



## Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation

### May 2021 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt

Released:

**May 25, 2021**

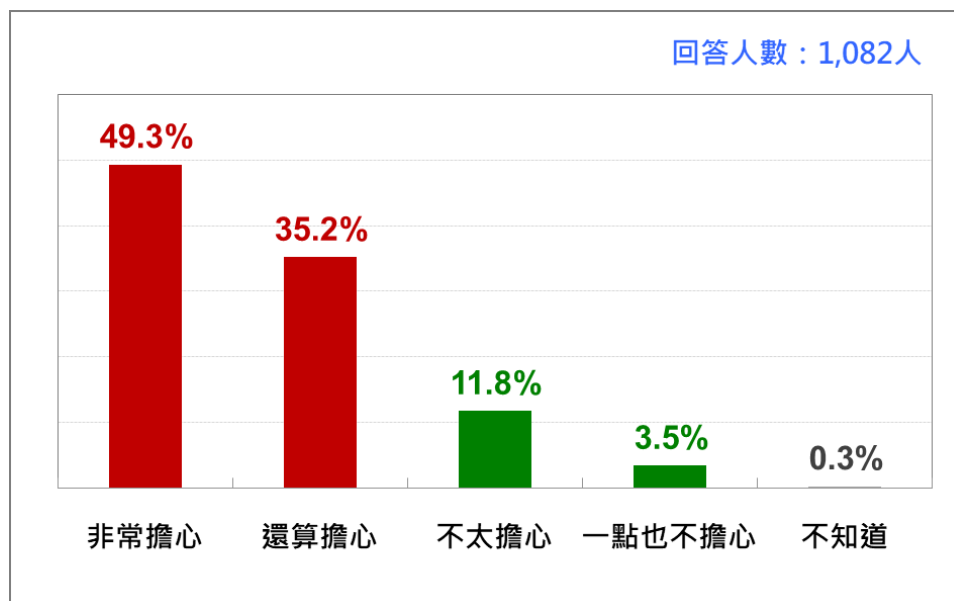
**Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation** (TPOF) today released the result of its national opinion polling for the month of May 2021. This marks the 56th monthly opinion poll conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes in Taiwan’s public opinion. The timing of this poll coincided with a rapid worsening outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic in parts of Taiwan. Since the government of Taiwan has declared level 3 emergency across Taiwan, TPOF did not hold an in-person press conference in Taipei as we always did in the past but still published press release and full result on our official website. This also marks the first time TPOF published an English-language excerpt of the polling result and analysis alongside the original report.

#### **How the Survey was Conducted**

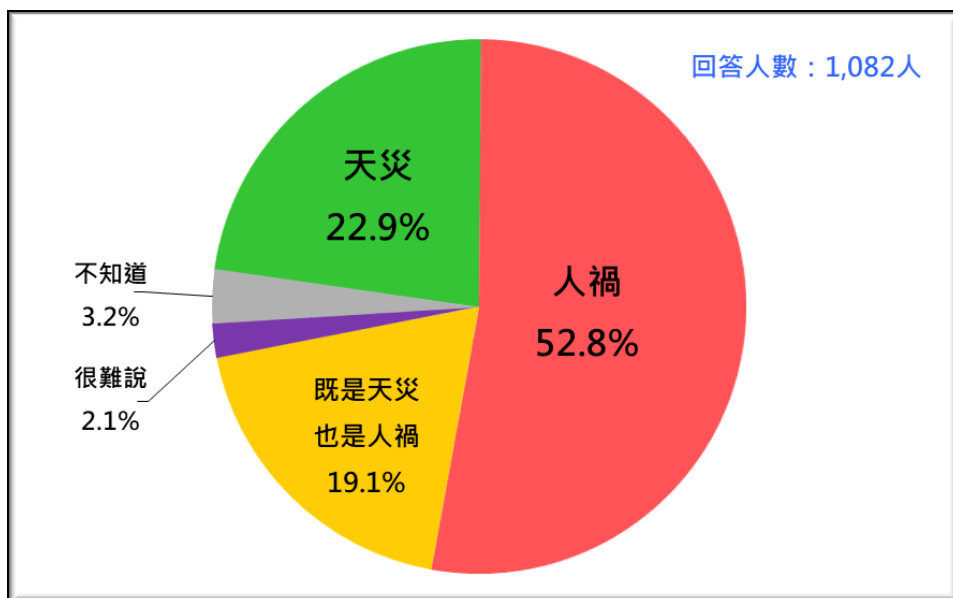
This survey of 1,082 adults was conducted May 17-20, 2021 by Taiwan’s Focus Survey Research, contracted by Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline telephone numbers were selected through random digit dialing by the system. Results are statistically significant within  $\pm 2.98$  percentage points with 95% level of confidence.

