



## Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation

### July 2021 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt

Released:

**July 27, 2021**

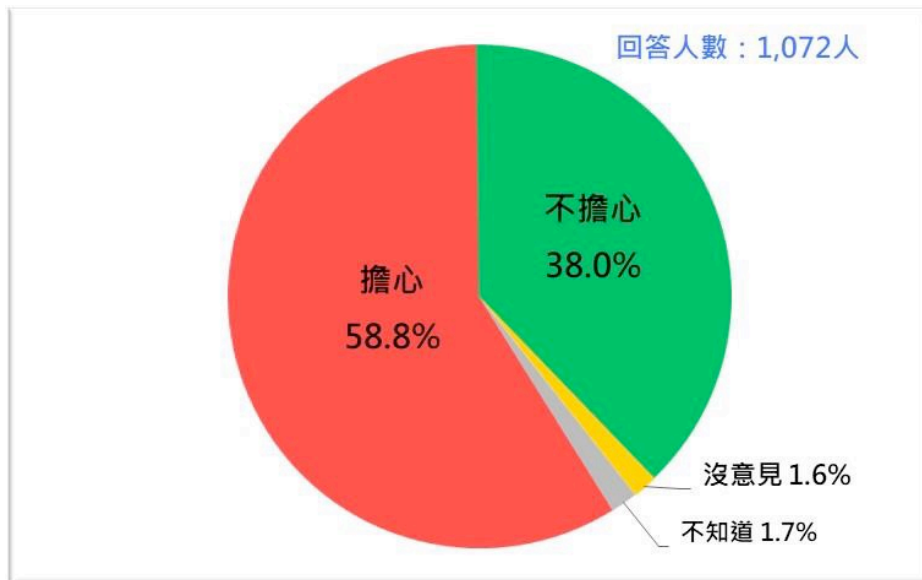
**Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation** (TPOF) today released the result of its nation-wide poll for the month of July 2021. This marks the 59th monthly survey conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes in Taiwan’s public opinion. Taiwan has been placed in a level 3 nation-wide emergency by the government since COVID-19 pandemic outbreak significantly worsen in mid-May, as such the TPOF still opted not to hold an in-person press event this month despite the government’s announcement to start lifting restrictions from July 27. We still published press release and full result on our [official website](#), along with an English-language excerpt.

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

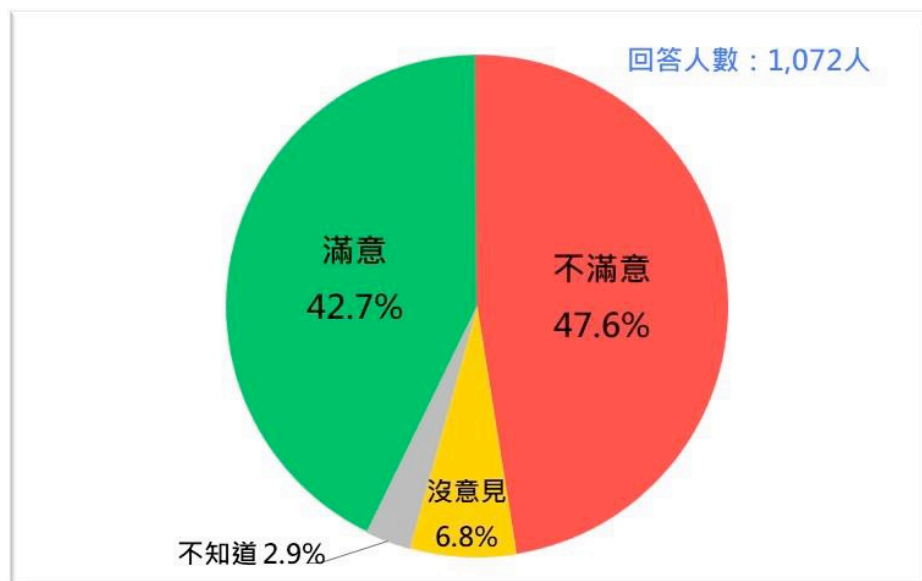
This survey of 1,072 adults was conducted July 19-21, 2021. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline telephone numbers were selected through random digit dialing. The samples were weighted to adjust for demographic distribution, age, sex, and education attainment based on statistics newly published by the Ministry of the Interior. Sampling error is around  $\pm 2.99$  percentage points with 95% level of confidence.

