



Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation

June 2021 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt

Released:

June 23, 2021

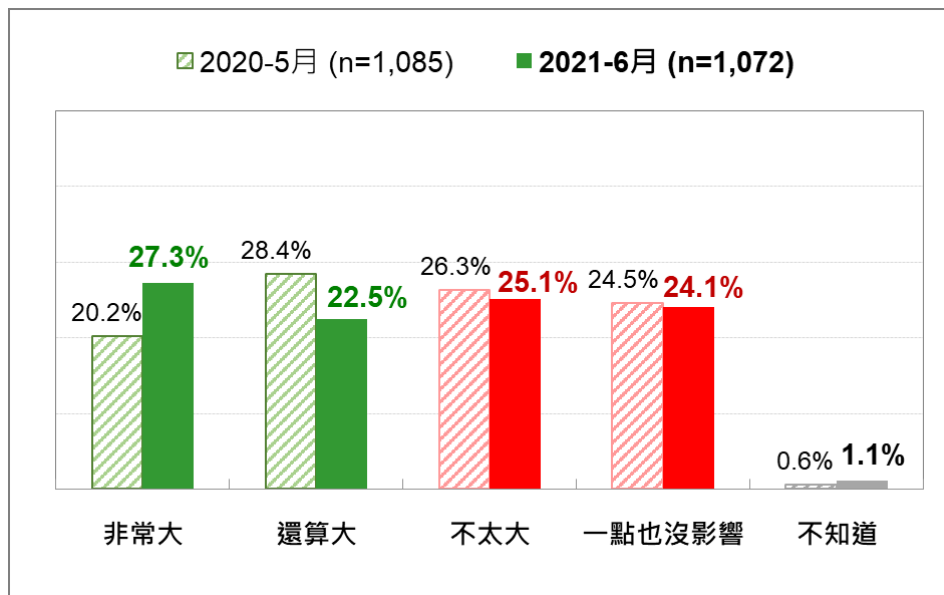
Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation (TPOF) today released the result of its national opinion polling of Taiwan for the month of June 2021. This marks the 58th monthly opinion poll conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes in Taiwan’s public opinion. Due to the ongoing outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic in Taiwan the government has declared level 3 emergency nationally, as such 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](#), along with an English-language excerpt.

How the Survey was Conducted

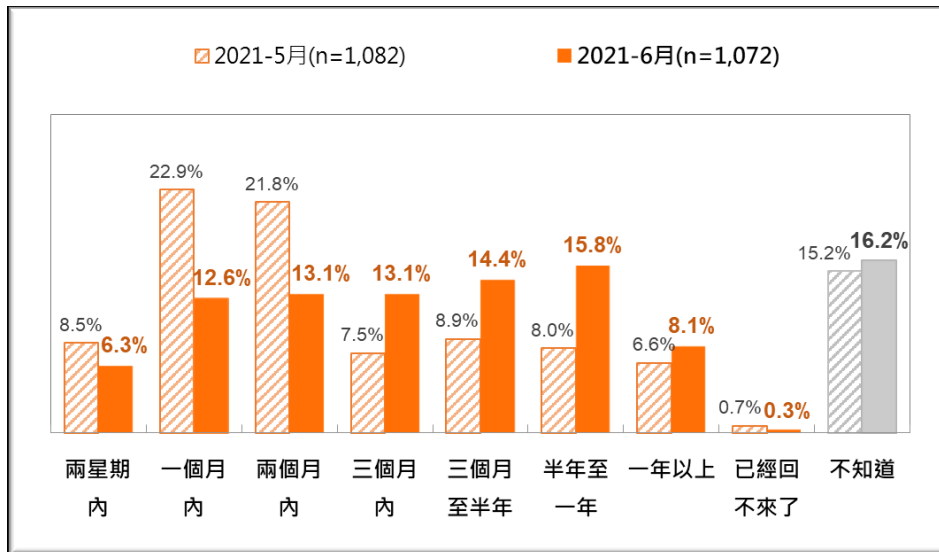
This survey of 1,072 adults was conducted June 15-19, 2021, by Taiwan’s Focus Survey Research, contracted by Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline telephone numbers were selected through random digit dialing by the system. The samples were further weighted to reflect the demographics of Taiwan based on statistics published by the Ministry of the Interior. Sampling error is around ± 2.99 percentage points with 95% level of confidence.