## Main Findings:

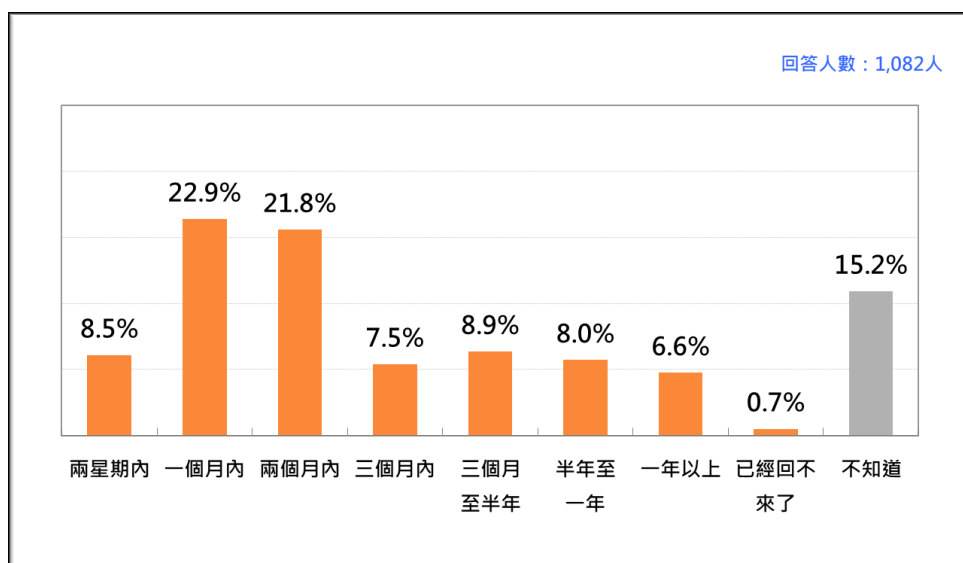
1. How did this major outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic in May affect the daily lives of the Taiwanese public? The poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 90% of those surveyed said they felt the impact on their daily lives to various extents, only 8.9% responded they felt no impact.
2. Are Taiwanese worried about the safety for their family and themselves amidst this pandemic? The poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older, 85% of those surveyed said they were worried about their own safety or the safety of their family. In all, 49% said they were “very worried”. Only 15% said they were not worried at all.



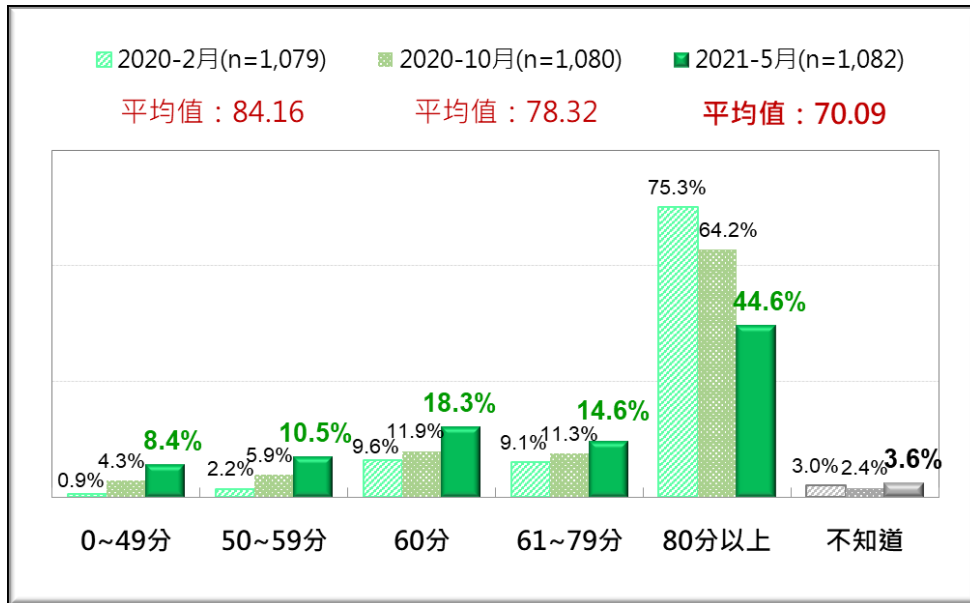
3. Are Taiwanese worried about the pandemic impacting their job or income? 65% said they were worried, while 34% said they were not worried.
4. What do Taiwanese think about the root cause(s) of the worsening COVID pandemic in May? Among adults aged 20 years and older, 53% said this wave of infection was a human failure and could have been avoided, while 23% believed it was a *force majeure* that was unavoidable, 19% said it was a *force majeure* but could have been mitigated.



