



Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation

November 2025 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt

Released:

November 18, 2025

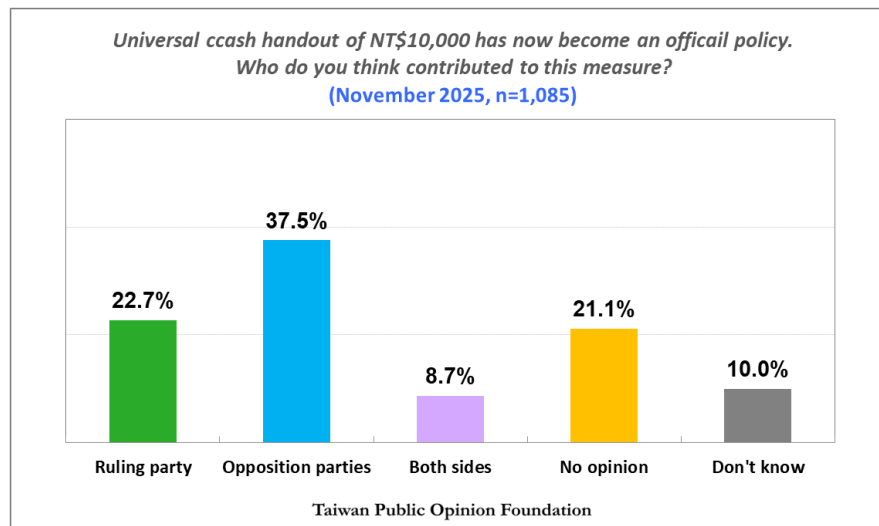
Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation (TPOF) today released the result of its November 2025 nation-wide poll. This marks the 110th monthly survey conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes in Taiwan's public opinion. The full release in Chinese language is available on our official website.

How the Survey was Conducted

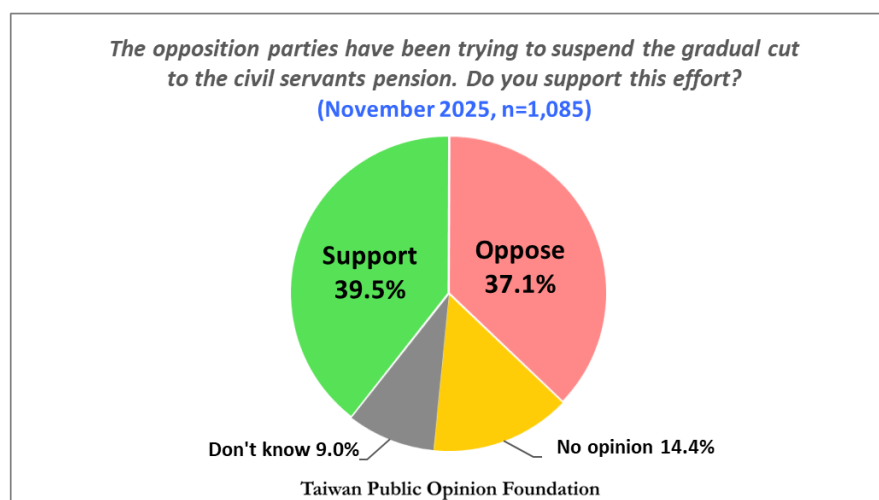
This survey was conducted on November 10-12, 2025, with a sample size of 1,085. Adults 20 years of age and older residing in Taiwan were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline and cellphone numbers were drawn through dual-frame random sampling with a proportion of 70% from landlines 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. The proposed NT\$10,000 universal cash handout to the public, which was heatedly debated over a period of time, has finally been implemented recently. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 37.5% credited the measure to the opposition parties, 22.7% credited it to the ruling party DPP, 8.7% credited it to both sides. Even though the ruling DPP was the one ultimately decided on distributing the handout, the public credited it to the opposition.

