



## **Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation**

### **April 2022 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt**

Released:

**April 26, 2022**

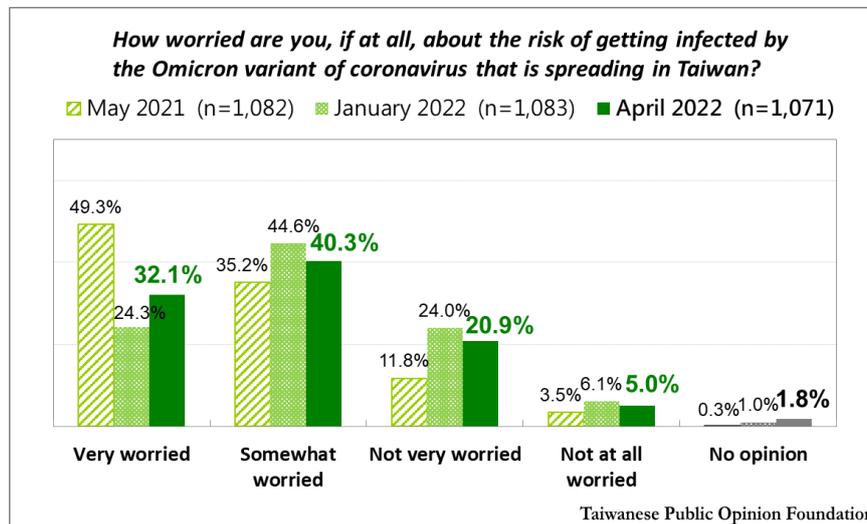
**Taiwanese Public Opinion Foundation (TPOF)** today released the result of its April 2022 nation-wide poll. This marks the 68th monthly survey conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes in Taiwan’s public opinion. The full release in Chinese language is available on our official website [www.tpof.org](http://www.tpof.org).

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

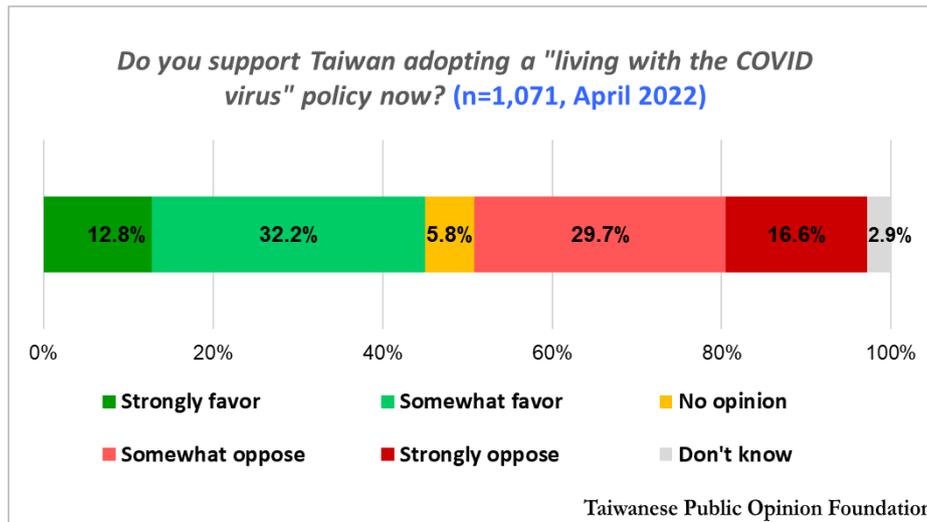
This survey was conducted on April 17-19, 2022, with a sample size of 1,071. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline numbers were drawn through random digit dialing system. The samples were demographically weighted to adjust 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  $\pm 2.99$  percentage points with 95% level of confidence.

