



Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation

August 2025 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt

Released:

August 12, 2025

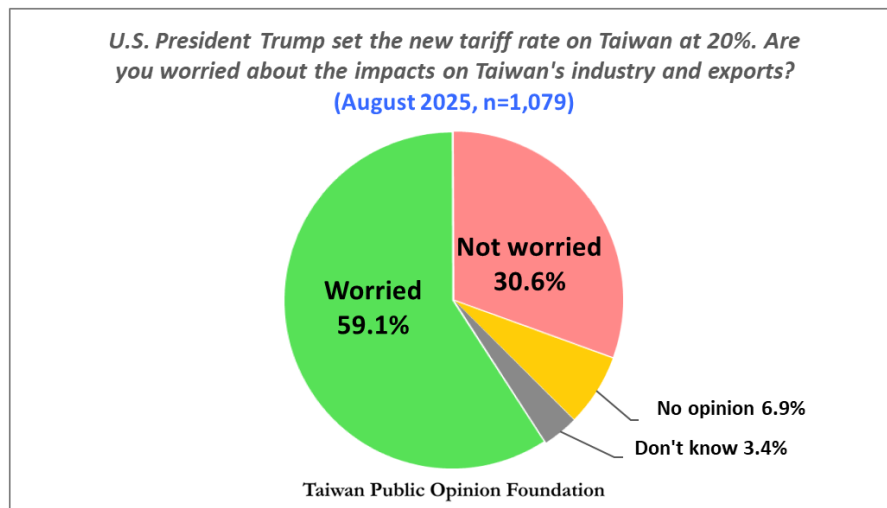
Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation (TPOF) today released the result of its August 2025 nation-wide poll. This marks the 107th monthly survey conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes in Taiwan's public opinion. The full release in Chinese language is available on our official website.

How the Survey was Conducted

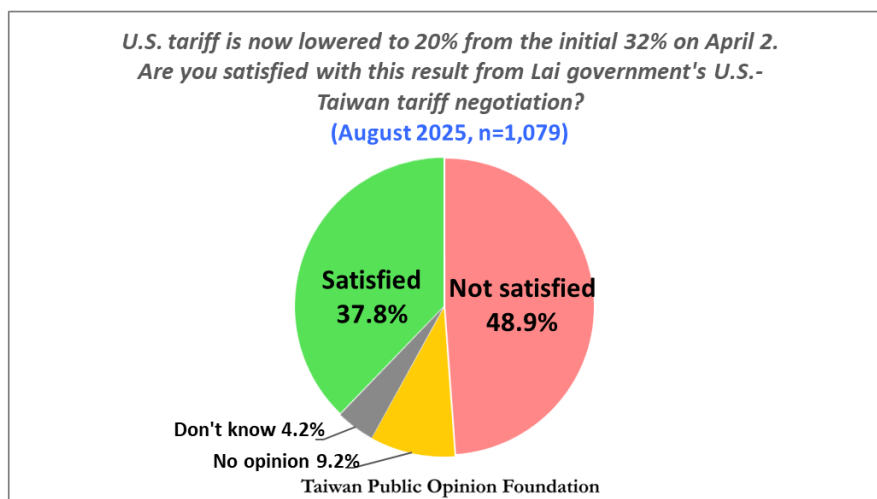
This survey was conducted on August 4-6, 2025, with a sample size of 1,079. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline and cellphone numbers were drawn through dual-frame random sampling with a proportion of 70% from landlines and 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 ± 2.98 percentage points with 95% level of confidence.

Main Findings:

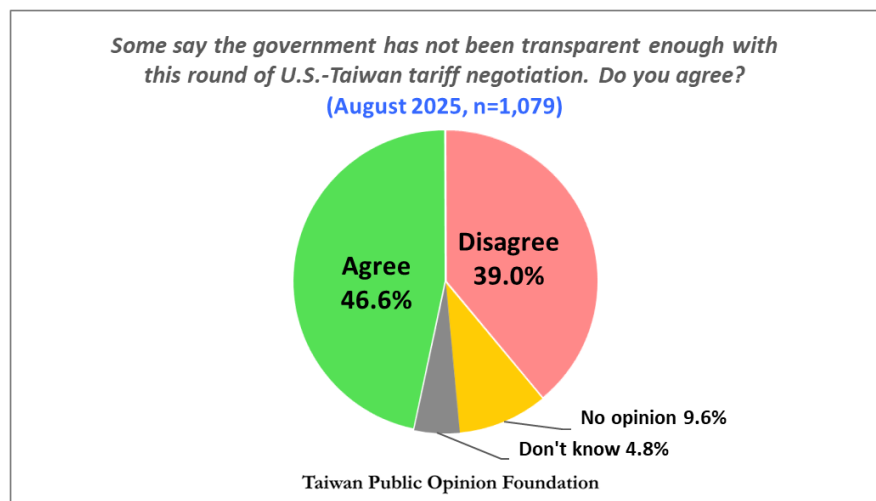
1. On August 1 U.S. President Donald Trump unveiled new set of tariff rates imposed on many countries, of which Taiwan was [set to 20 percent](#). The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 59.1% say they are worried about the tariff's impact on Taiwan's industry and exports, while a minority of 30.6% are not worried.



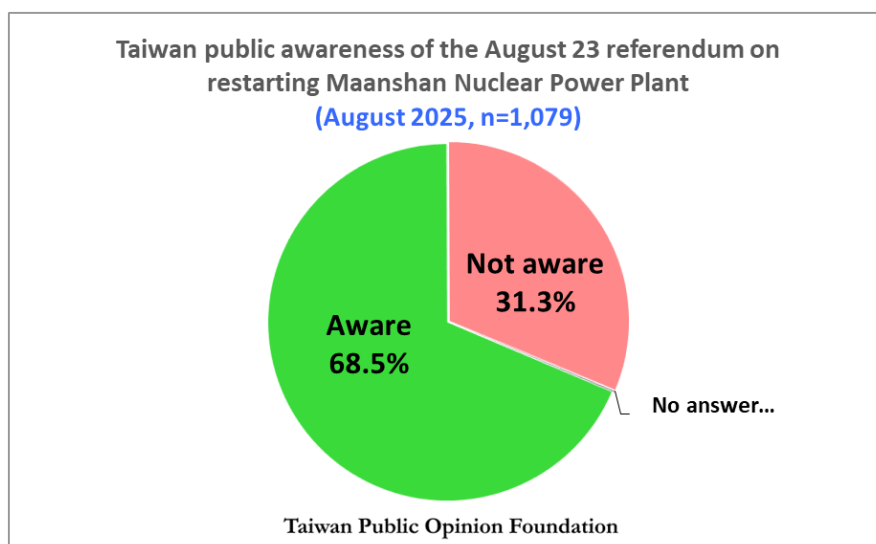
2. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 48.9% say they are not satisfied with the result of Lai government's trade negotiation with the U.S., while a minority of 37.8% are satisfied. While the U.S. tariff on Taiwan is now lowered to 20% from the original 32% high since April 2, majority Taiwanese public are still not satisfied with the government's negotiation performance.



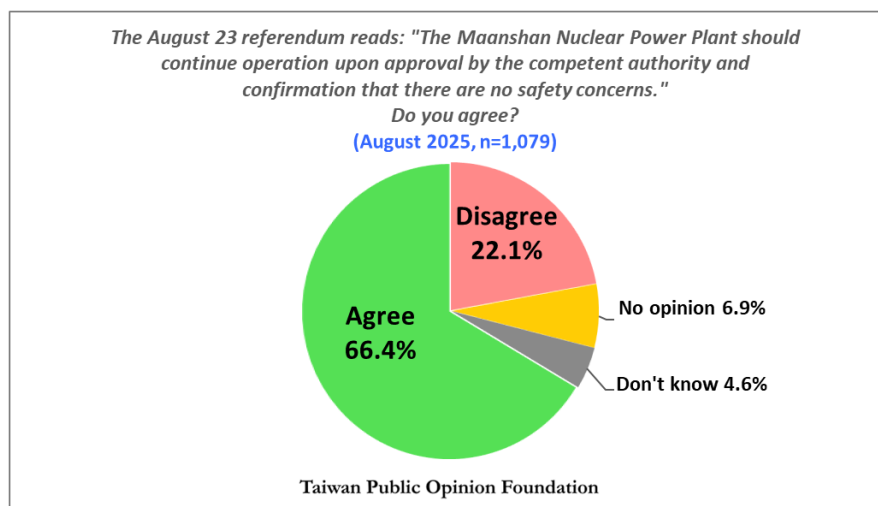
3. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 46.6% agree with the statement that the government has not been transparent enough with the latest U.S.-Taiwan tariff negotiation, while a minority of 39% disagree. The oppositions have accused the government of negotiating with the U.S. under non-transparent terms, implying that the government has traded away some of Taiwan's interest in exchange for lowering the U.S. tariff.



