



## **Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation**

### **June 2024 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt**

Released:

**June 18, 2024**

**Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation** (TPOF) today released the result of its June 2024 nation-wide poll. This marks the 94th 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.

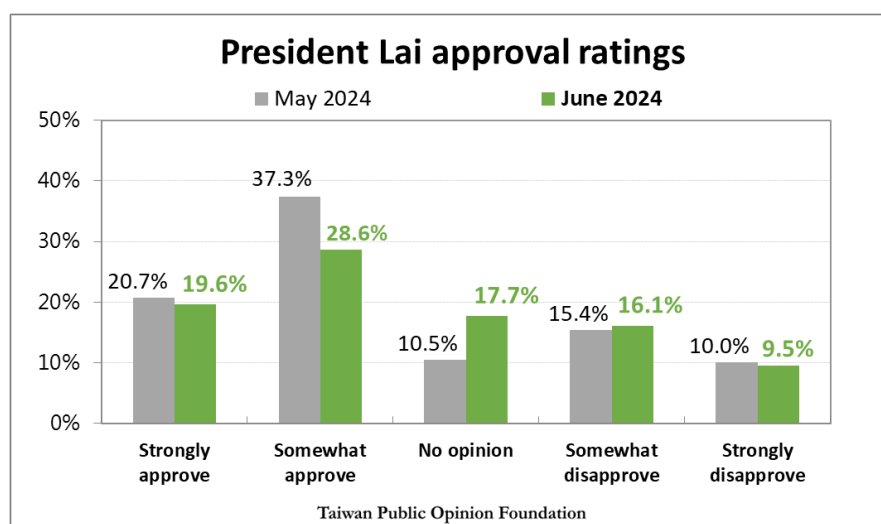
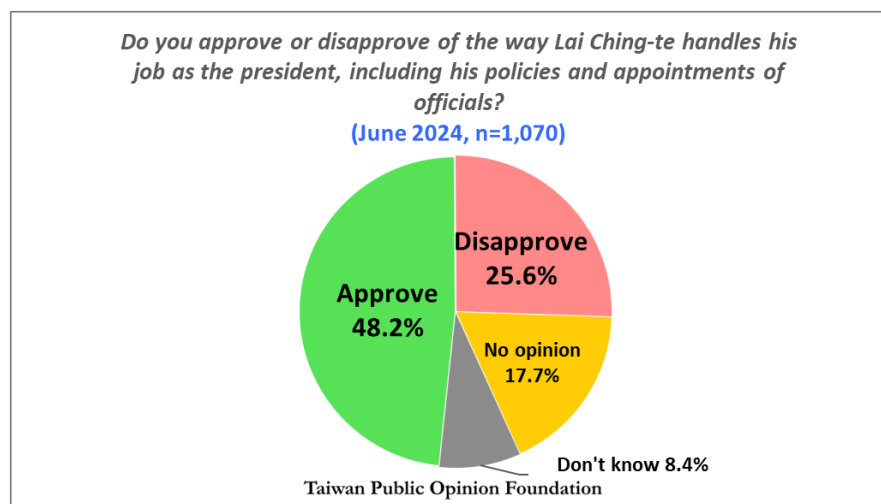
#### **How the Survey was Conducted**

This survey was conducted on June 11-13, 2024, with a sample size of 1,070. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline and cellphone numbers were drawn through dual-frame random sampling with a proportion of 70% from landlines and 30% from cellphones. 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  $\pm 3.00$  percentage points with 95% level of confidence.

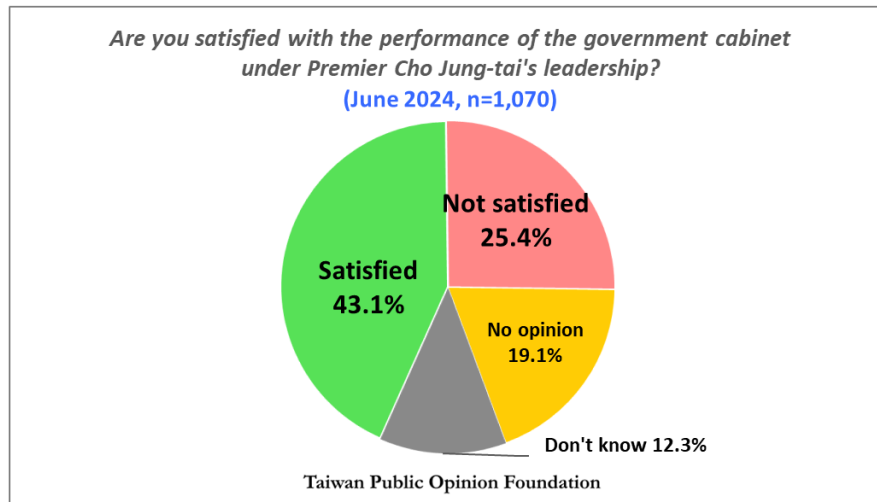
## Main Findings:

