



Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation

November 2021 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt

Released:

November 30, 2021

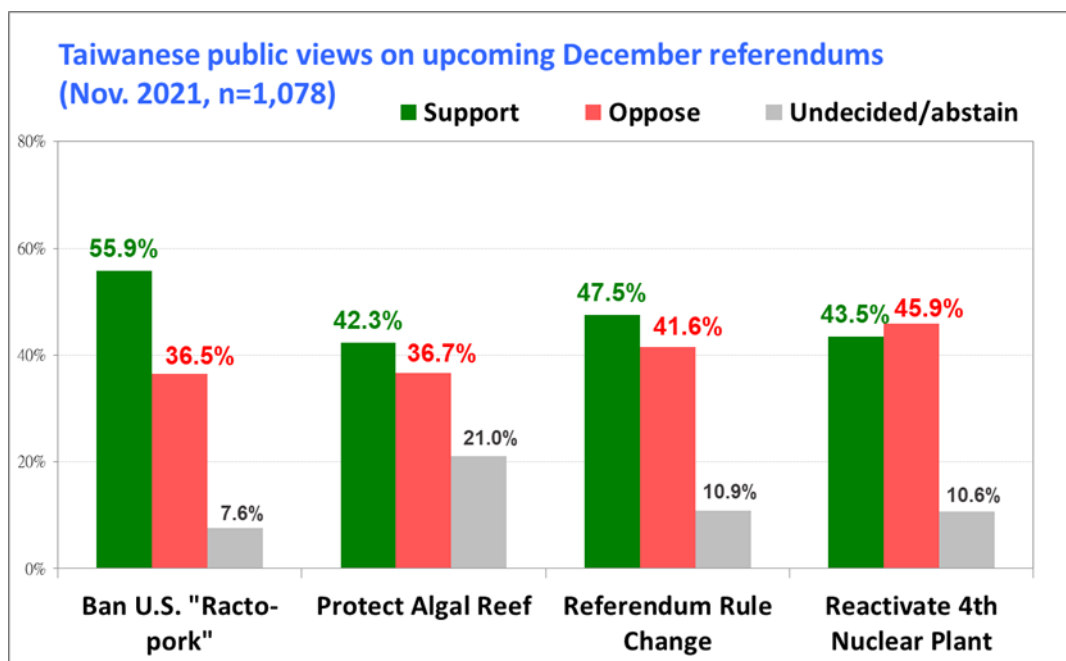
Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation (TPOF) today released the result of its November 2021 nation-wide poll. This marks the 63rd monthly survey conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes in Taiwan's public opinion. The full release in Chinese language is available on our official website www.tpof.org.

How the Survey was Conducted

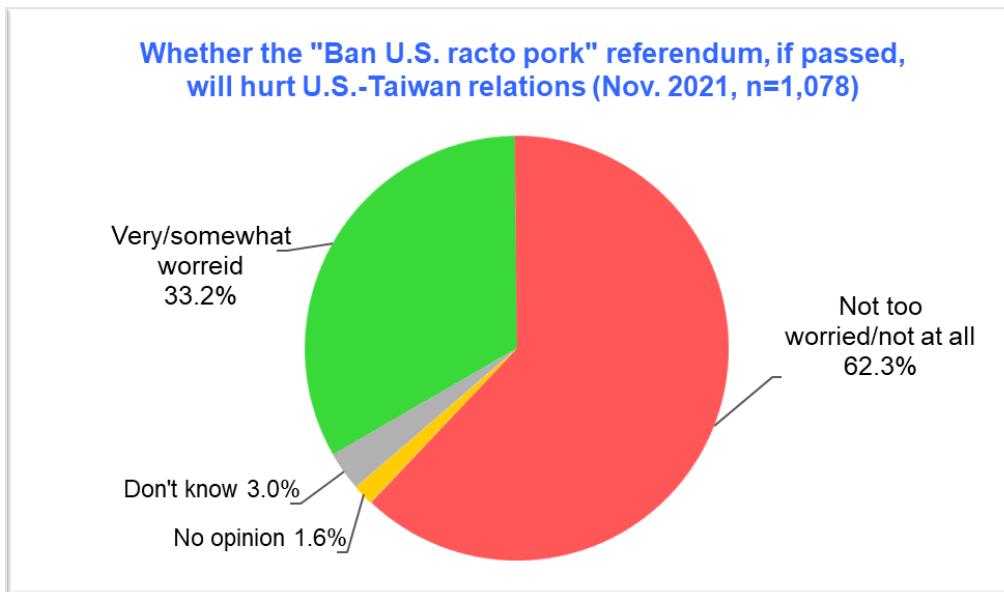
This survey was conducted on November 22-23, 2021, with a sample size of 1,078. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline numbers were drawn through random digit dialing system. The samples were demographically weighted to adjust for gender, age, education and the district of residency based on the latest statistics published by the Ministry of the Interior. Sampling error is around ± 2.98 percentage points with 95% level of confidence.