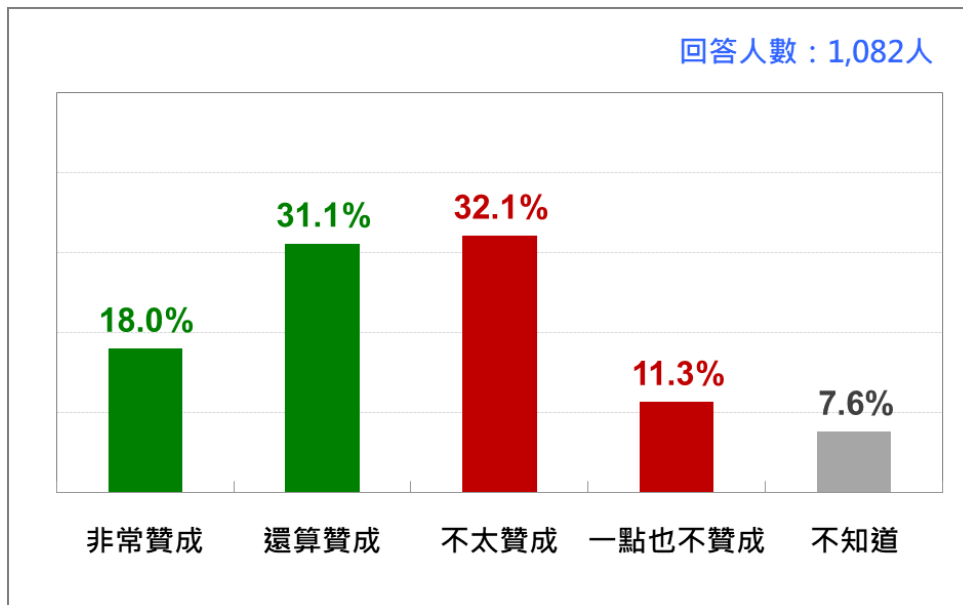
5. When do Taiwanese expect a return to a normal daily life? The poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older, 8.5% said they expect a return to normalcy in two weeks, 22.9% said within one month, 21.8% said within two months, 7.5% said three months, 8.9% said three to six months, 8% said over half a year to less than a year, 6.6% said more than a year, 0.7% said there can never be a return to normalcy, 15.2% said they do not know.