Main Findings:

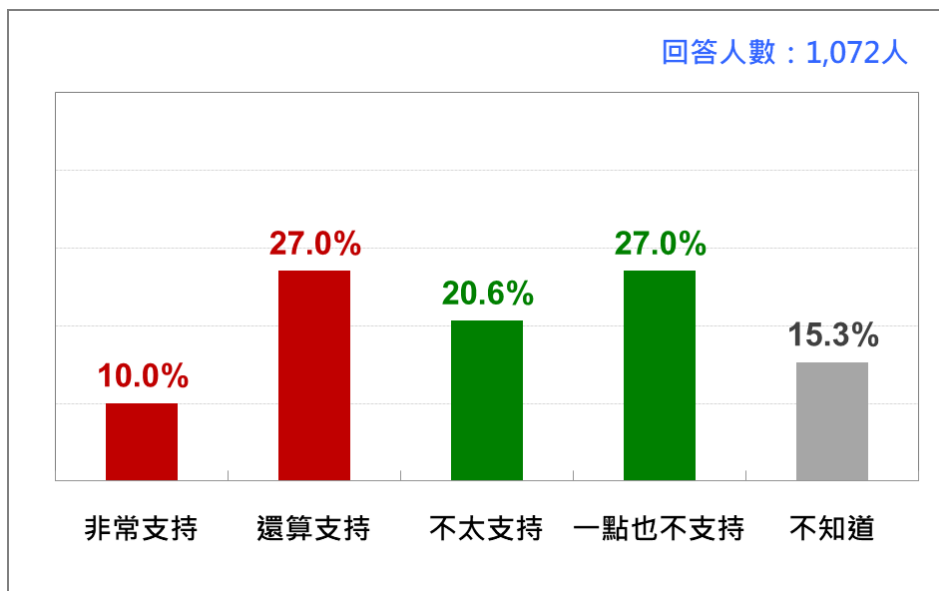
1. How did this major outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic since May affect the daily lives of the Taiwanese public? The poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 93.8% of those surveyed said they felt the impact on their daily lives to various extents, only 4.7% responded they felt no impact.
2. How did this outbreak and the containment measures affect the employment and income of Taiwanese public? The poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 49.8% said their jobs and income have been seriously impacted. 49.2% said the impacts to themselves have been small or there was no impact. This means as many as 10 million Taiwanese felt their livelihood were noticeably impacted by the pandemic.



3. When do Taiwanese expect a return to a normal daily life? The poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older, only 6.3% said they expect a return to normalcy in two weeks, the majority responded that they expect life to return to normal in between over one month to less than one year. Less than 1% said there can never be a return to normal life.

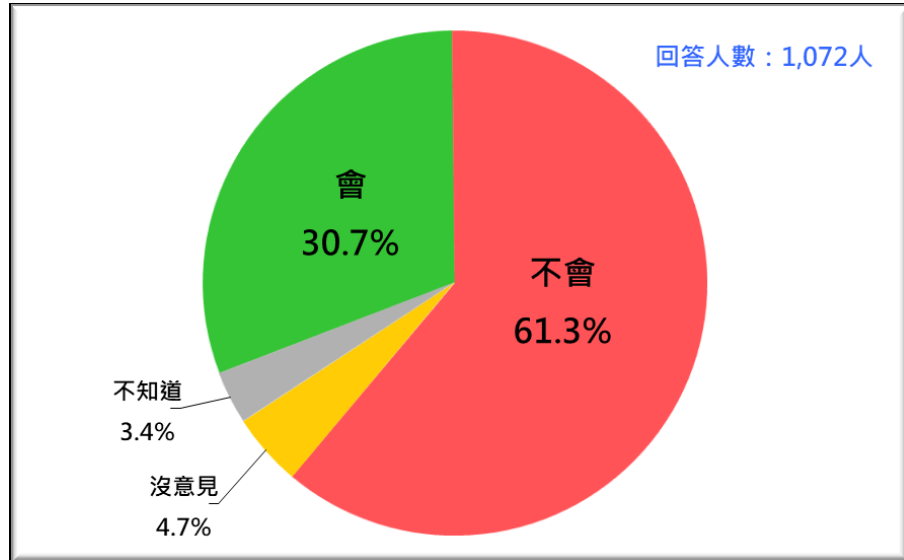


4. Concerning the ongoing controversy over whether the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) government should grant Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to a COVID-19 vaccine candidate developed by Taiwan’s domestic vaccine maker Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp., which had released Phase 2 clinical trial results but has not conducted any Phase 3 trials, the poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older, 37% said they support the government’s plan to grant EUA to Medigen, while 47.6% said they oppose it. The majority of Taiwanese public opposes fast-tracking a domestic vaccine candidate that has not yet demonstrate its effectiveness in clinical trials.

