



Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation

January 2022 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt

Released:

January 25, 2022

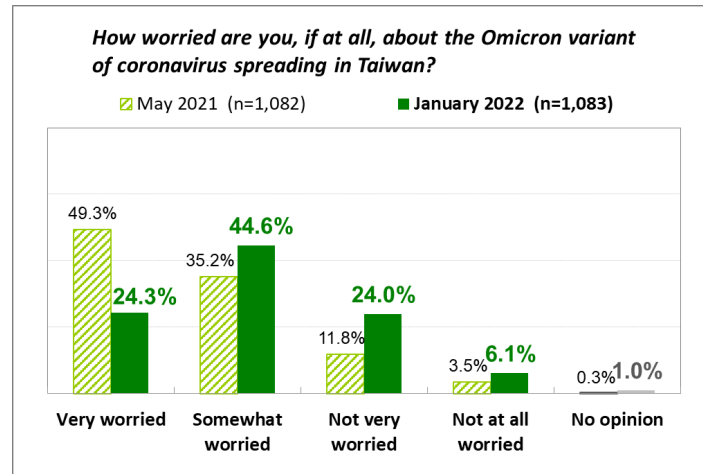
Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation (TPOF) today released the result of its January 2022 nation-wide poll. This marks the 65th monthly survey conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes of Taiwanese public opinion. The full release in Chinese language is available on our official website www.tpof.org.

How the Survey was Conducted

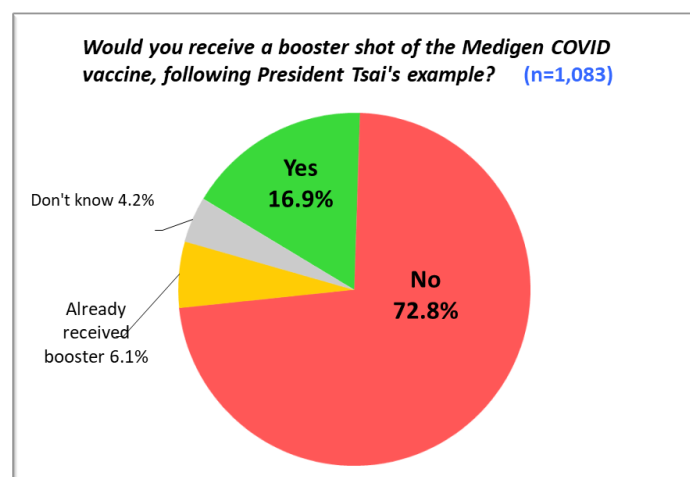
This survey was conducted on January 17-18, 2022, with a sample size of 1,083. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline numbers were drawn through random digit dialing system. The samples were demographically weighted to adjust 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:

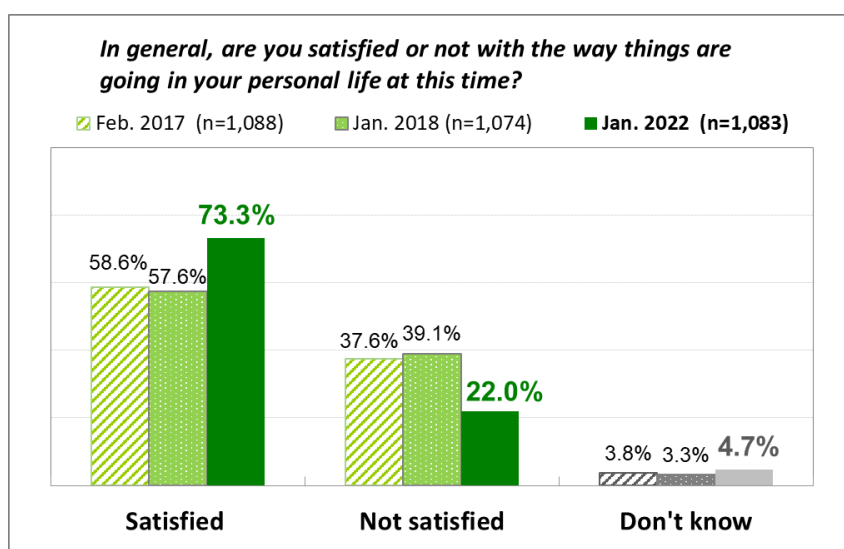
1. Are Taiwanese worried about the Omicron variant of the COVID-19? The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 68.9% said they are worried, while 30.1% said they are not. Compared to our past poll from May 2021 when a serious COVID infection wave just began to hit Taiwan, the public is clearly less worried about the new variant now despite a rising number of cases being reported in the country.