## Main Findings:

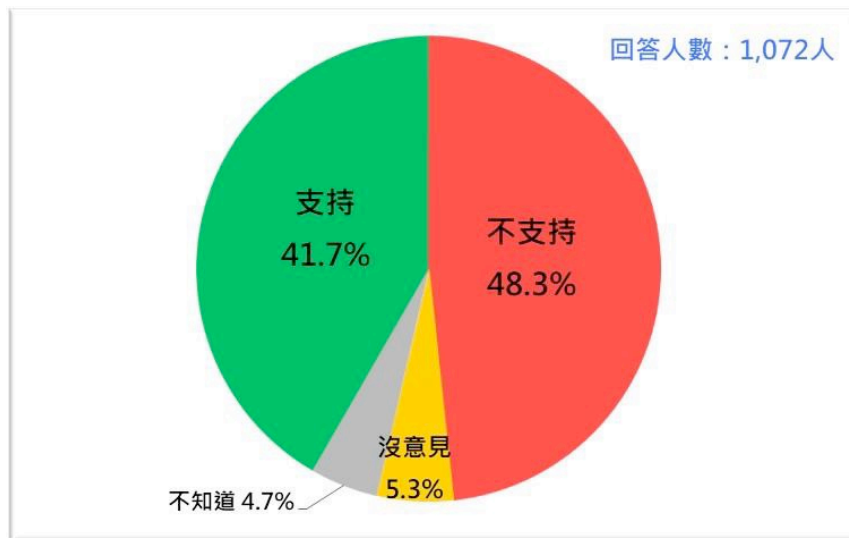
1. How does Taiwanese public see the government's announcement to lift level 3 nation-wide COVID-19 emergency starting July 27? The poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 58.8% said they are worried that the government is lifting the restrictions too soon, while 38% said they are not worried.



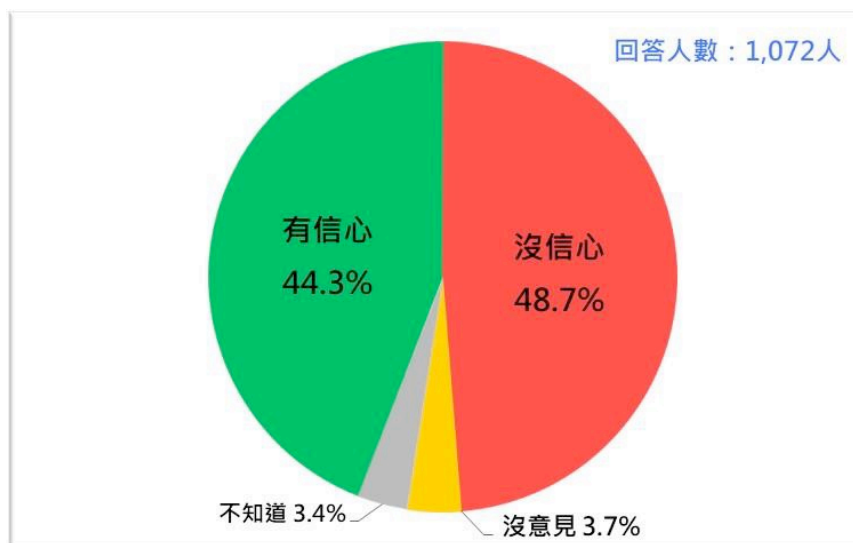
2. Regarding Taiwanese public's satisfaction of Tsai Ing-wen government's COVID-19 relief measures, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 42.7% said they are satisfied, while 47.6% said they are dissatisfied. A majority of Taiwanese are dissatisfied with the way the government is handling COVID-19 relief measures.



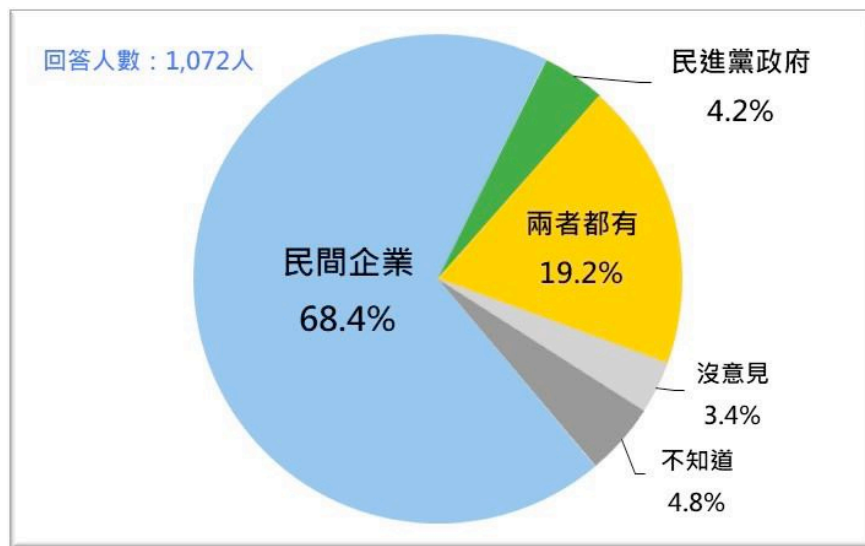
3. On the issue of Tsai government's move to grant an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to a vaccine candidate produced by Taiwan domestic vaccine maker Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp., which had released Phase 2 clinical trial results but has not conducted nor demonstrated effectiveness in any Phase 3 clinical trial, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years, a minority of 41.7% said they support the government's approach, while a majority of 48.3% said they oppose it.