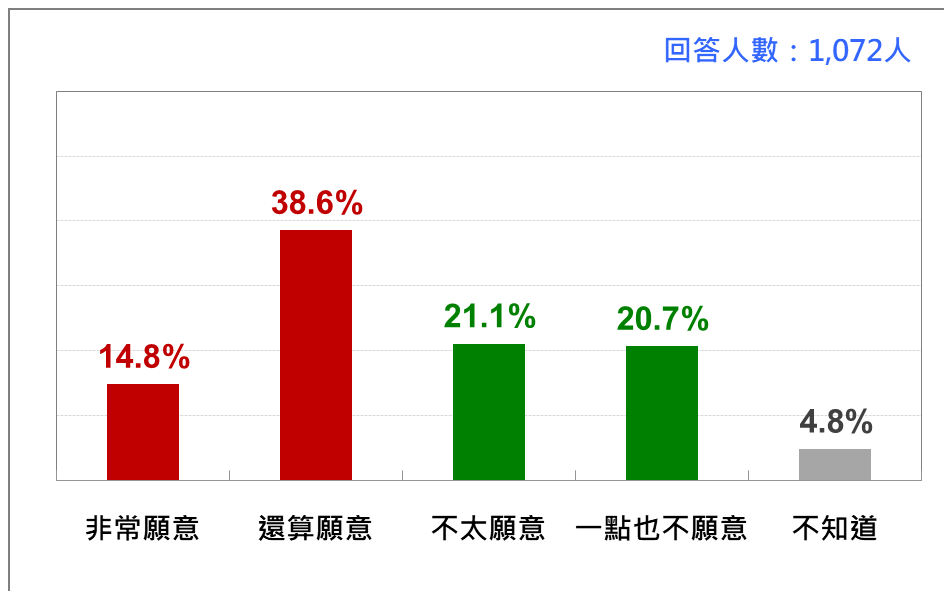


5. Concerning Taiwanese public’s attitude toward Taiwan domestic vaccines versus internationally-certified vaccines, the poll finds that given choices, among adults aged 20 years and older 61.3% said they would prefer

international vaccines including AstraZeneca (AZ), Moderna, Pfizer–BioNTech (BNT), Johnson & Johnson, and others. Only 30.7% said they would prefer Taiwan domestic vaccines like Medigen or United Biomedical. There are twice more Taiwanese said they prefer international vaccines over those preferring domestic vaccines.

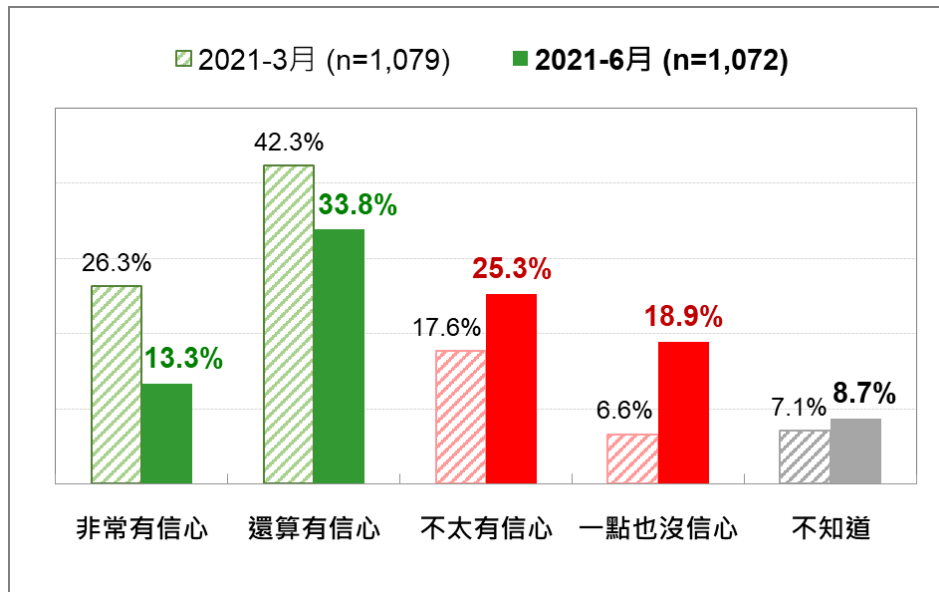


6. Concerning Taiwanese public's acceptance of vaccines, if they are provided with no other choices but only Taiwan domestic vaccines, the poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older 53.4% said they would be willing to receive Taiwan domestic vaccines, while 41.8% said they are unwilling to be vaccinated if Taiwan domestic vaccines remain the only available options.