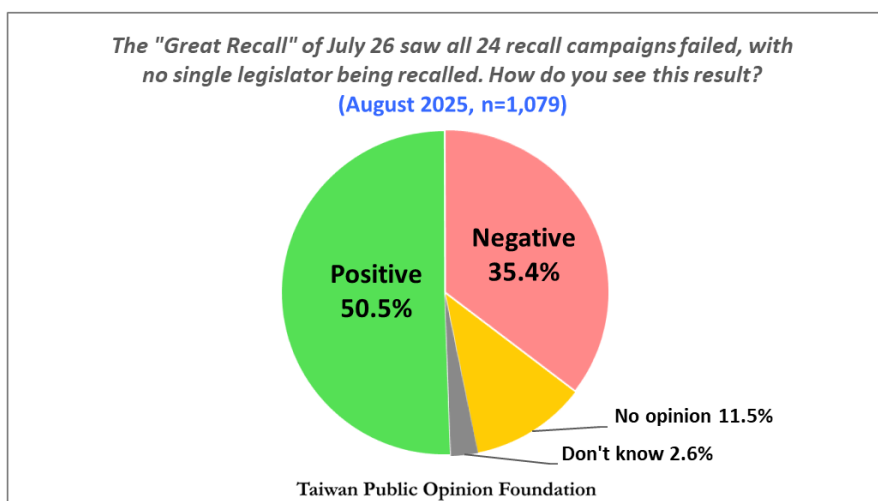
4. Taiwan will hold [a referendum](#) on August 23 to decide whether the Maanshan Nuclear Power Plant – which stopped operating in May after 40 years of service – should restart. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 68.5% are aware of the existence of such referendum, while a minority of 31.3% are not aware of it. This means that nearly one-third of the Taiwanese public are not even aware there is going to be a referendum concerning the contentious issue of nuclear power.



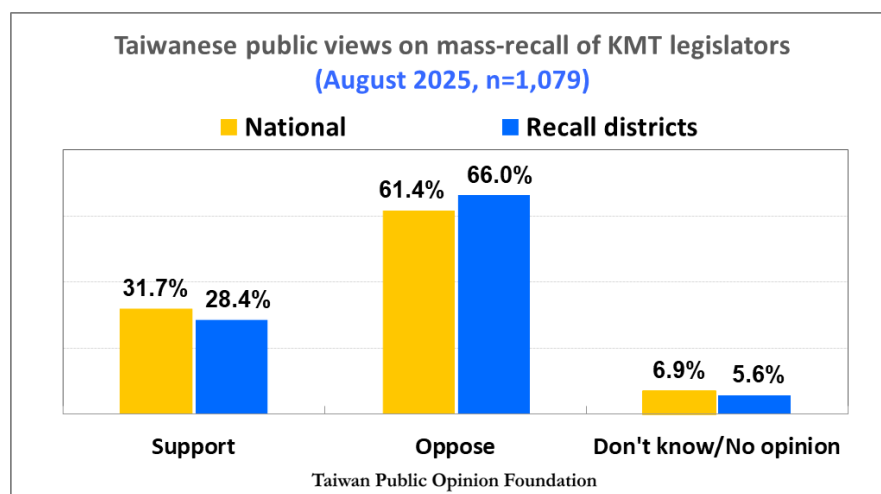
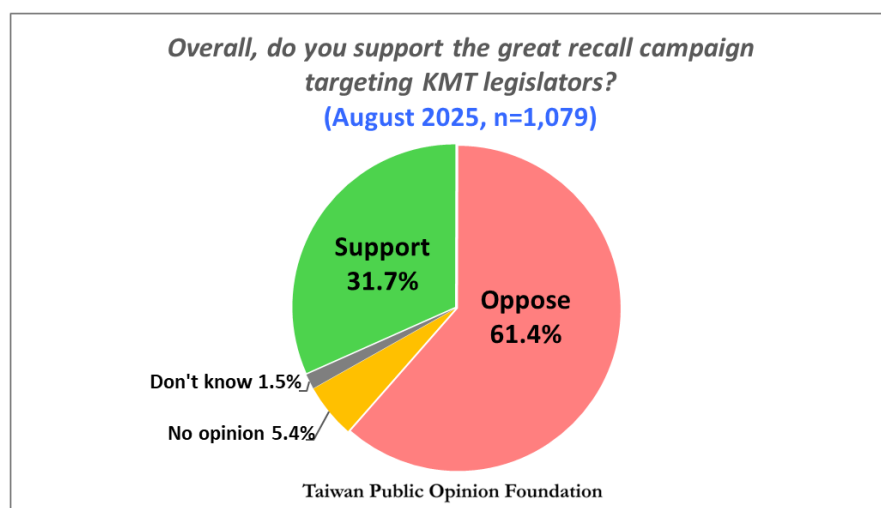
5. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 66.4% agree with the August 23 referendum proposal on restarting the Maanshan Nuclear Power Plant, while a minority of 22.1% are disagree with it. This means that two-thirds of the Taiwanese public agree with conditional restarting of the plant. This also goes against the ruling DPP's long standing "No-Nuclear Homeland Policy". However, even if the referendum were to pass, the ruling government can still deny operation based on "safety concerns", which means the government still holds ultimate deciding power regardless of the result of referendum.