## Main Findings:

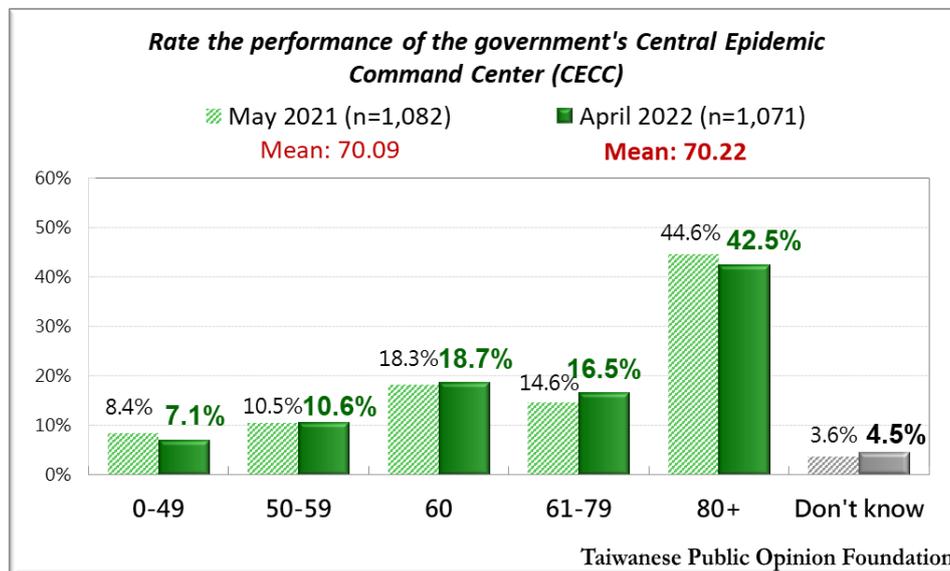
1. How worried are Taiwanese people concerning the surging wave of COVID-19 cases in recent days due to the Omicron variant? The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 72.4% said they are worried, while 25.9% said they are not. Compared to our past polls there has been a slight increase in concern from January, but still not as much as the widespread fear that was recorded in our May 2021 poll, when a serious COVID-19 infection also occurred but with the older, significantly more deadly Delta variant. However, with the number of confirmed cases rising rapidly in recent days, the number of serious cases and death might rise eventually as well. It remains to be seen how Taiwanese public will react to such developments.



2. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 60.7% said they are worried that the surging pandemic might impact their job or income, while 37.1% said they are not worried. Again, we see a slight drop comparing to our May 2021 poll when 65.3% surveyed then said they were worried amidst the Delta infection wave that hit Taiwan at the time.
3. Do Taiwanese people support a “Coexisting with the Coronavirus” policy approach in dealing with the latest COVID pandemic wave? The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 45% said they are in favor but 46.3% are against it. Overall, Taiwanese general public is still deeply divided on the issue, although the ruling government has more or less moved toward adopting this approach amidst the latest infection wave.



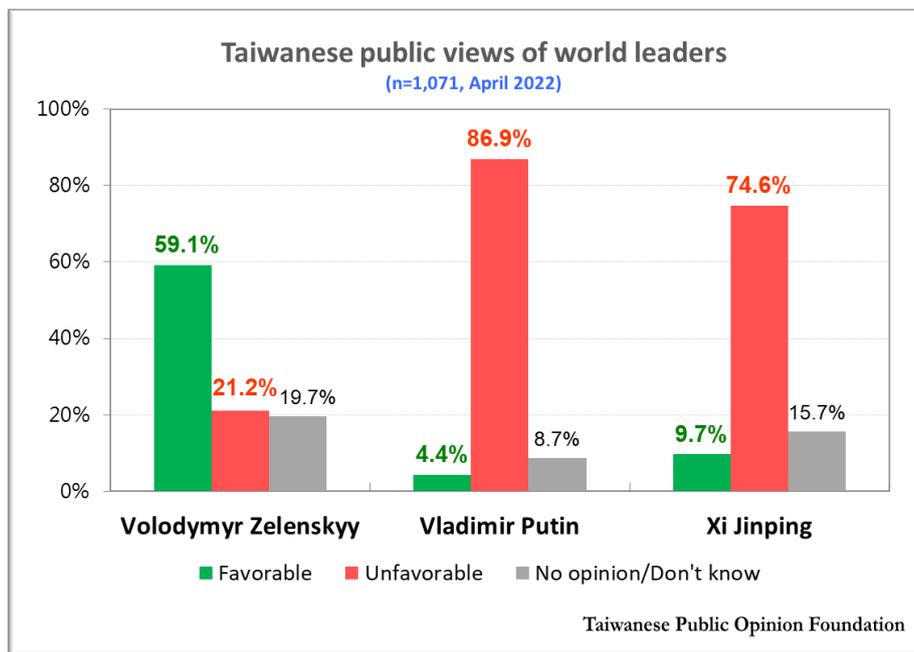
4. How do Taiwanese people rate the performance of the government's Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) headed by health minister Chen Shih-chung? The poll finds on a scale of 0-100, 59% of those surveyed rated CECC a score of above 60, 18.7% rated a passing score of 60, while 17.7% rated failing scores. The mean score is 70.22. It therefore appears that the Taiwanese public currently still have high assessments of Minister Chen's pandemic fighting leadership, despite the massive increase in cases in recent days.