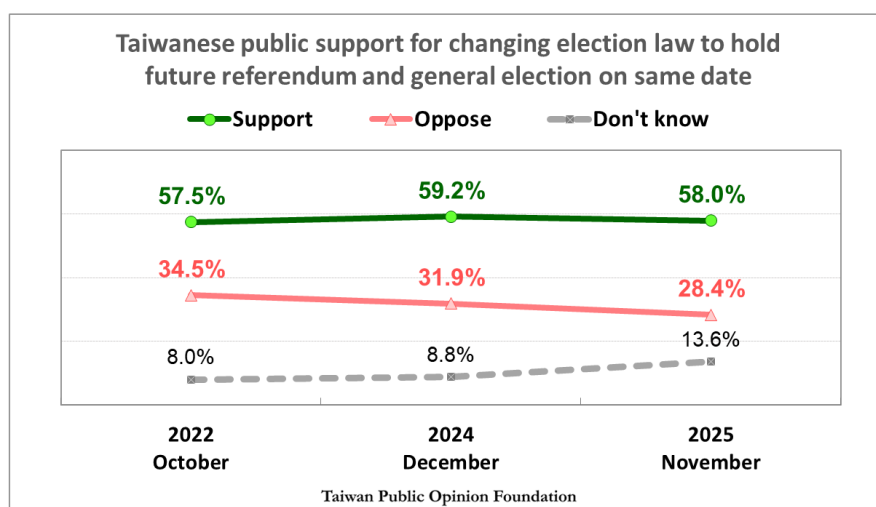
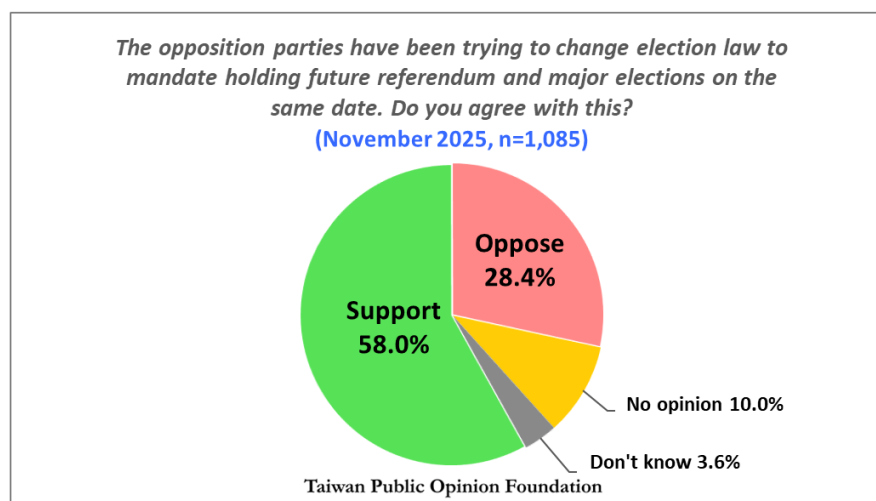


2. Since 2020, civil servants in Taiwan have been subject to a gradual income ratio cut to their pensions, cut which the opposition parties particularly the KMT have been trying to suspend. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 39.5% support the opposition's effort to suspend the cut, while 37.1% oppose it. This means that Taiwanese public are heavily divided on the issue, but there is no longer a majority public support to cutting civil servant pension compared to when former President Tsai introduced those cuts.



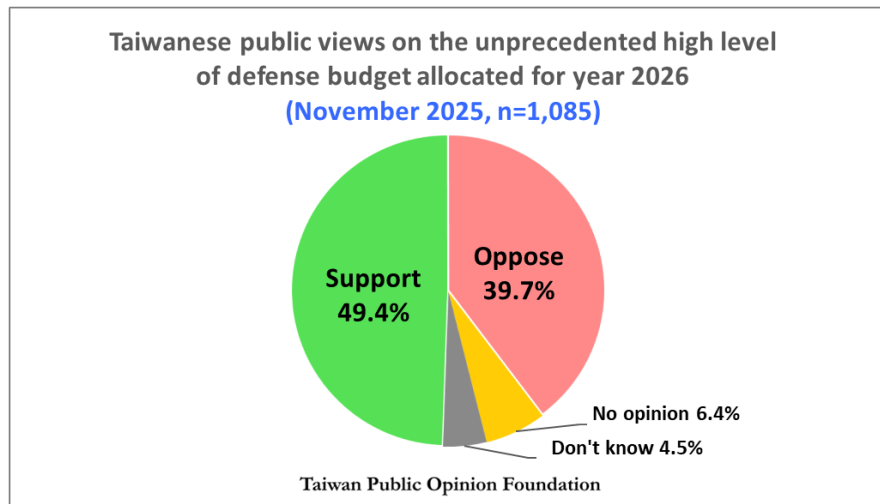
3. Concerning the opposition parties' efforts to change election law to mandate future referendum and major elections be held on the same date, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 58% support the change to election law, while a minority of 28.4% oppose it. This means majority Taiwanese public desire to hold referendum and general election on the same dates, something that the current ruling DPP strongly opposed to – despite it historically supported such arrangement.