2. To boost public acceptance of Taiwan’s domestic produced vaccine candidate Medigen, which has been heavily backed by the ruling government despite a lack of evidence proving its effectiveness, President Tsai [publicly received](#) another shot of the Medigen as a booster. The poll finds however that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, only 16.9% said they would take a Medigen booster shot, while 72.8% said they would not. The “demonstration effect” from Tsai’s act is therefore limited and did little to promote Medigen vaccine candidate’s acceptance when the public today has plenty of other international vaccines available that have been proven effective.

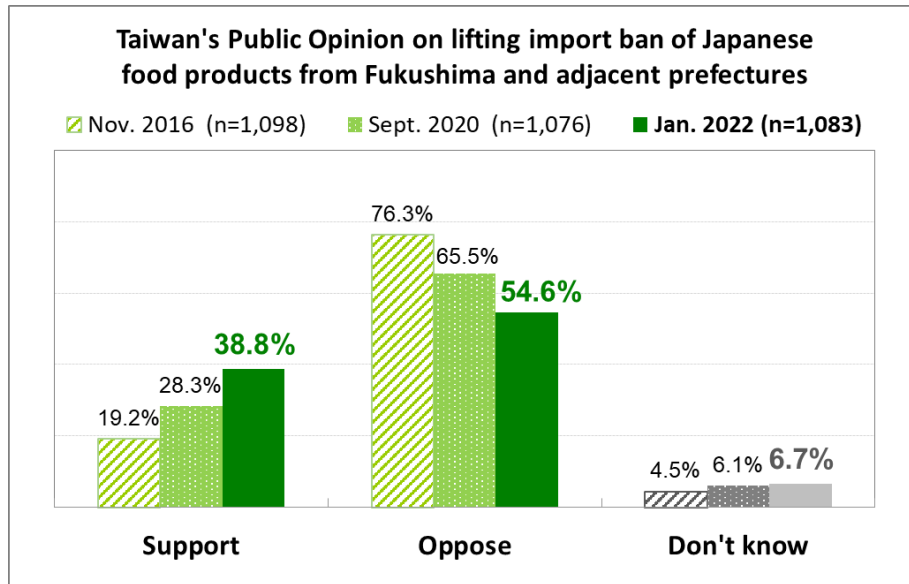


- The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 73.3% said they are satisfied with the way things are going in their personal life, while 22% said they are not satisfied. A further breakdown reveals 15.9% said they are “very satisfied” versus 57.4% said they are “moderately satisfied”. Overall, the mass majority of Taiwanese public are generally satisfied with their current personal life, an indication of how Taiwanese perceive their own wellbeing even amidst a raging global pandemic, economic volatility, and geopolitical uncertainty across much of the world.



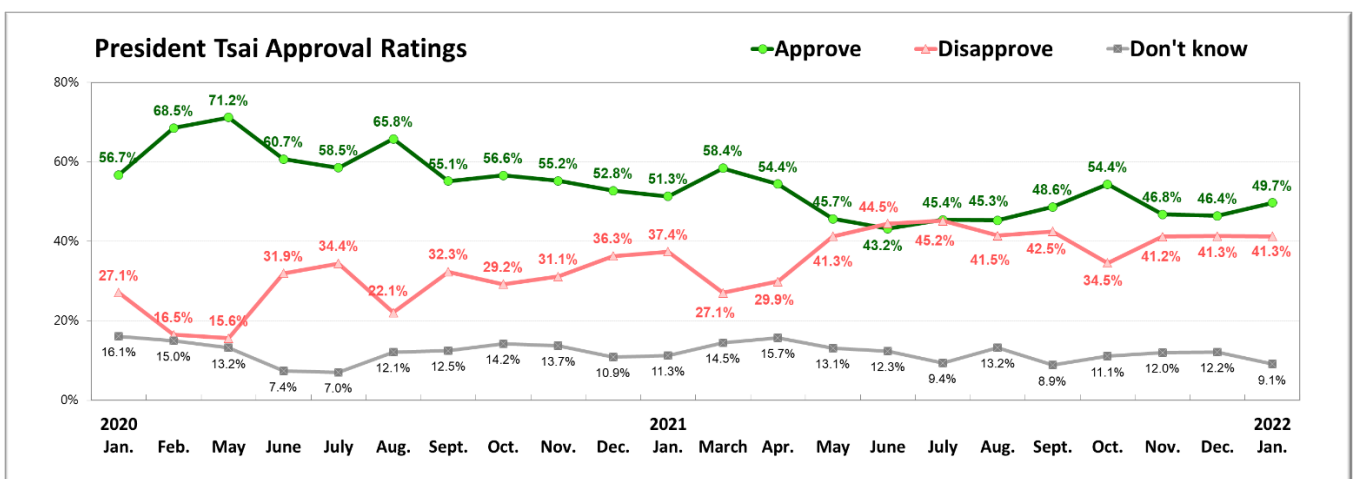
- Concerning Taiwanese perception of economic inequality, the poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 79.2% think economic inequality is a serious problem in the country these days, versus only 16.7% who don't think so.
- Concerning the ruling government's controversial proposal to merge Hsinchu City and Hsinchu County into a unified city and therefore upgrade it to become the nation's seventh special municipality, the poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 38.1% oppose the proposal for a merger, while 32.9% support it. Compared to the result from our poll last September the support side shrank by a further 9.2% and the majority public opinion is now opposed to the proposal. This indicates that after months-long debate the ruling government failed to make its case to convince the public why such merger is necessary.
- Concerning Taiwan's decade-long ban on agricultural imports from five Japanese prefectures following the 2011 Fukushima nuclear accident, the poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 38.8% support lifting the ban while 54.6% wish to keep it. Compared to our past polls asking the same question