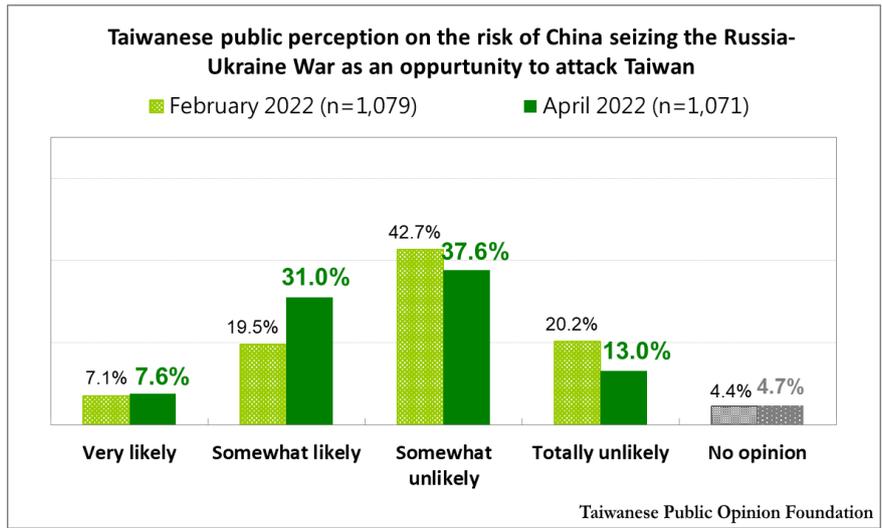
5. We asked Taiwanese people to rate their views of world leaders in current events. Among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, we found that:

- a. A majority of 59.1% have favorable views of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, those holding favorable views are a majority across different sex, age, education attainment, partisan affiliation, and even the Taiwan independence vs. unification divide.

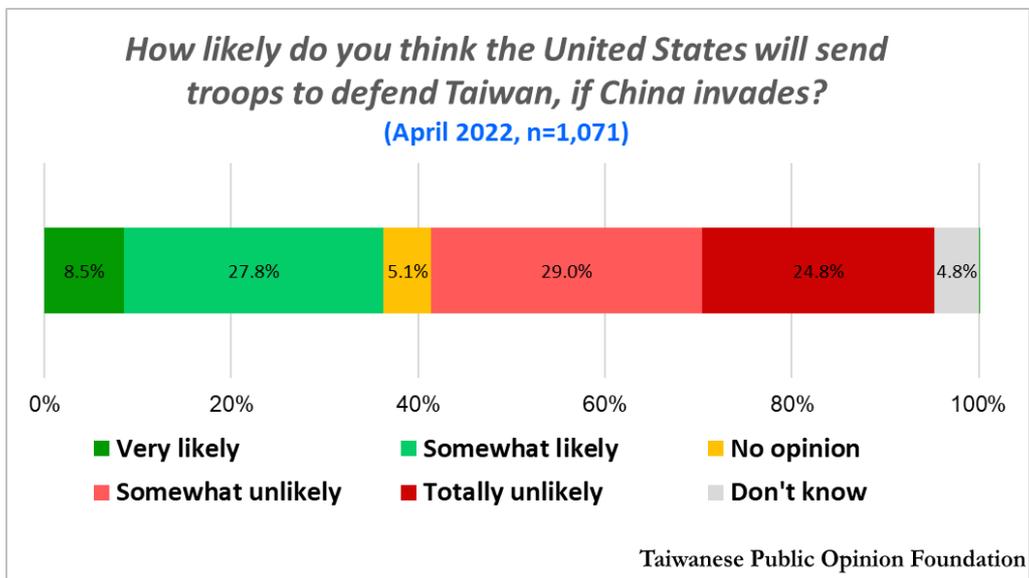
- b. A mass majority of 86.9% have unfavorable views of Russian President Vladimir Putin, those holding unfavorable views are a majority across different sex, age, education attainment, partisan affiliation, and even the Taiwan independence vs. unification divide.
- c. A majority of 74.6% have unfavorable views of Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Xi Jinping, those holding unfavorable views are a majority across different sex, age, education attainment, partisan affiliation, and even the Taiwan independence vs. unification divide.