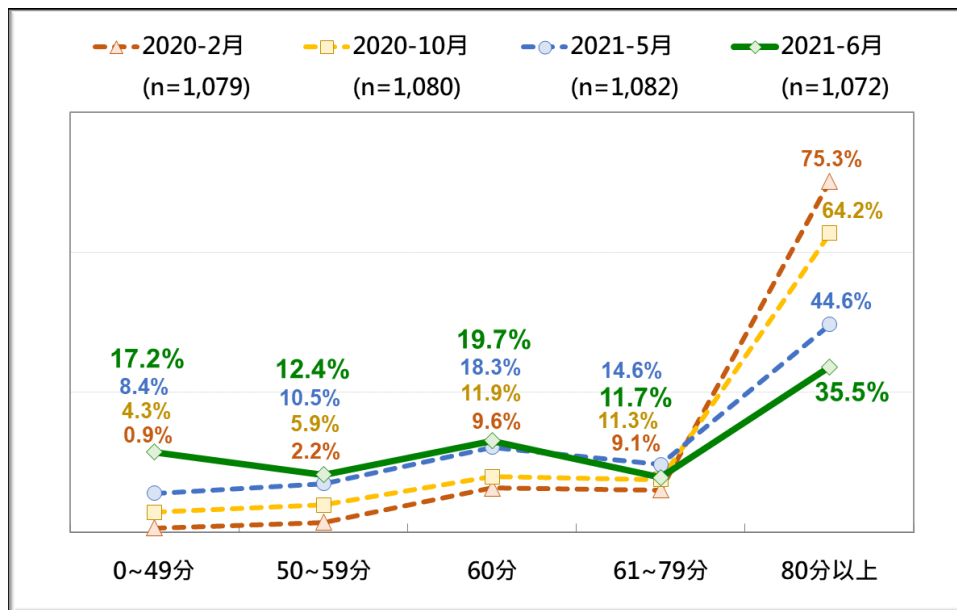


7. Concerning Taiwanese public's confidence over the effectiveness of Taiwan's domestic vaccines, the poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older 47.1% said they have confidence over the domestic vaccines while 44.2%

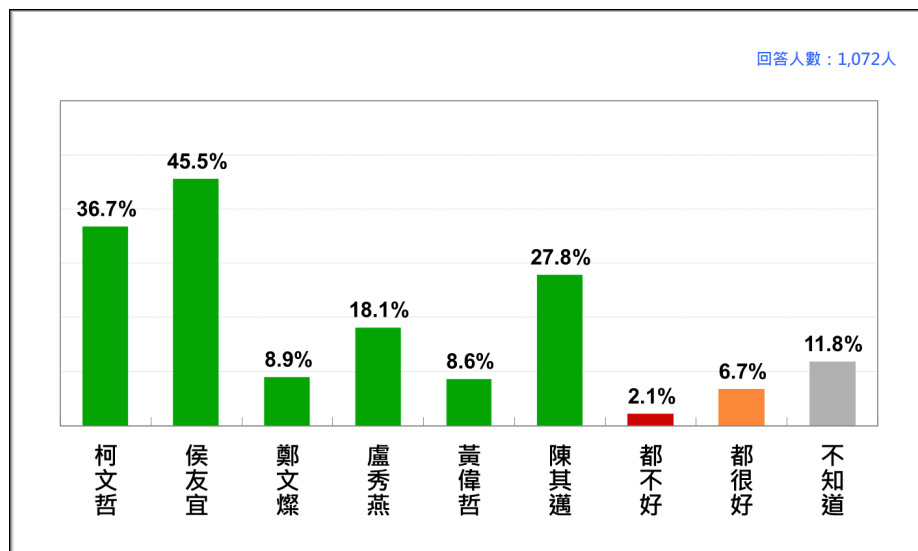
said they are not confident. This shows a slim majority of Taiwanese have confidence over the domestic vaccines, though skepticism remains high.