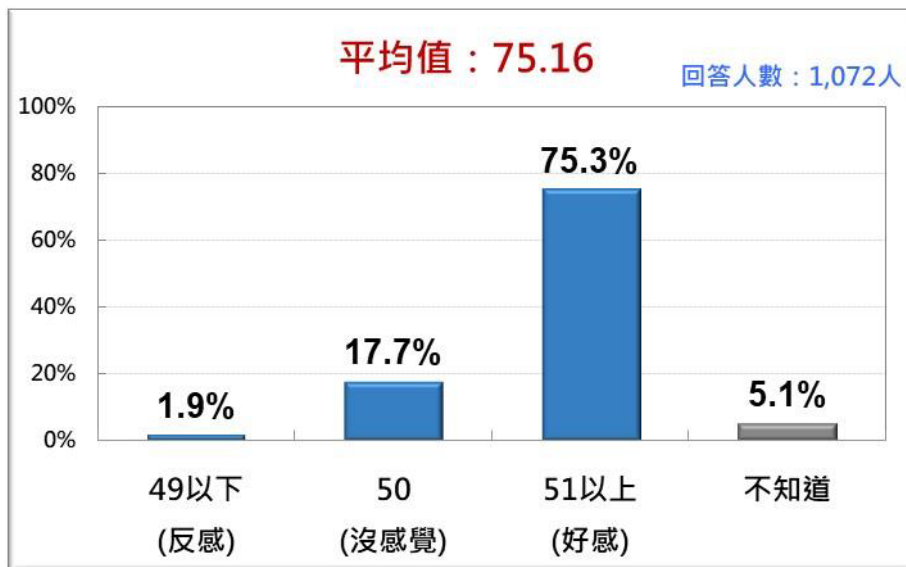
4. Regarding Taiwanese public's confidence in the effectiveness of Taiwan's domestic vaccines, the poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older 44.3% said they are confident in the effectiveness of domestic vaccines, while 48.7% said they are not confident. The majority of Taiwanese are now skeptical about the effectiveness of the domestic vaccines, a sign that the government's strong backing of their rollouts – even while scientific evidence of their actual effectiveness remains flimsy, has not helped to increase public confidence.