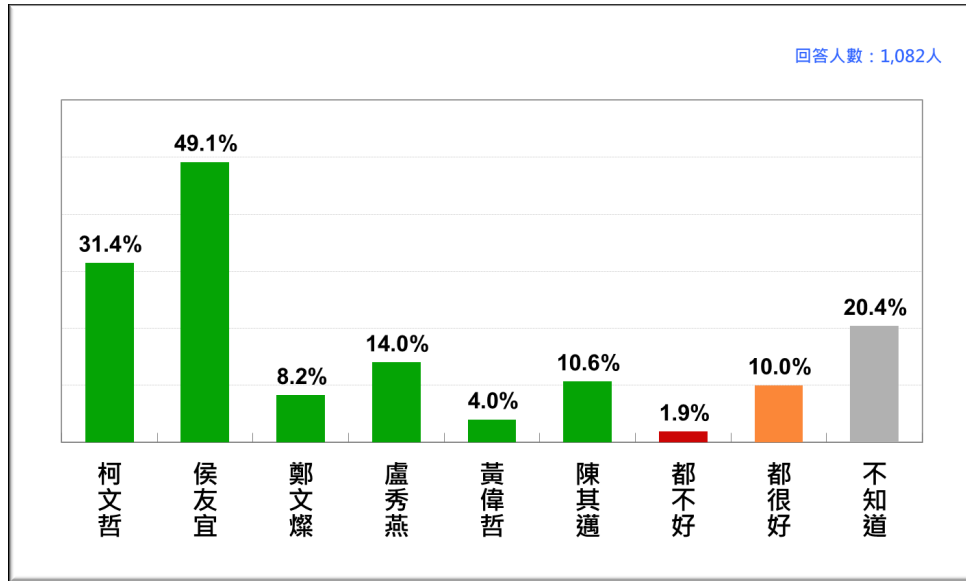
6. How do Taiwanese rate the performance of the government's Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) headed by health minister Chen Shih-chung? The poll finds on a scale of 0-100, 22.4% Taiwanese rated a score of 90 and above, 22.2% rated 80-89, 14.5% rated 61-79, 18.3% rated 60, 18.9% rated a score below 60, 3.6% said they do not know.



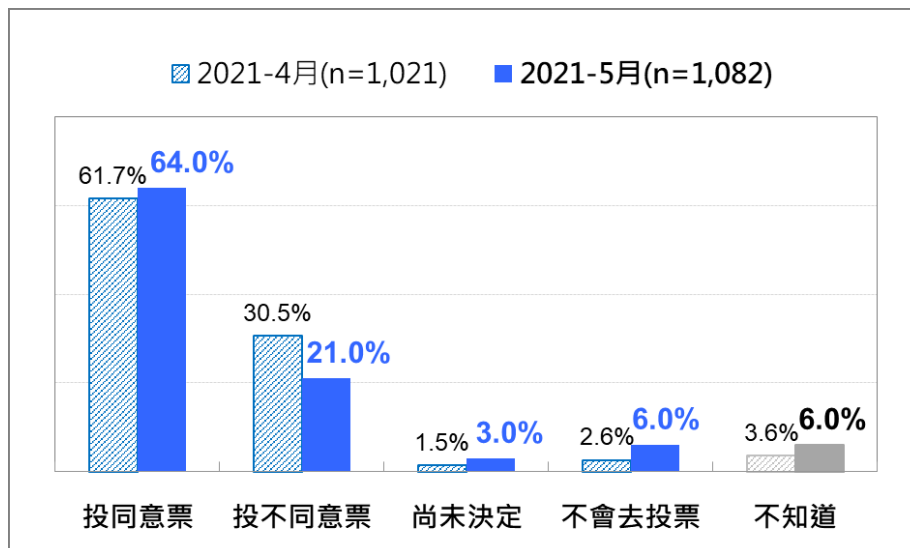
7. Where do Taiwanese stand on the issue of COVID-19 vaccines? The poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older, 49% are willing to take whatever vaccine that has been rated effective and safe regardless of the vaccine's country of origin. Another 43% said they would have to consider the particular vaccine's country of origin as a factor in deciding if they want to take it.