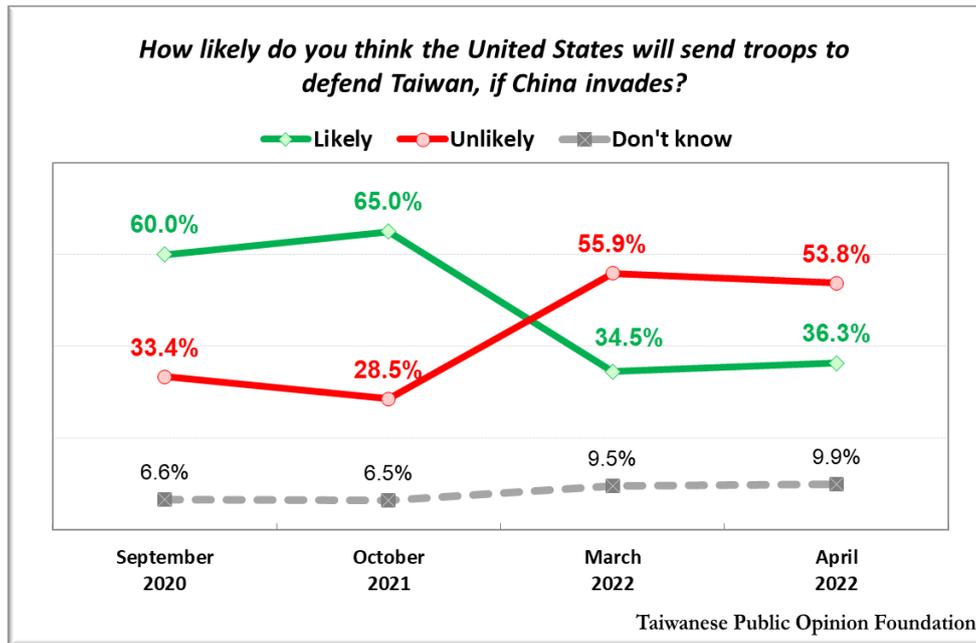


- 6. Are Taiwanese people worried about China seizing the opportunity to invade Taiwan after the occurrence of Russian-Ukraine war? The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 38.6% are worried while 50.6% are not worried. While a majority are still not worried, a comparison to our February poll shows a significant increase to those who are worried.