1. On President Lai Ching-te's approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 48.2% said they approve of the way Lai is handling his job as the president, while 25.6% disapprove. Compared to May, he lost 9.8% approval in just one month's time although disapproval only increased slightly by 0.2%. This means that just a month into office President Lai already lost what's equivalent of two million people's approval which should be a major warning sign to the ruling DPP. Overall, Lai's disapproval rating still remains low which means there is limited pressure to his administration just a month into office.

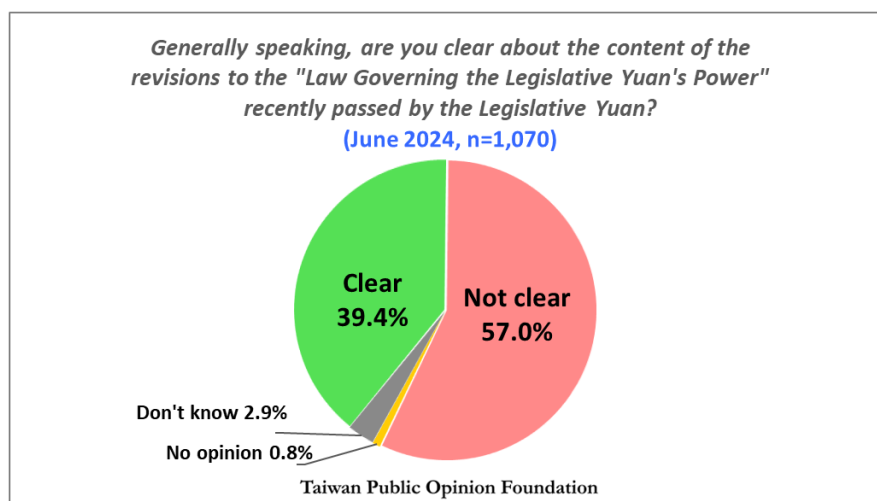
In comparison, former President Tsai Ing-wen had a 69.9% support when she was first inaugurated in May 2016, the next month she lost just 2.9% support, but lost another 11.1% in July 2017. During Tsai's second term she started with a record 71.5% support in May 2020, but lost 10.5% by June of that year.

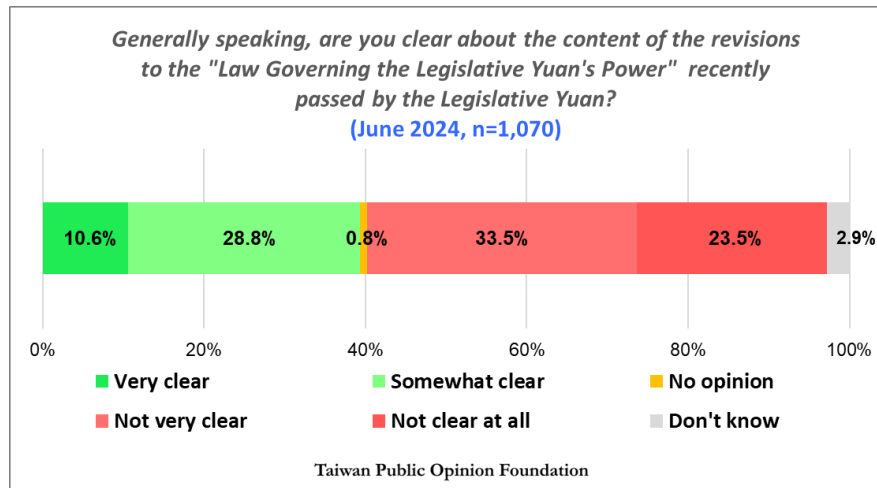


2. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 43.1% said they are satisfied with the new government cabinet under Premier Cho Jung-tai, while 25.4% are not satisfied. Cho's starting satisfaction rating is lower than the previous three premiers under President Tsai namely Lai Ching te (who started with 58% in October 2017), Su Tseng-chang (45.6% in February 2019), and Chen Chien-jen (49.6% in March 2023), however this is likely due to prevailing political environment rather than the performance of Cho himself.

