate with international data dissemination initiatives to ensure applying list of all standards that benefit the process of unifying work and supporting the transparency and accountability standards.



## 12. Conclusion

- The State of Kuwait has adopted the concept of open government data through supporting laws and through the effective implementation of the concept.
- There is a possibility of applying OGD concept through definition of the framework and specifying the policies.
- Adopting the concept of government open data will have an impact on increased accountability and will work to achieve the highest levels of transparency.
- Kuwait laws and agreements all tend to promote/ encourage transparency and open government data in a way that does not disregards the rights or reputations of individuals and the protection of national security.

# Questions and Answer