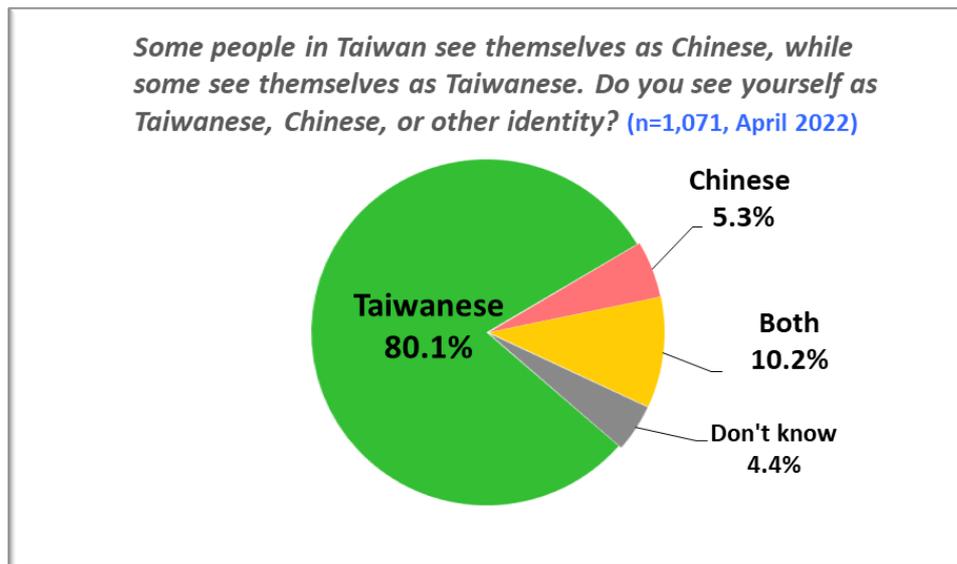


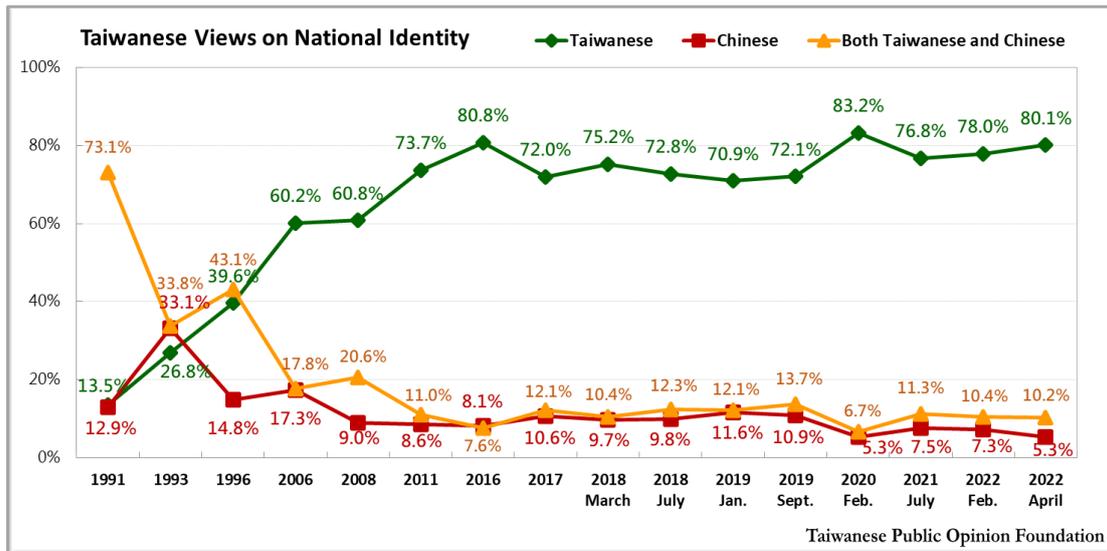
7. Do Taiwanese people believe the United States will send troops to defend Taiwan in the case of a war with China? The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 53.8% do not believe there will be a U.S. military intervention while only 36.3% said they do. This confirmed again our critical finding from March 2022 poll that the Russian-Ukraine war and the lack of a direct U.S. military intervention to help Ukraine has had a major impact on the Taiwanese public's confidence in a U.S. military intervention and drove a significant number toward non-confidence.