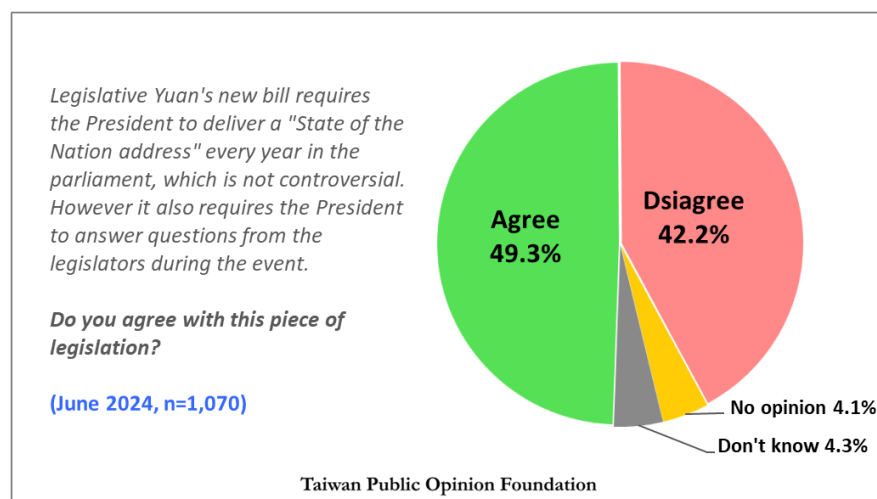


3. Taiwan's parliament Legislative Yuan recently passed a bill of revision of the "Law Governing the Legislative Yuan's Power" which was introduced and supported by the opposition parties but strongly opposed by the ruling party. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 57% said they are not clear with the content of the revisions, while only 39.4% said they are clear with them. Furthermore, of all respondents 23.5% said they are "not clear at all" while only 10.6% said they are "very clear".



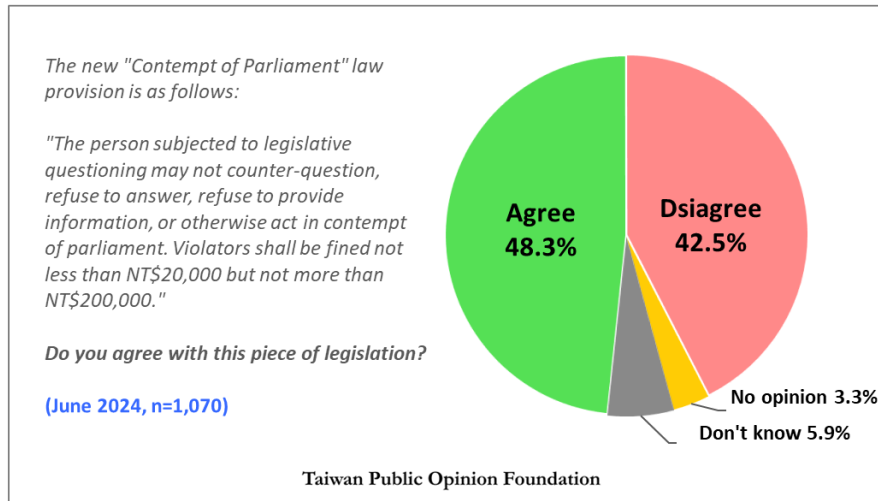


4. The poll asked respondents several questions regarding the legislative reform, exact law provision of each item was read out to measure level of agreement. Concerning the “State of the Nation” address requirement the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 49.3% said they agree with the new law that requires the president to not only deliver an address to the parliament every year but also to answer questions from the legislators during the session, while 42.2% disagree. It indicates Taiwanese public are quite divided on the issue, though more people agree with the oppositions that the president should be required to answer questions from legislators in this annual event.