Main Findings:

1. Are Taiwanese voters paying attention to the upcoming national referendums scheduled on December 18? The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 61.5% said they are concerned about how the results of the four referendum propositions would turn out, while 31.4% said they are not concerned. This shows there is a high degree of *psychological involvement* in the referendum issues among a majority of Taiwanese voters. Since it is now less than a month away from the voting date, it is projected that the turnout on December 18 should be sufficiently high and is likely to reach and exceed the 50% mark.
2. Concerning the upcoming referendum on the proposal to reinstate import ban on pork from the United States containing controversial additive ractopamine, 55.9% said they would vote to support a ban, 36.5% said they would oppose a ban, 3.6% undecided, 1.3% abstain, 2.8% do not know or declined to answer. Given a 19.4% difference, it is projected that the referendum will receive a majority support though the margin has shrank considerably compared to the October poll result.



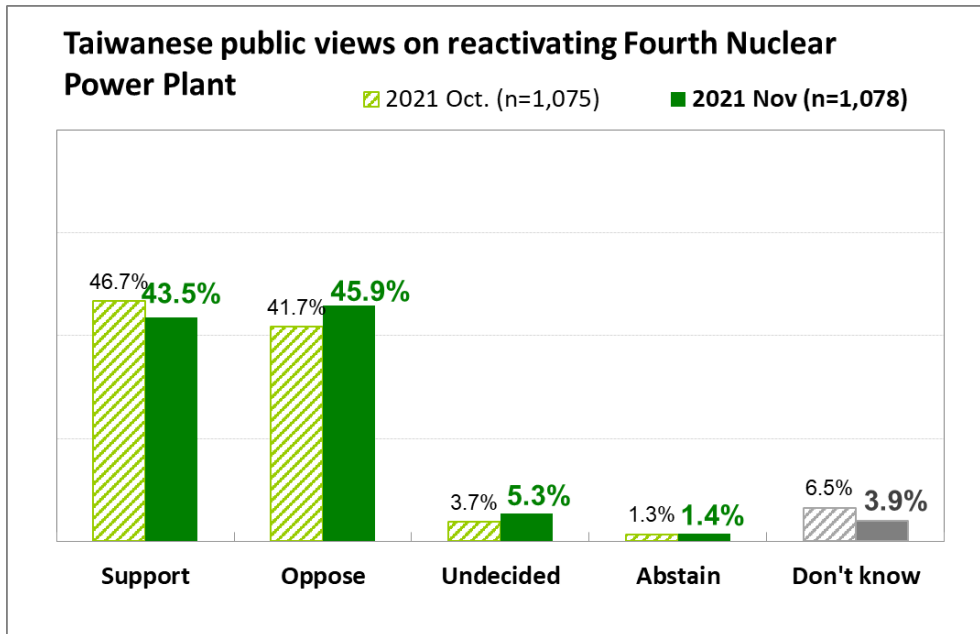
3. In an all-out effort to oppose/attack the proposal to ban U.S. pork containing ractopamine the DPP government and its surrogates repeatedly claimed that the referendum, if passed, will hurt U.S.-Taiwan ties and jeopardize Taiwan's pending membership in international trade agreements such as CPTPP (despite the U.S. not being a member of it). The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 62.3% said they are not worried about this alleged consequence.