8. When asked whether they agree with ruling Tsai Ing-wen government's policy in strongly backing and prioritizing Taiwan domestic vaccines, the poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older 44.7% said they oppose the government's vaccine policy, while 43% said they support it. This shows President Tsai's vaccine policy giving priority to domestic vaccines is not supported by the majority of Taiwanese public.
9. 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, those who rated CECC a score of 60 and above decreased by 10% compared to last month. Those who rated a score of below 60 increased by 10.5%. Average rating score decreased by 7.19 to just 62.9. This shows that after more than a month of COVID outbreak and pandemic control measures, Taiwanese public's confidence over the government's handling of the pandemic reached its lowest point since the beginning of the pandemic in January 2020.

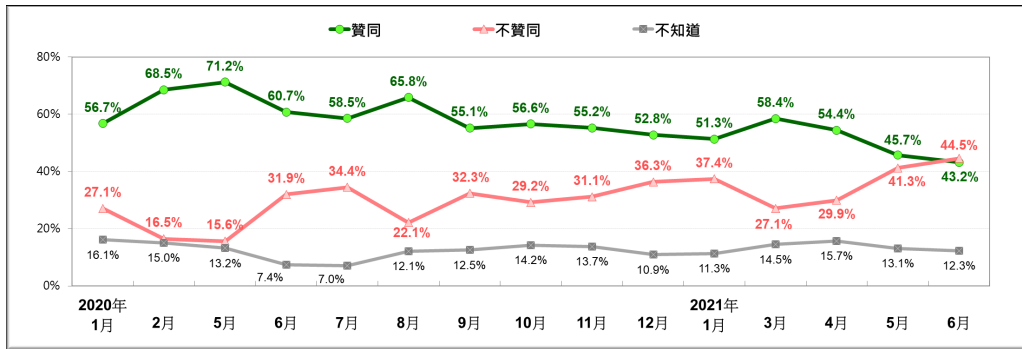


10. How do Taiwanese rate the performances of the various mayors in handling this pandemic? The poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older, New Taipei City Mayor Hou Yu-ih received the top spot with 45.5% approval, Taipei City Mayor Ko Wen-je came second with 36.7%, Kaohsiung City Mayor Chen Chi-mai ranked third with 27.8%, Taichung City Mayor Lu Shiow-yen ranked fourth with 18.1%, Taoyuan City Mayor Cheng Wen-tsan placed fifth with 8.9%, Tainan City Mayor Huang Wei-cher came last with just 8.6% approval.

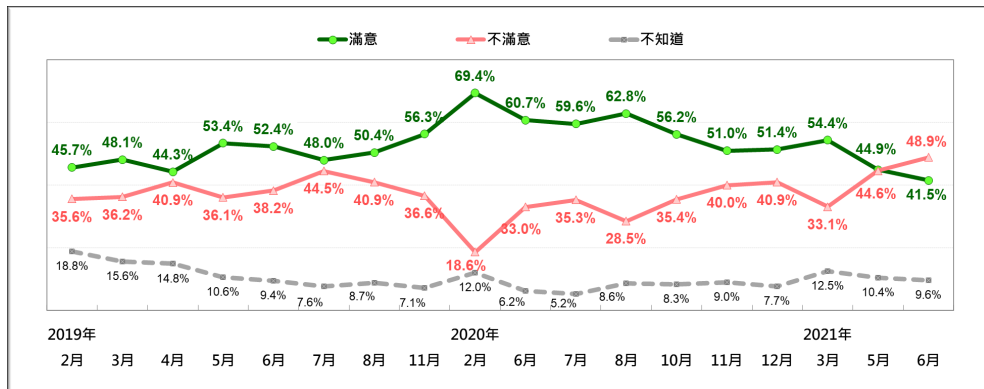


11. On the Presidential job approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a slight majority of 44.5% disapproved of the way President Tsai Ing-wen is handling the country's top priorities, 43.2% expressed approval. This marks the first time since 2019 that President Tsai does not receive the majority approval and is a sign that Tsai administration

is now facing an uphill battle ahead in terms of public opinion.



12. On the performance of Premier Su Tseng-chang cabinet, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older 41.5% were satisfied of the way Su cabinet is handling the government, while the other 48.9% were not satisfied. The Su cabinet is now facing its lowest performance rating since Premier Su was first appointed by President Tsai two years and six months ago.



13. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 22.6% said they support the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 18% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 16% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 6.3% support the New Power Party, 3.5% support the Taiwan Statebuilding Party, and 31% respondents identified themselves as independents. While DPP support stays at a historical low point in recent years, the marked decline in support for KMT is highly unusual and remains to be explained. TPP's increased support is remarkable and now places it at its highest approval on record which is just 2.8% behind the KMT.