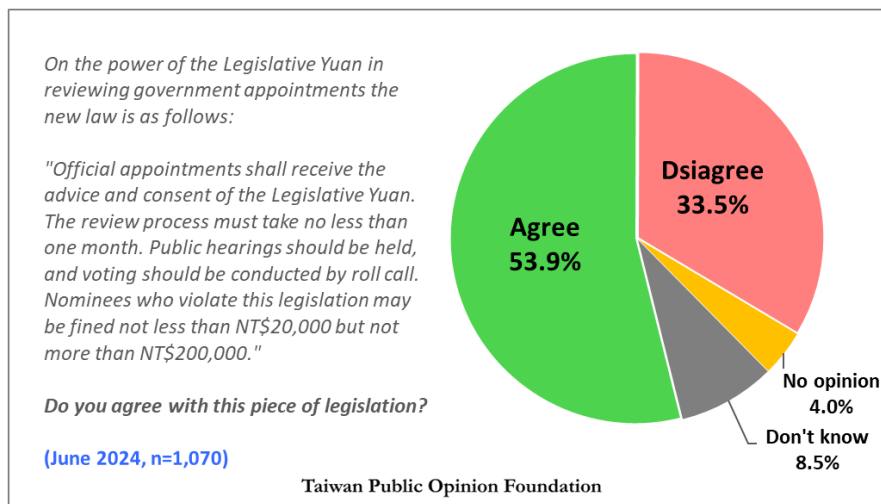


5. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 48.3% agree with the new “Contempt of Parliament” law while a minority of 42.5% disagree with it. Again, the Taiwanese public are quite divided on the issue, though a slim majority agree with oppositions-supported new law that would now subject cabinet officials to a fine if they fail to answer questions during legislative

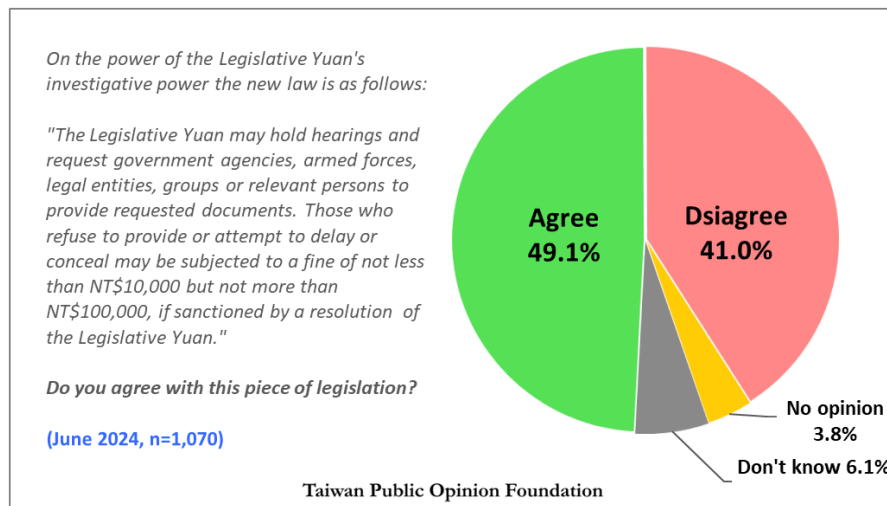
hearing.



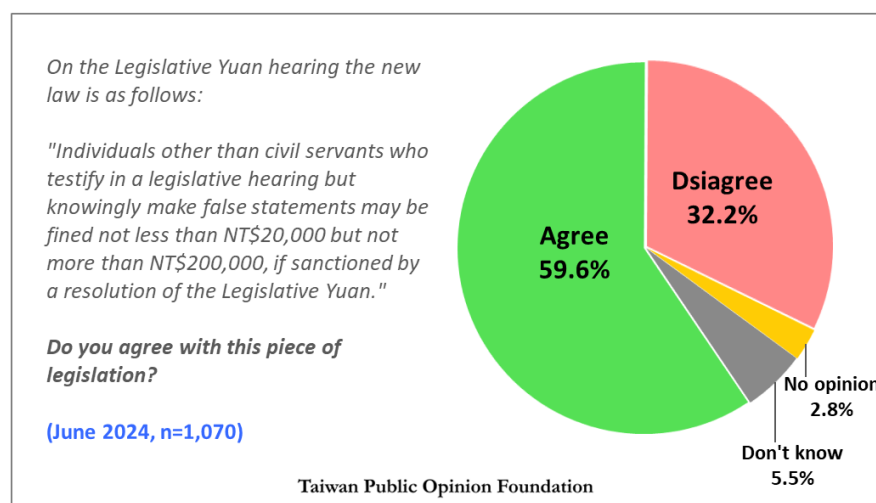
6. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 53.9% agree with the new law regarding Legislative Yuan's review power over the appointment of certain government officials, while only 33.5% disagree. Those who agree with it outnumbered those who disagree by more than 20%, a sign that a strong majority of Taiwanese public do favor the new law that seeks to strengthen the parliament's power over official appointments.



7. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 49.1% agree with the new law that gives Legislative Yuan the investigative power and the associated power to impose fines on non-complying individuals, while a minority of 41% disagree with it. It is clear that the Taiwanese public are divided on the issue, though a slim majority side with the oppositions on this matter.

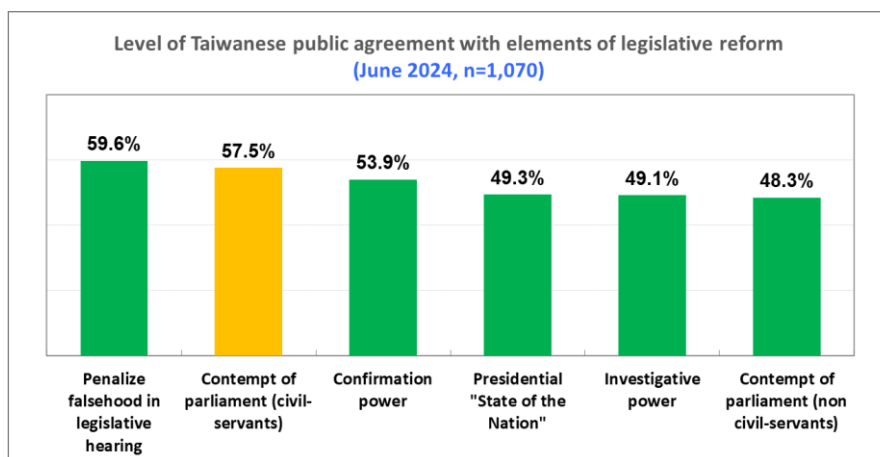


8. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 59.6% agree with the new law that gives the Legislative Yuan the power to penalize non-civil servant individuals if they knowingly make false statements in the testimony during a legislative hearing, only a minority of 32.2% disagree with it. Despite being often criticized as one of the most controversial elements of the legislative reform since it could penalize individuals who are not civil servants, the poll shows a clear majority of Taiwanese public agree with this change.



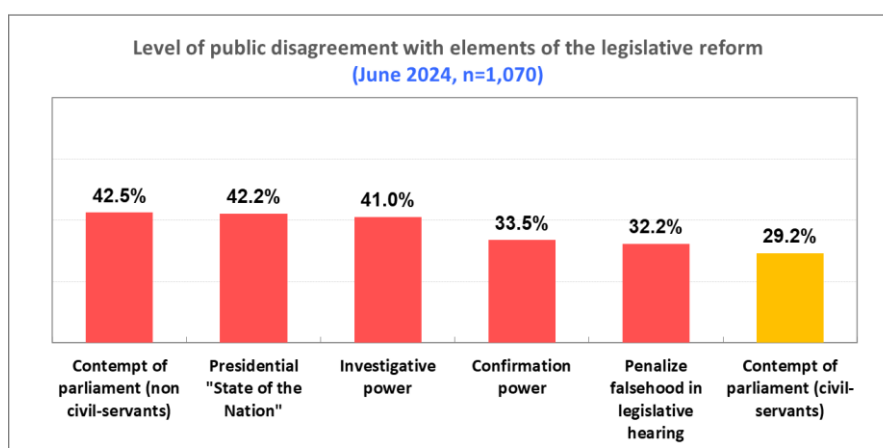
9. Overall, the Taiwanese public have varying levels of agreement with elements of the legislative reform. The provision that penalizes falsehood in legislative hearing, often cited by the ruling party as the most controversial elements, is actually the one most people agreed with. It can also be seen that the public are in more agreement with the law penalizing contempt of parliament by civil servants rather than that targeting non-civil servants, which is the least agreed with provision among all though a slim majority still agree with it.