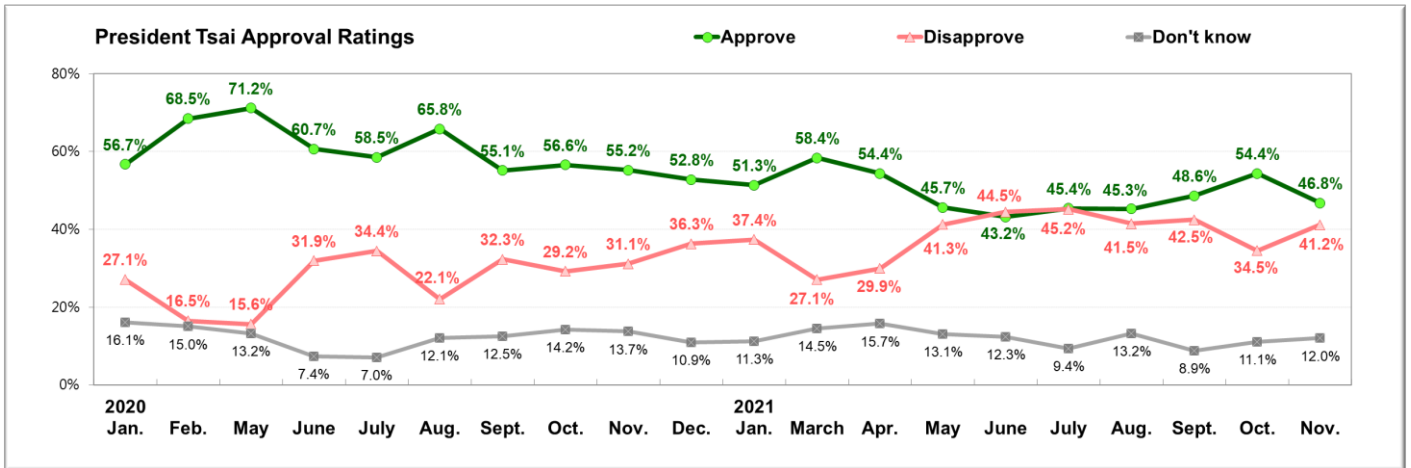
4. Concerning the upcoming referendum on the proposal to protect the algal reef ecosystem in Taoyuan against the central government's construction plan for a natural gas receiving terminal there, 42.3% said they would vote to support protecting the algae reef, 36.7% said they would oppose, 8.7% undecided, 1.8% abstain, 10.5% do not know or declined to answer. It is therefore projected that the referendum will receive a majority support if the current lead holds.

5. Concerning the upcoming referendum on the proposal to reform referendum rules that would mandate future referendum elections to be held on the same dates as general elections, 47.5% said they would vote to support the proposed reform, 41.6% said they would oppose, 5.3% undecided, 1.4% abstain, 3.9% do not know or declined to answer. It is therefore projected that the referendum will receive a majority support if the current lead holds.