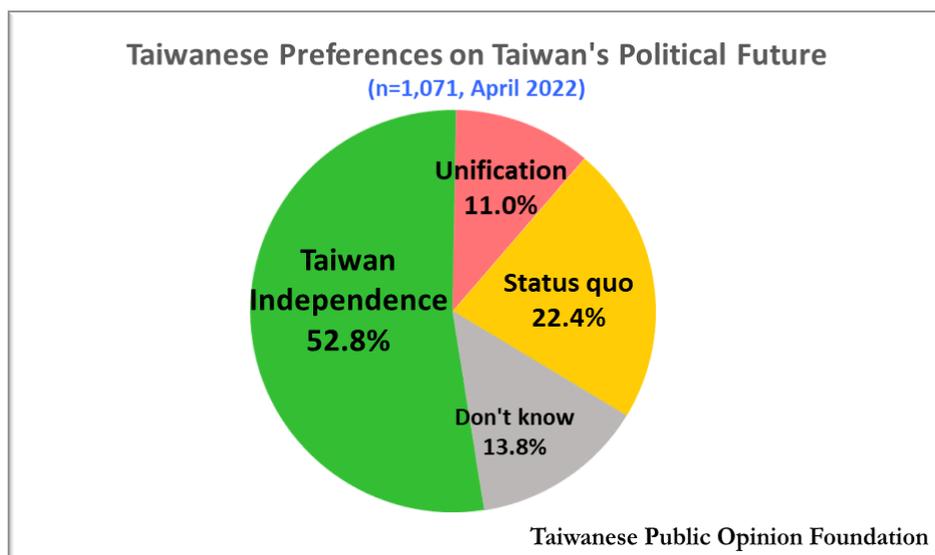


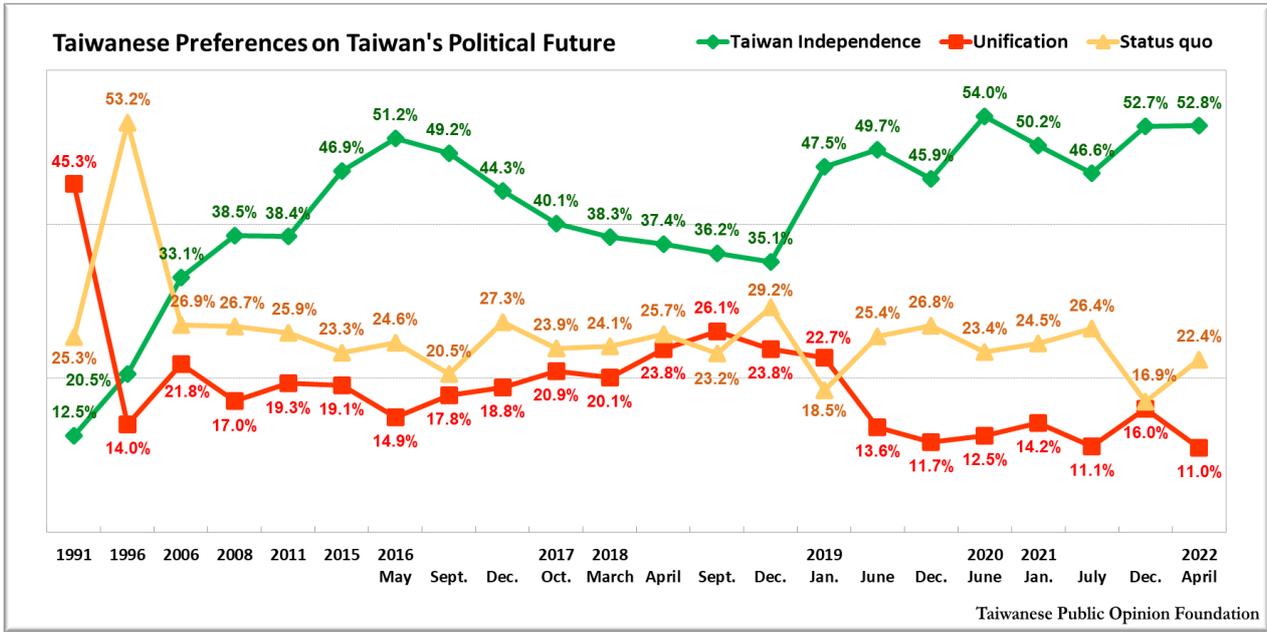
8. Concerning Taiwanese national identity, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 80.1% said they see themselves as Taiwanese, 5.3% as Chinese, 10.2% both Taiwanese and Chinese, and 4.4% said they do not know.