In sum, the polls indicate Taiwanese public are still divided over elements of the new legislative reform, but the majority clearly agree with them to various extent. The majority of independent voters and opposition supporters also agree with the reform. The ruling DPP government's vehement opposition to *all* elements of the legislative reform is clearly not in line with the prevailing public opinion.



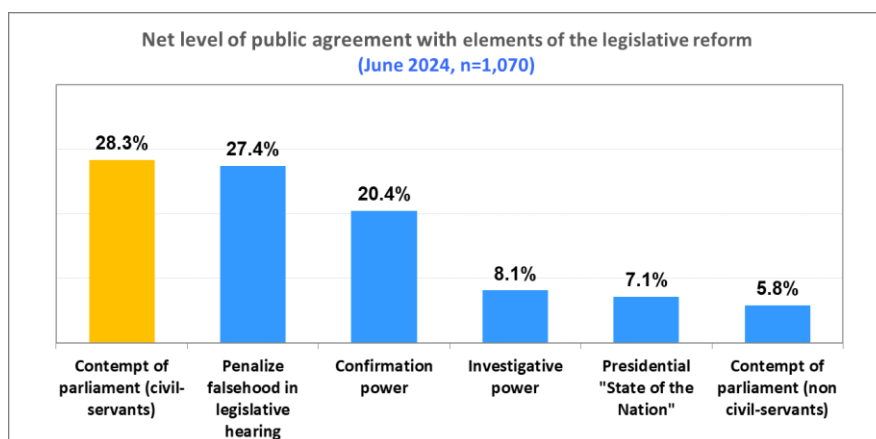
Note: "Contempt of parliament (civil-servants)" poll was conducted in May 2024

Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation



Note: "Contempt of parliament (civil-servants)" poll was conducted in May 2024

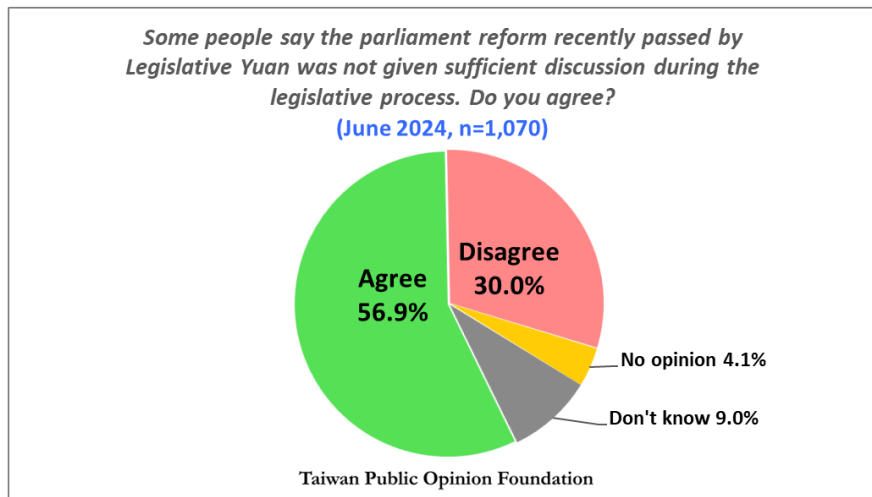
Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation



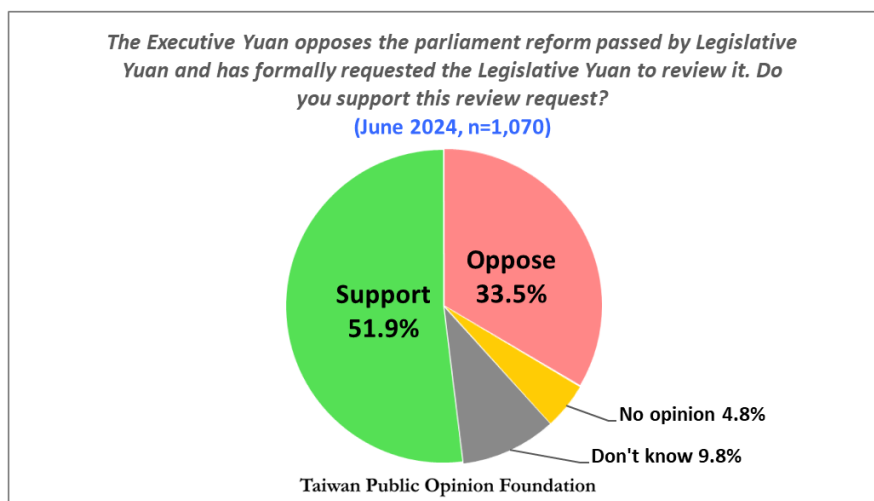
Note: "Contempt of parliament (civil-servants)" poll was conducted in May 2024

Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation

10. A common criticism of the legislative reform bill is that it passed through without “sufficient discussion”. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 56.9% agree with this criticism, while only 30% disagree. This means the majority of Taiwanese public indeed see the process of this legislative reform as flawed, notwithstanding their view on the content of the reform itself.