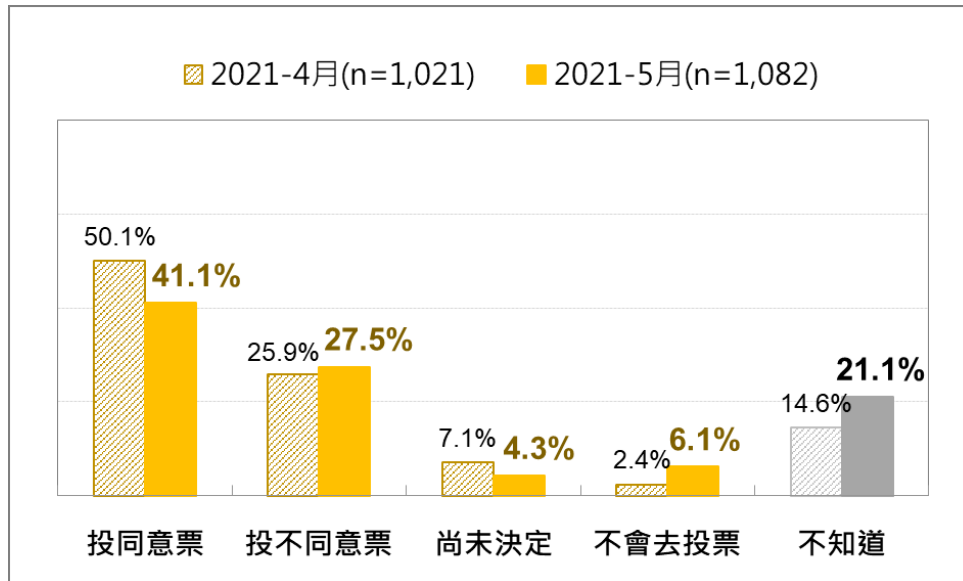
8. How do Taiwanese rate the performances of the various mayors in handling this pandemic? The poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older, New Taipei City Mayor Hou Yu-ih received the top spot, Taipei City Mayor Ko Wen-je came second, Taichung City Mayor Lu Shiow-yen ranked third, Kaohsiung City Mayor Chen Chi-mai fourth, Taoyuan City Mayor Cheng Wen-tsan fifth, Tainan City Mayor Huang Wei-cher came last at sixth.



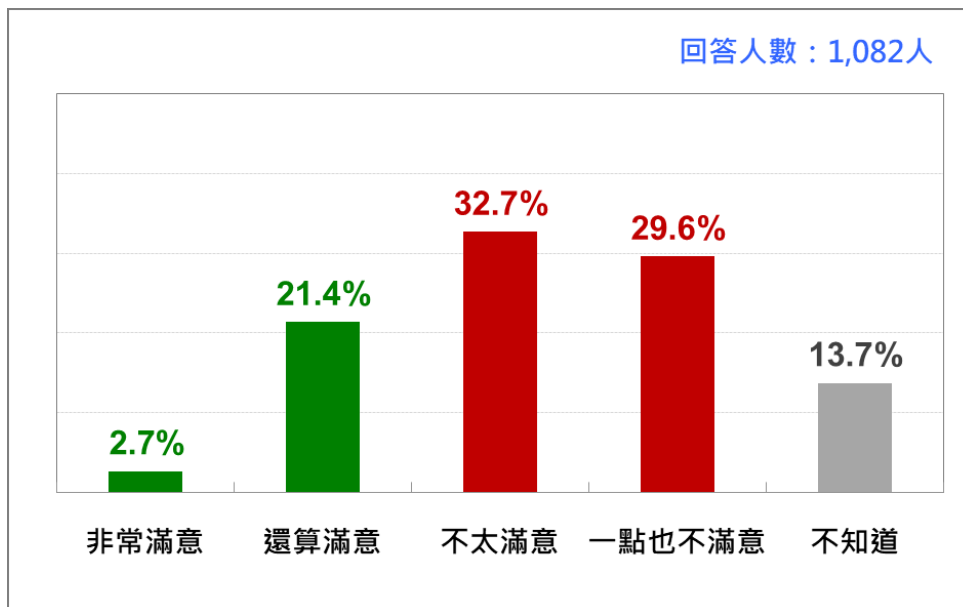
9. How do Taiwanese view the four upcoming referendums scheduled for August? On the proposal to reinstate ban on import of pork from the United States containing ractopamine, 64% said they would vote to support a ban, 21% said they would oppose a ban, 3% undecided, 6% abstain, 6% said they do not know or decline to answer.



10. On the proposal to protect algae reef against government's construction plan for a natural gas receiving terminal, 41.4% said they would vote to support protecting the algae reef, 21% said they would oppose, 3% undecided, 6% abstain, 6% do not know or decline to answer.