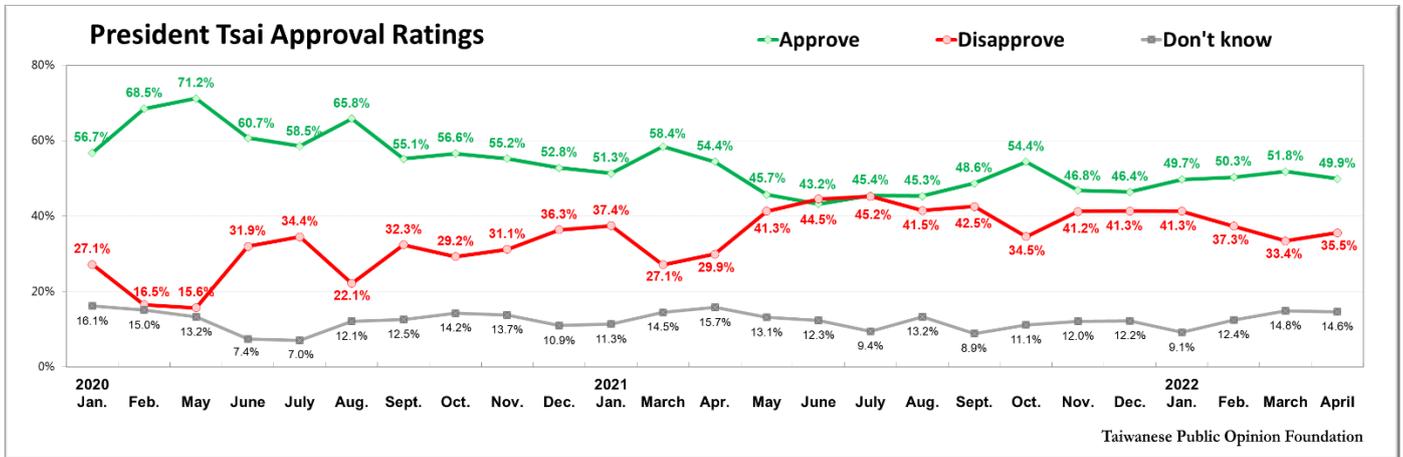


9. Concerning Taiwanese views on political future, we asked: “*There are debates regarding the future of Taiwan. Some people argue Taiwan should pursue unification with the other side of the [Taiwan] Strait, while others argue Taiwan should pursue its own independence. Do you support Taiwan independence, or unification with the other side?*” The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 52.8% said they support Taiwan independence, 11% for unification, 22.5% for maintaining status quo. This is yet another data point to support the long-established observation that the majority of the Taiwanese public, when offered the options, choose Taiwan independence as their desired future political status above all other options.



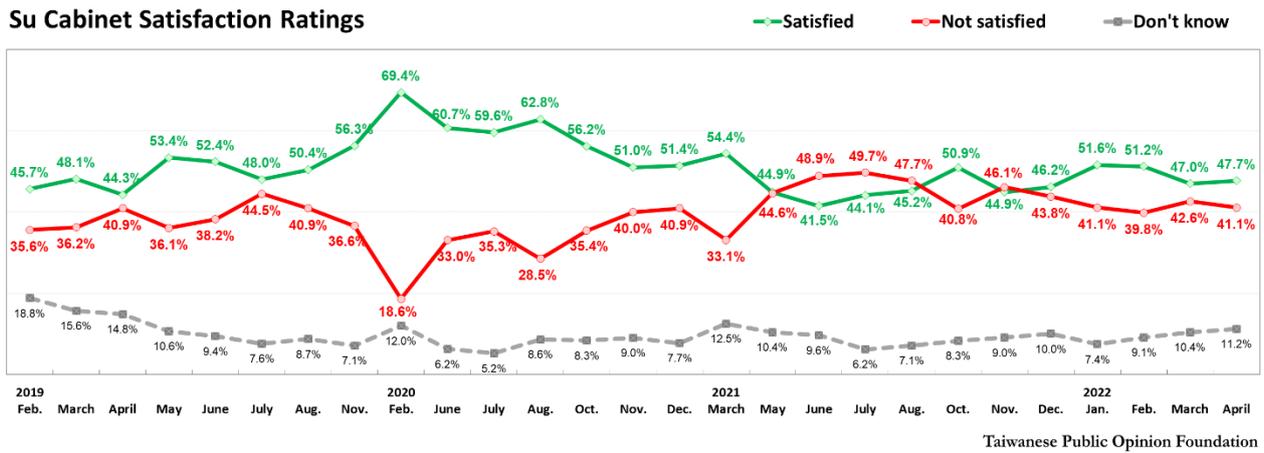


10. On the Presidential job approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 49.9% approved of the way Tsai Ing-wen is handling her job as the President, while a minority of 35.5% expressed disapproval.



11. On the performance of Premier Su Tseng-chang cabinet, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 47.7% were satisfied of the way Su cabinet is handling the government, while the other 41.1% were not satisfied.

**Su Cabinet Satisfaction Ratings**



12. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 30.3% said they support the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 14.5% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 9.2% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 2.6% support the New Power Party (NPP), 2.8% support the Taiwan State-building Party (TSP), and 38.6% respondents identified themselves as independents. The ruling DPP saw a noticeable decline, which might be due to either the rising COVID-19 cases, or the waning effect from the Ukraine war, or to the vicious in-fighting within the DPP for nominations for the upcoming local elections later this year.