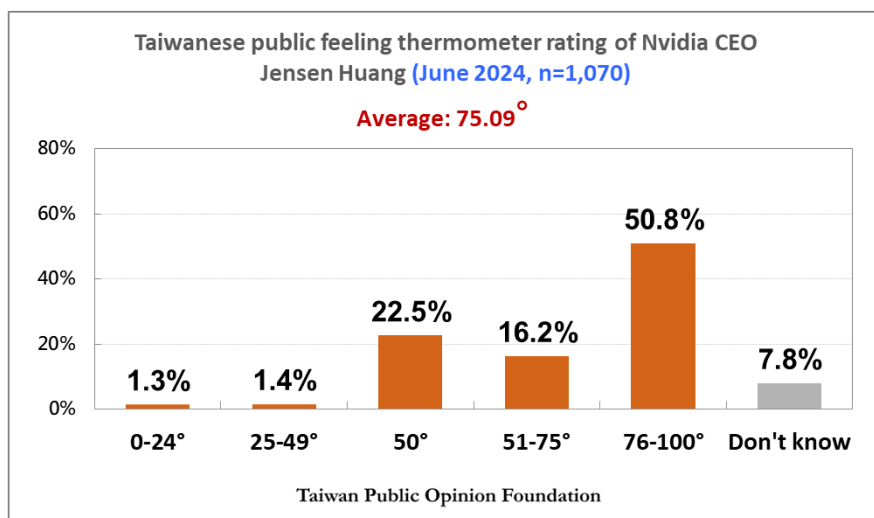
11. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 51.9% support the ruling government’s Executive Yuan’s decision to request the Legislative Yuan to conduct a formal review of the legislative reform bill. This means that the Taiwanese public, notwithstanding their view on the content of the reform itself, do support the ruling government to request a review process of the bill.



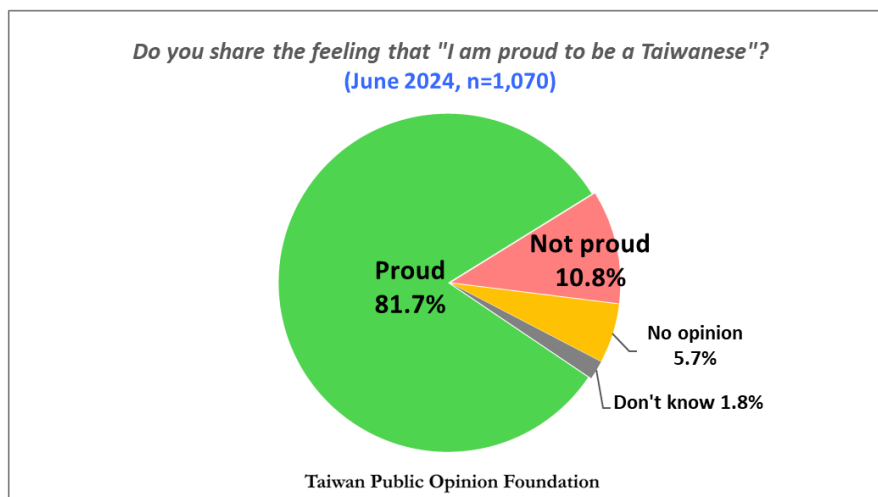
12. Jensen Huang, the chief executive of U.S. semiconductor giant Nvidia recently visited Taiwan which created a public frenzy that many media termed it “[Jensanity](#)”. The poll asked respondents to rate Huang on a *feeling thermometer*



between 0 and 100 – whereas 0 is the most negative and 100 is the most positive. Among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 67% have warm feeling (temperature of 51° and above) toward Huang, while 22.5% have neutral feeling (temperature of 50°), and 2.6% have cold feeling (below 50°). The average Taiwanese public feeling temperature of Huang is therefore 75°. This indeed indicates there is currently an overwhelming positive Taiwanese public feeling toward the Nvidia chief executive, which means he is currently one of the most popular individuals among Taiwanese public.