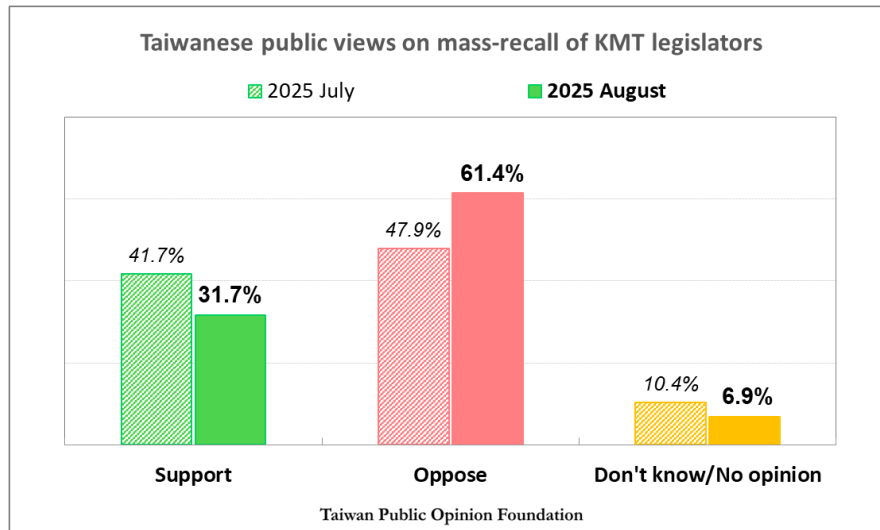


6. The July 26 "Great Recall" against opposition legislators saw all 24 campaigns failed with no single legislator being recalled. The poll finds that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 50.5% view the result positively, while a minority of 35.4% view it negatively. This confirms again the majority of Taiwanese were and are still not in favor of the ruling party's mass recall campaigns against opposition legislators.

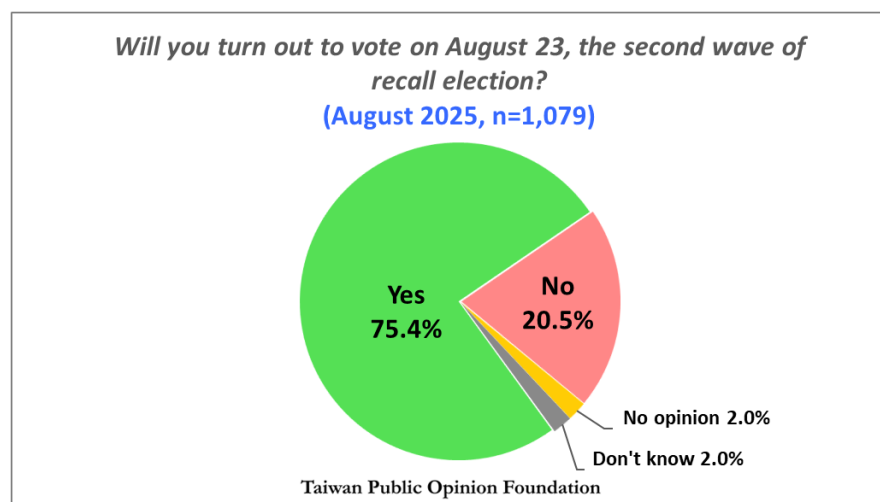


7. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 61.4% oppose the great recall campaign against KMT legislators, while a minority of 31.7% support it. While the first wave of recall campaigns has been voted on and defeated, the Taiwanese public are now even more opposed to the ruling party's recall campaigns than before. Compared to the poll before the first wave of recalls, those who oppose the recall increased by more than 10%, while those who support the recall decreased by 10%. This means that the second wave of recalls will face even more public opposition than the first wave.