in September 2020 and January 2021, we notice a clear increase in the public opinion supporting lifting the ban, though a majority still favors maintaining the ban.

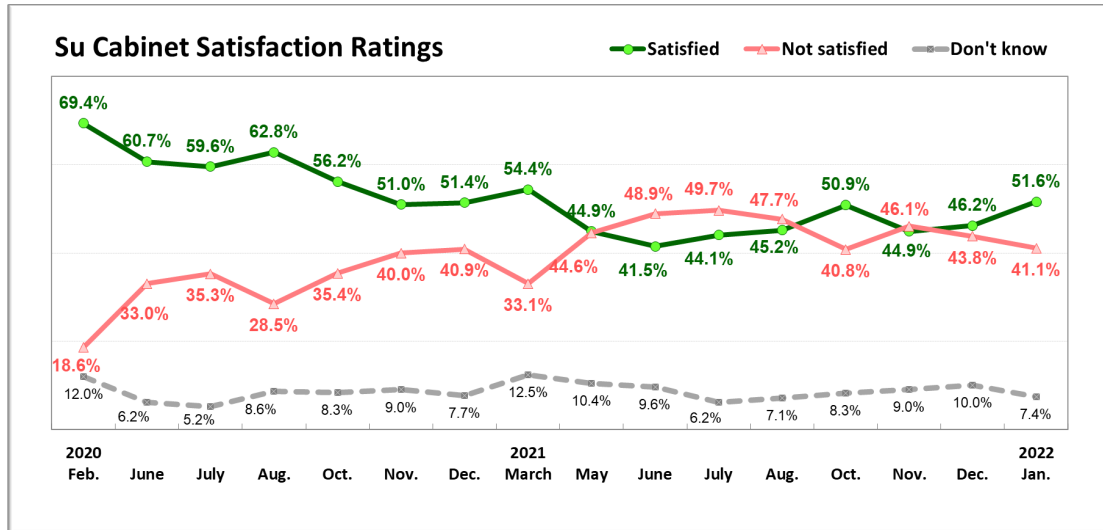


7. Concerning public trust in the government's ability to handle food safety issues, the poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 47.8% have trust that the government will safeguard food safety standards versus 47.1% who do not. This shows that the Taiwanese public continue to have a divided view on the ruling government's ability to ensure the safety of their food.

8. On the Presidential job approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 15.1% rated strongly approve, 34.6% somewhat approve, 21.7% somewhat disapprove, and 19.6% strongly disapprove. Overall, a small majority of 49.7% approved of the way President Tsai Ing-wen is handling the country's top priorities, while a minority of 41.3% expressed disapproval.



9. On the performance of Premier Su Tseng-chang cabinet, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 51.6% were satisfied of the way Su cabinet is handling the government, while the other 41.1% were not satisfied.



10. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 30.5% said they support the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 15.6% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 12.5% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 2.1% support the New Power Party (NPP), 2.3% support the Taiwan State-building Party (TSP), and 33.8% respondents identified themselves as independents. Compared to last month, the KMT saw another 4% setback likely due to the failure of the party to push through the December referendums.