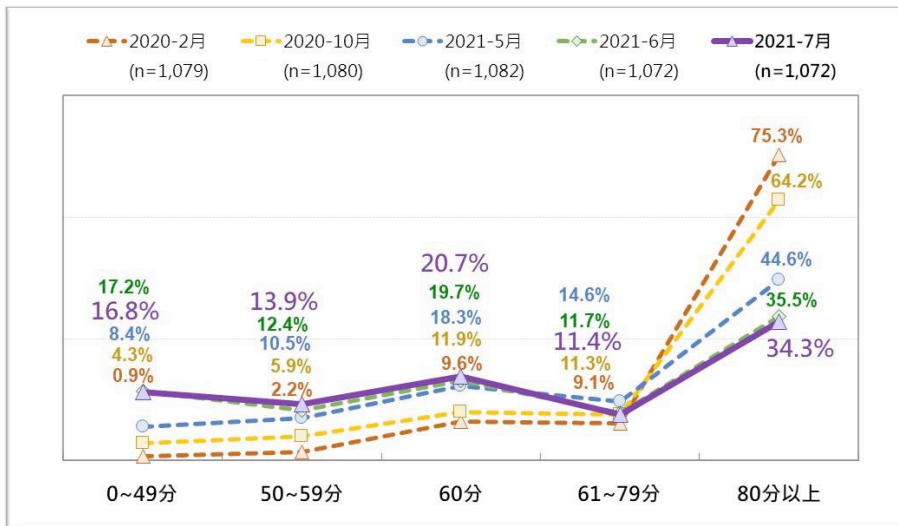
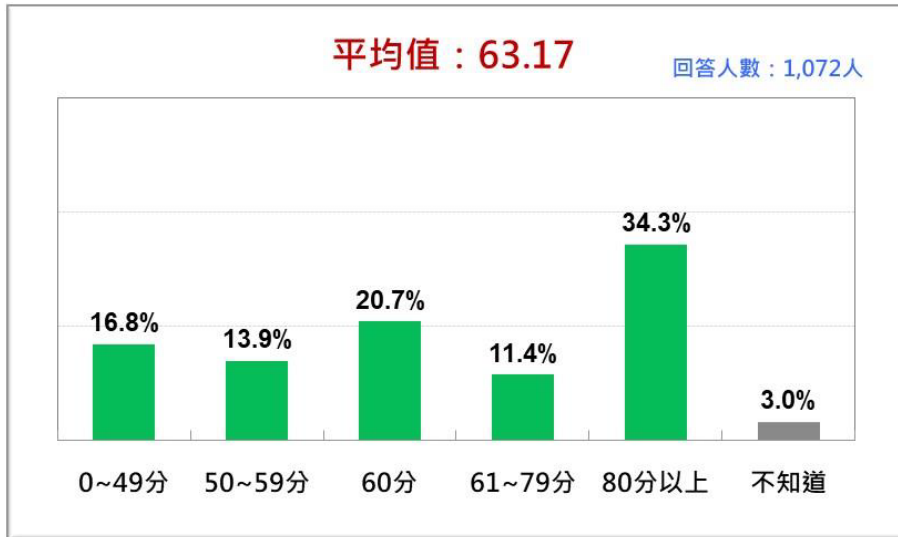
5. Who deserves the credit for successfully brokered/negotiated a deal on behalf of Taiwan to acquire Pfizer–BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine? The poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older 68.4% said the rightful credit should be given to Foxconn (Hon Hai) and Taiwan Semiconductor (TSMC), the two Taiwan tech giants that reportedly rushed to negotiate with BioNTech and its China-based partner and distributor Fosun Pharma after Tsai government’s repeated, year-long failures to reach an agreement with either. Another 19.2% of those surveyed said both private sector and the government deserve credit for the agreement, only 4.2% said the full credit should be given to the Tsai government.



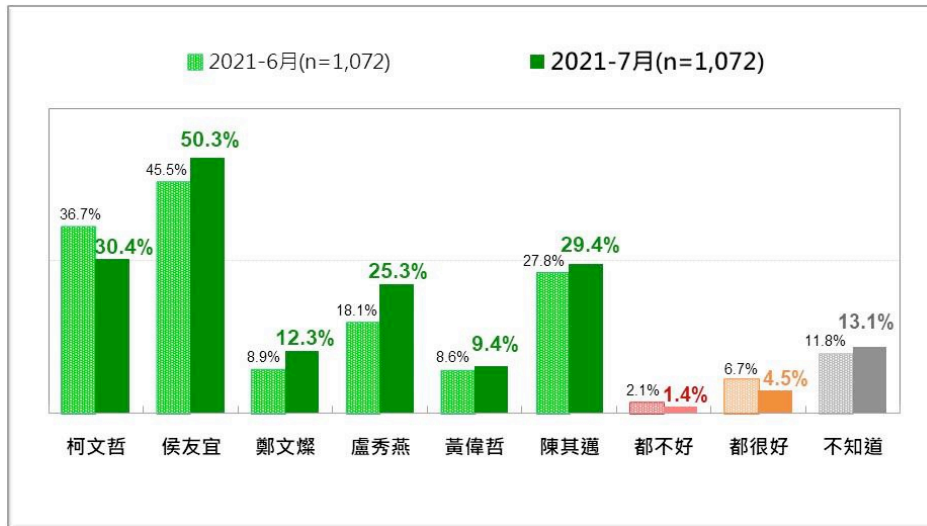
6. Concerning Taiwanese public’s views of Terry Gou, the head of Foxconn who reportedly led the company in negotiating a vaccine deal with BioNTech, the poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older 75.3% of those surveyed said they have positive views of Gou, while 17.7% said they have no particular feeling about him, only 1.9% said they hold negative views of him. It is clear that Terry Gou, who unsuccessfully ran for Kuomintang (KMT) nomination during the 2020 Presidential election, is riding the height of his public support following Foxconn’s successful vaccine deal.