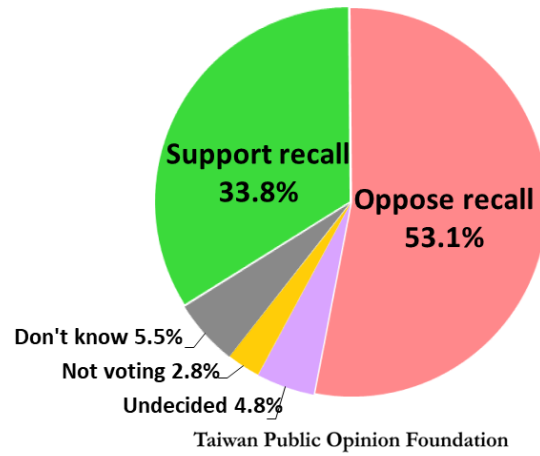


8. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 75.4% say they will vote on August 23, the day of the second wave of recall election, while a minority of 20.5% say they will not vote. This indicates a potentially strong turnout, possibly even greater than the first wave of recall elections.



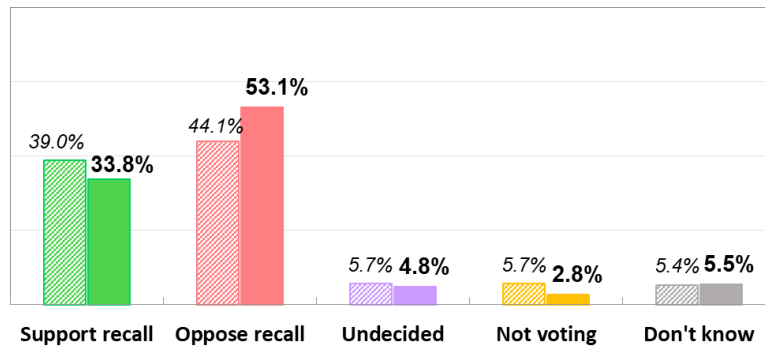
9. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 53.1% say they will be voting against the recall election, while a minority of 33.8% say they will vote for it. Respondents from electoral districts where recall elections are being held express a slightly stronger opposition and lessor support for the recall campaign.

If a vote were to be held tomorrow, will you support or oppose the recall?
 (August 2025, n=1,079)



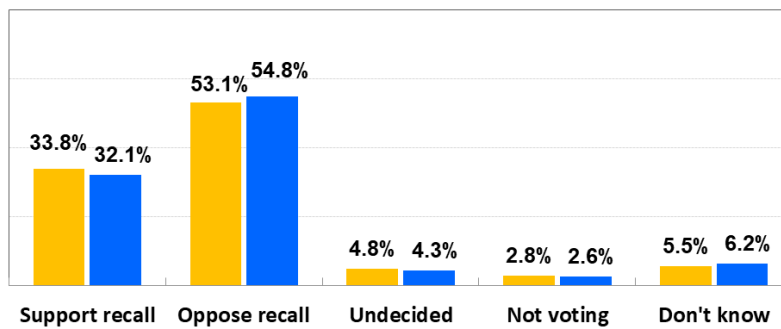
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2025 July 2025 August