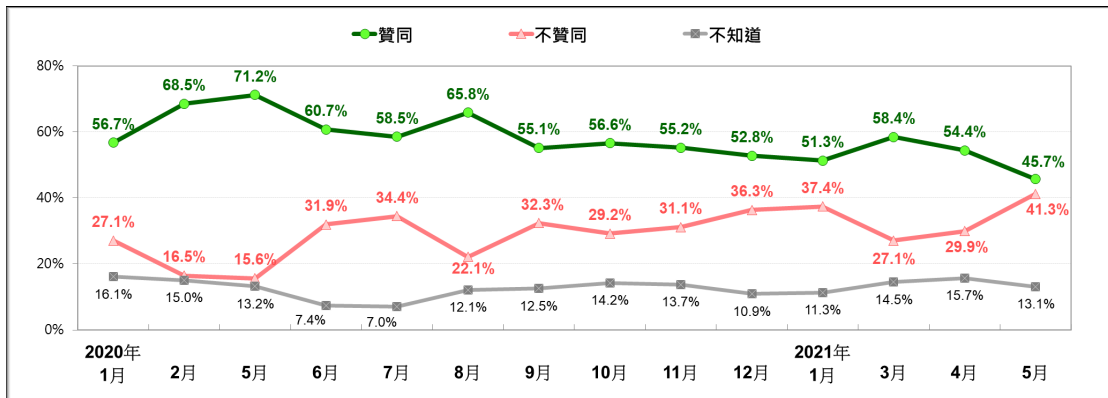
11. When asked about the major power outage that hit Taiwan on May 13, 24% of adults aged 20 years and older were satisfied with the way Tsai Ing-wen government handled the emergency, 62% not satisfied. A full 30% said they were very unsatisfied with the government's handling.



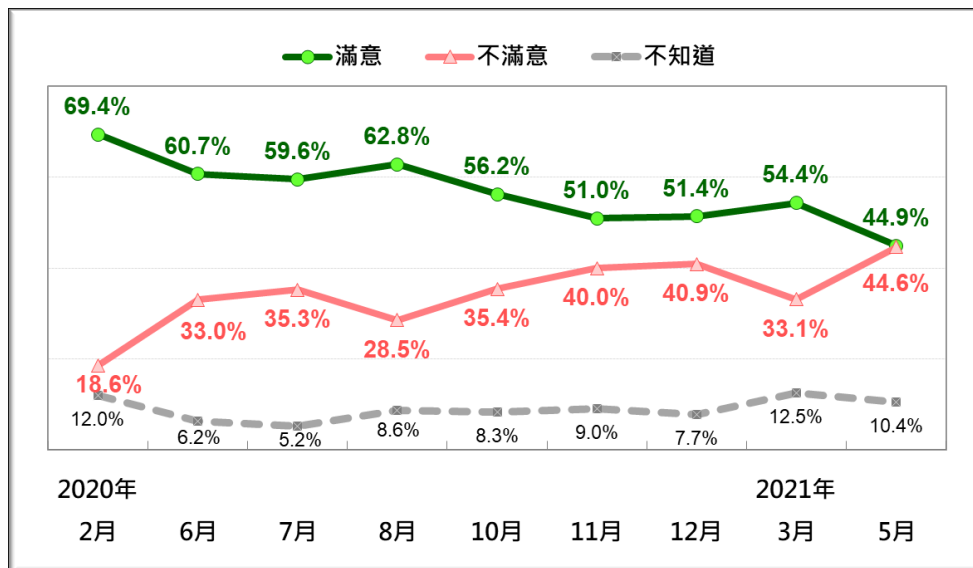
12. On the recent controversy surrounding DPP party officials who were exposed to have deep ties to organized crime, the poll finds 58% Taiwanese adults said the scandal has done major damage to the ruling party's public image, while other 27% said they do not consider this to be important.

13. On the Presidential job approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a slight majority of 46% approved of the way President Tsai Ing-wen is handling the country's top priorities, 41% expressed disapproval. The approval is only 4.4% more than the disapproval, a marked

decline over the past opinion polls. This also marks the first time President Tsai's approval rating dipped below 50% in our monthly opinion polling.



14. On the approval rating for Premier Su Tseng-chang and his cabinet, the poll finds 45% approved of the way Su cabinet is handling the government, while the other 45% disapproved. Taiwanese public now has an equally divided view regarding the performance of the Su cabinet under Tsai administration, which also marks the first time Su cabinet did not receive a majority approval in our polls.



15. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 23% said they support the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 21% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 8.5% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP). Supports for small parties including New Power Party and Taiwan Statebuilding Party all saw noticeable decline. Respondents who identified as independent increased to 38%.

回答人數：1,082人