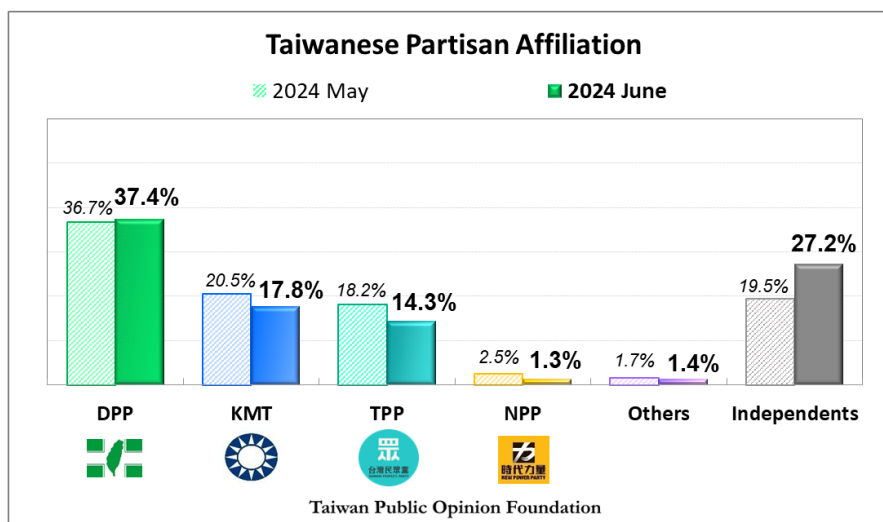
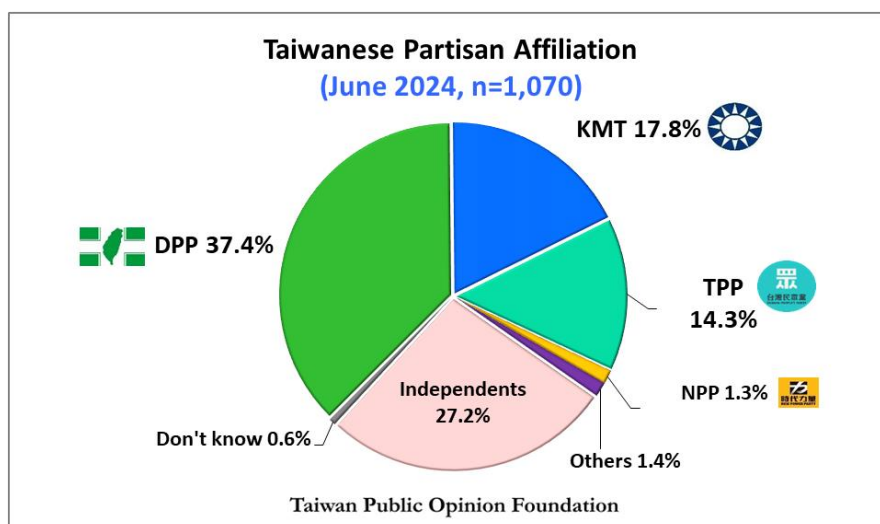
13. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a vast majority of 81.7% said they are proud to be Taiwanese, only 10.8% said they are not. This is a further increase from 2020 when 77.7% said they are proud to be Taiwanese. This means national pride among the Taiwanese public continued to climb over the past few years.



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

and older, 37.4% support the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 17.8% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 14.3% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 1.3% support the New Power Party (NPP), and 27.2% respondents identified themselves as independents.

Compared to last month the DPP continues to increase its partisan support for six months in a row, while the KMT and TPP both suffered significant declines. This is even more surprising considering the fact that President Lai's approval rating also decreased substantially this month. What contributed to this year's steady growth in DPP partisan support? There are many external and internal factors that could have contributed to this, such as increased cross-strait tension and the inauguration of a new government. But one thing is clear that the ruling DPP is now at a point of relative high partisan support which may not directly translate into high approval or satisfaction over its governance, and it remains to be seen how long this trend of relative popularity can continue.



Taiwanese Partisan Affiliation 2019 - 2024