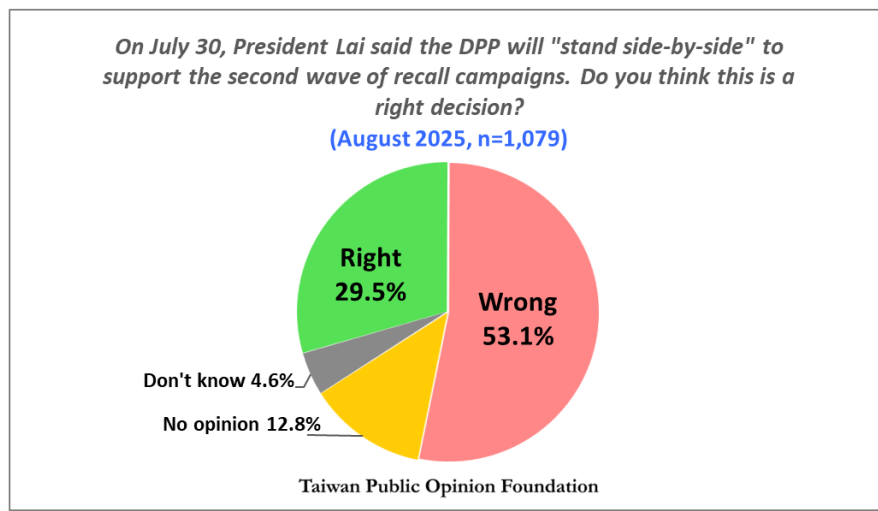


If the recall election were to be held tomorrow, will you vote for or against the recall?
 (August 2025, n=1,079)

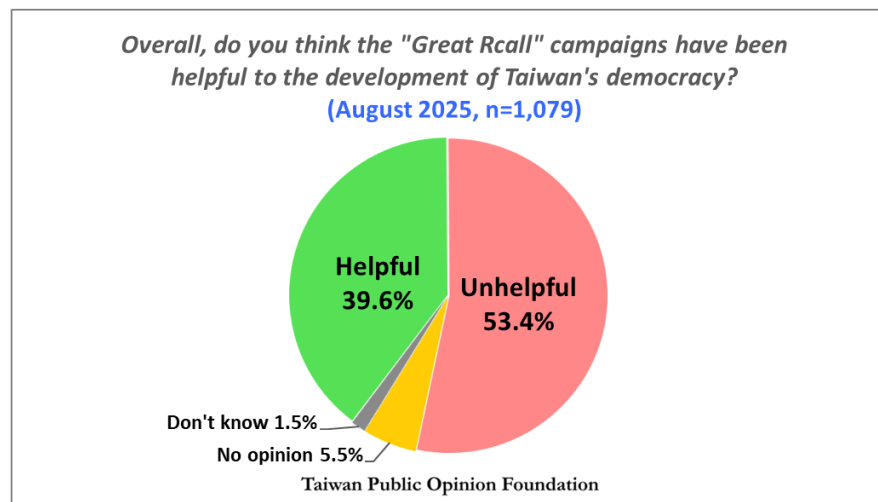
National Recall districts



10. On July 30, days after the complete defeat of the first wave of all 25 recall campaigns President Lai, who is also the chairman of the DPP, vowed that the DPP will ["stand side-by-side"](#) with the second wave of recall campaigns. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 53.1% say Lai made the wrong decision, while a minority of 29.5% say it was the right decision. This means that after the disastrous defeat of the first wave of recalls, the majority of the public clearly do not agree with Lai's decision to continue supporting the unpopular recalls.

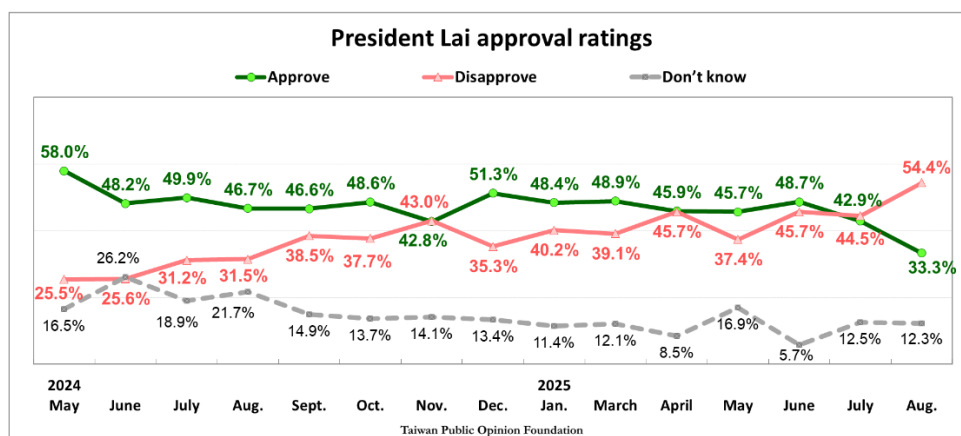
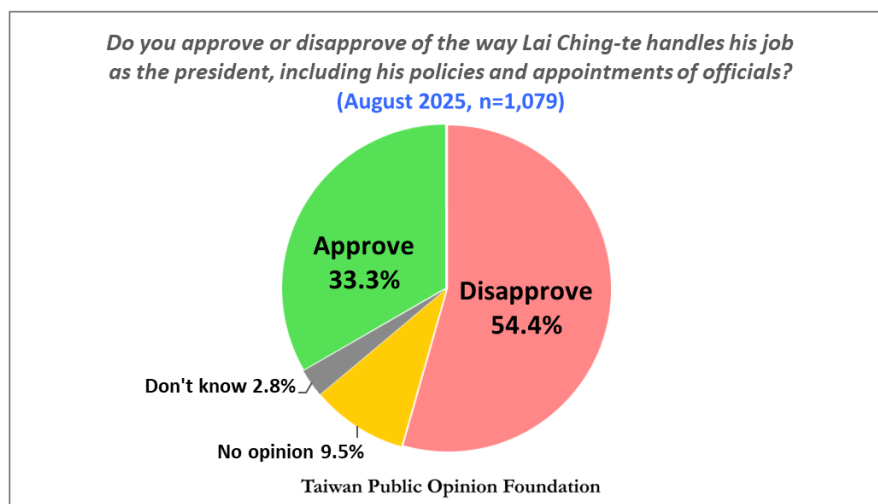


11. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 53.4% say the ruling DPP's "Great Recall" campaigns have been unhelpful to the development of Taiwan's democracy, while a minority of 39.6% say otherwise. This means the majority of Taiwanese do not see the recall campaigns as a positive influence on Taiwan's democracy.

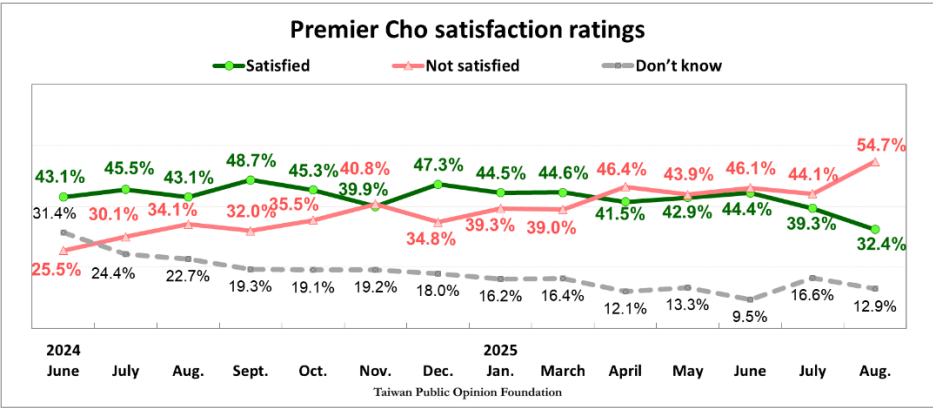


12. On President Lai Ching-te's approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 54.4% said they disapprove of the way Lai is handling his job as the president, while a minority of 33.3% approve of him. Compared to June, Lai's approval suffered a 10% decline while disapproval jumped by 10%. This is without doubt an unprecedented setback for Lai, that not only has he lost majority approval he is also now as unpopular as ever in his presidency.

The complete defeat of the first wave of "Great Recall" is the single most important reason for this decline, since Lai sided with and supported the recall campaigns, he is now being seen by many as the leader responsible for such failure. Other likely factors are the perceived mishandling of the disaster relief following Typhoon Danas, the remaining of 20% U.S. tariff on Taiwan, the controversies surrounding members of Premier Cho's cabinet, the controversy regarding DPP government's opposition to \$10,000 cash handouts, and reports of Lai's diplomatic failure to secure a U.S. transit trip.



13. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 54.7% said they are not satisfied with the government cabinet under Premier Cho Jung-tai, while a minority of 32.4% are satisfied. This means that the government cabinet under Cho's premiership is now seeing its lowest ever satisfaction rating with more than 20% net dissatisfaction, showing the growing public discontent over the current government.



14. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 29.4% support the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 20.1% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 15.2% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 3.3% support the New Power Party (NPP), and 29.8% respondents identified themselves as independent. Compared to July, the ruling DPP's support saw a noticeable 7.1% decline, reflecting the frustration and dissatisfaction following the failure of the recall campaigns.