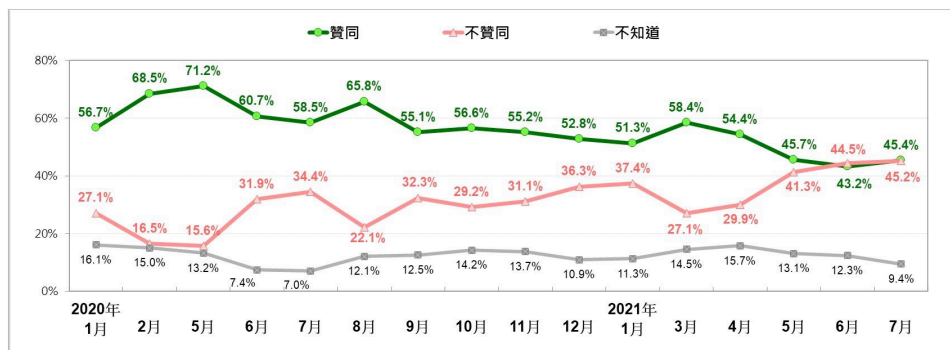
7. Regarding Taiwanese public's views on Tsai government's vaccine policies, the poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older 44.8% hold the views that it was wrong for Tsai government to prioritize exclusively on the rollout of domestic vaccines at a time when pandemic worsened domestically in Taiwan while supplies of useable, scientifically-proven and internationally-recognized vaccines remain inadequate. However, another 46.5% said they agreed with the government's approach. Clearly Taiwanese public has a divided view regarding Tsai government's vaccine policies overall.
8. Regarding Premier Su Tseng-chang cabinet's refusal to publicly release price figures for Taiwan government's acquisition of vaccines from overseas citing "needs for secrecy", the poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older just 40.4% of those surveyed said they support the government's decision not to release the figures. While 52.5% said they oppose it.
9. How do Taiwanese public 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, 66.4% of those surveyed rated CECC a passing score of 60 and above, while 30.7% rated failing scores. The average score is 63.2, a minuscule improvement over the previous month's average of 62.9.



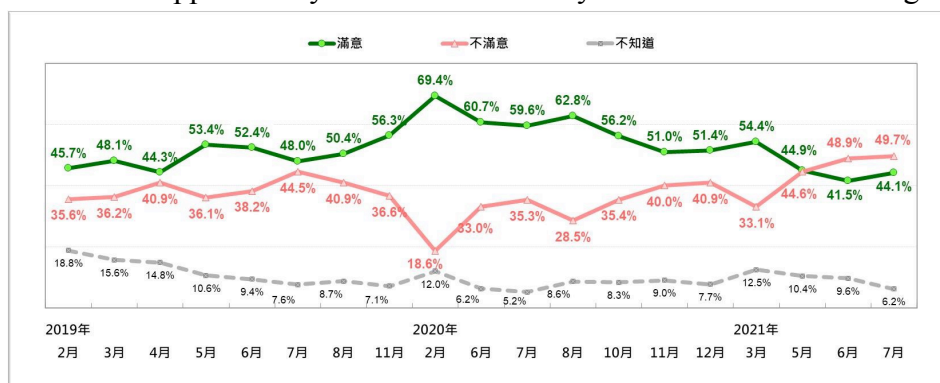
10. How do Taiwanese rate the performances of the various mayors in handling this pandemic? The poll finds among adults aged 20 years and older, New Taipei City Mayor Hou Yu-ih received the top spot with 50.3% approval, Taipei City Mayor Ko Wen-je came second with 30.4%, Kaohsiung City Mayor Chen Chi-mai ranked third with 29.4%, Taichung City Mayor Lu Shio-wen ranked fourth with 25.3%, Taoyuan City Mayor Cheng Wen-tsan placed fifth with 12.3%, Tainan City Mayor Huang Wei-cher came last with just 9.4% approval.



11. On the Presidential job approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 45.4% approved of the way President Tsai Ing-wen is handling the country's top priorities, while another 45.2% expressed disapproval. Taiwanese public now have an equally divided views on President Tsai's performance.



12. On the performance of Premier Su Tseng-chang cabinet, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older 44.1% were satisfied with the way Su cabinet is handling the government, while the other 49.7% were not satisfied. Su cabinet is now facing its highest disapproval rate since Premier Su was first appointed by President Tsai two years and seven months ago.



13. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20

years and older, 28.3% said they support the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 21.9% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 11.3% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 3.1% support the New Power Party, 1.4% support the Taiwan State-building Party, and 32% respondents identified themselves as independents.