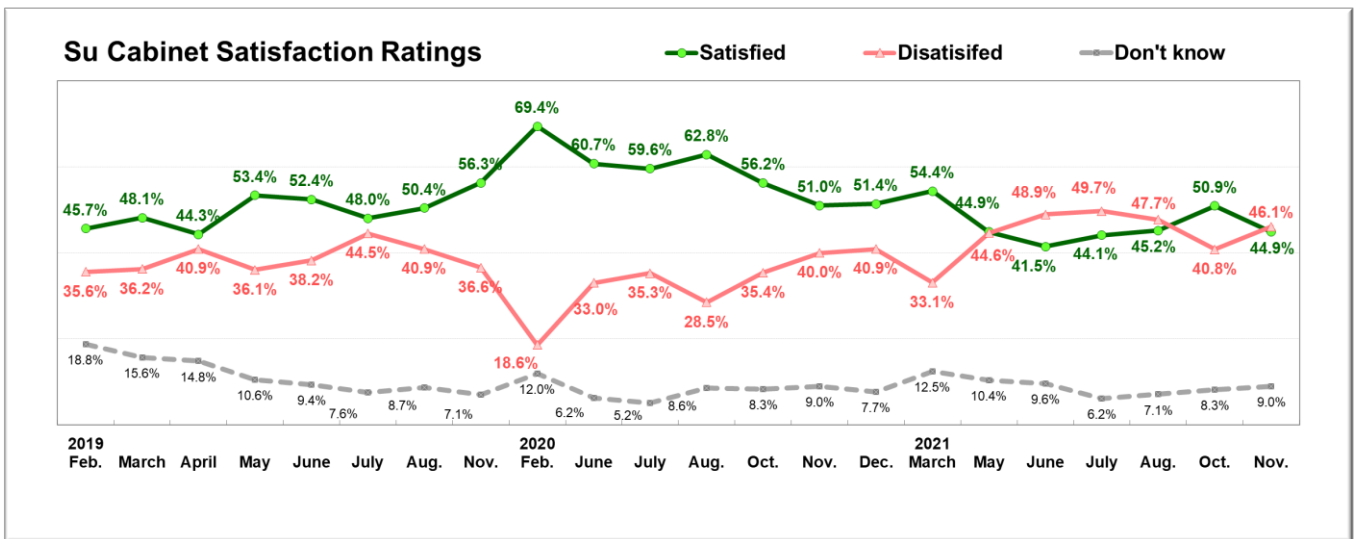
6. Concerning the upcoming referendum on the proposal to reactivate the unfinished Fourth Nuclear Power Plant (also known as Lungmen Nuclear Power Plant), 43.5% said they would vote to support its reactivation, 45.9% said they would oppose, 5.3% undecided, 1.4% abstain, 3.9% do not know or declined to answer. It is therefore projected that the referendum will not receive a majority support if the current lead holds.



7. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 49.6% said they ‘definitely will’ vote in the upcoming December 18 referendums, while 28.3% said they ‘probably will’ do so. This gives a total of 77.9% who said they will go to vote and is an indication that the upcoming referendums will have a high turnout rate and might even surpass the turnout of the 2018 national referendums.
8. It should be noted that all four proposals are vehemently opposed by the Tsai Ing-wen government and the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). Tsai government has mustered an all-out propaganda campaigning over the past months appealing voters to vote “Four Nos” in the upcoming referendums. On the other hand, the main opposition party the Kuomintang (KMT) is supporting all four proposals in the referendum. Our poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older only 28% fully agreed with DPP’s “Four Nos” messaging, while 31% agreed with KMT’s messaging on voting “Yes” on all four. This means that the majority of Taiwanese voters are likely to vote on these important but separate public interest issues according to their own ideas and preferences, rather than “sticking to the party line”.
9. Concerning the Presidential job approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 13.5% rated strongly approve, 33.3% somewhat approve, 24.1% somewhat disapprove, and 17.1% strongly disapprove. Overall, 46.8% approved of the way Tsai Ing-wen is handling her job as the President, while 41.2% expressed disapproval. This indicates Tsai’s approval rating is again sliding downward after it reached a high point of 54.4% in our October poll.



10. Regarding the performance of Premier Su Tseng-chang cabinet, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 44.9% said they were satisfied of the way Su cabinet is handling the government, while the other 46.1% were not satisfied. This means the Su cabinet has again lost majority support after it reached a high point of 50.9% in our October poll.



11. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 26.3%% said they support the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 18.1%% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 16.4% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 6.8% support the New Power Party (NPP), 4.6% support the Taiwan State-building Party (TSP), and 24.4% respondents identified as independents. These numbers remain largely unchanged compared to October, the only noticeable change is that the KMT regained its position as the main opposition party after briefly overtook by the TPP last month.

n=1,078 (November 2021)