Furthermore, while the support for changing election law has remained similar compared to past polls from 2022 and 2024, opposition to the proposed change has gradually dropped which indicates the DPP's opposition to the change is becoming unpopular.

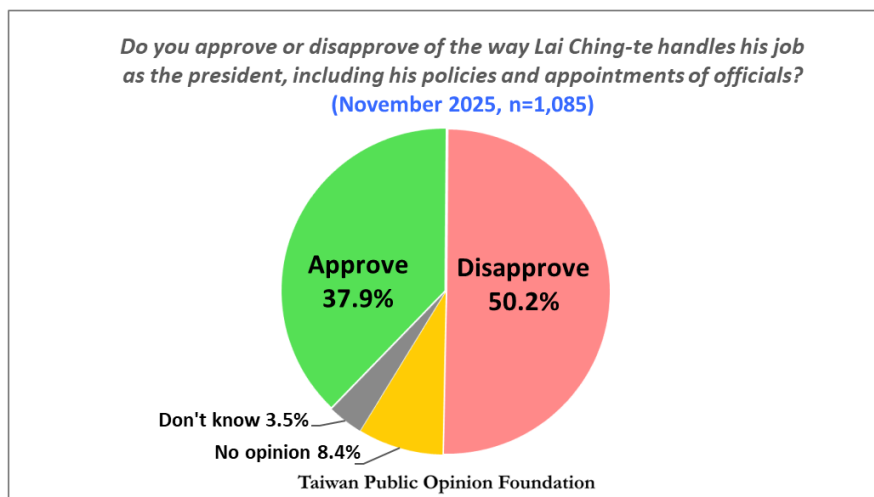


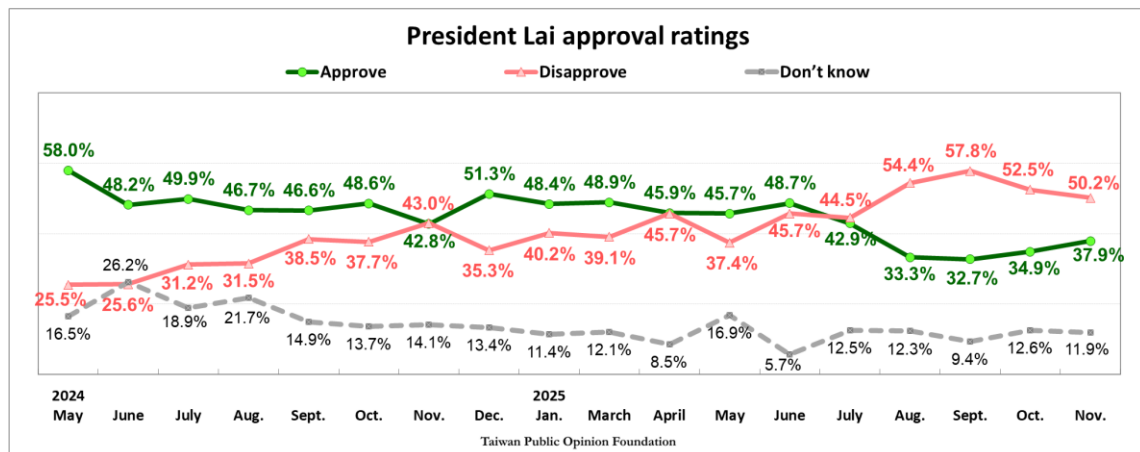
4. The central government's total defense budget next year (2026) will reach NT\$949.5 billion, NT\$176.8 billion more than this year, accounting for 3.32% of Taiwan's gross domestic product (GDP). The poll asked respondents what they

think of this unprecedented high level of defense budget, among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 49.4% support the high defense budget, while 39.7% oppose it. This means that majority of Taiwanese are willing to support massive increase to Taiwan's defense spending, something that the U.S. Trump administration reportedly pressured Taiwan to do. However, a significant minority are opposed to such increase.

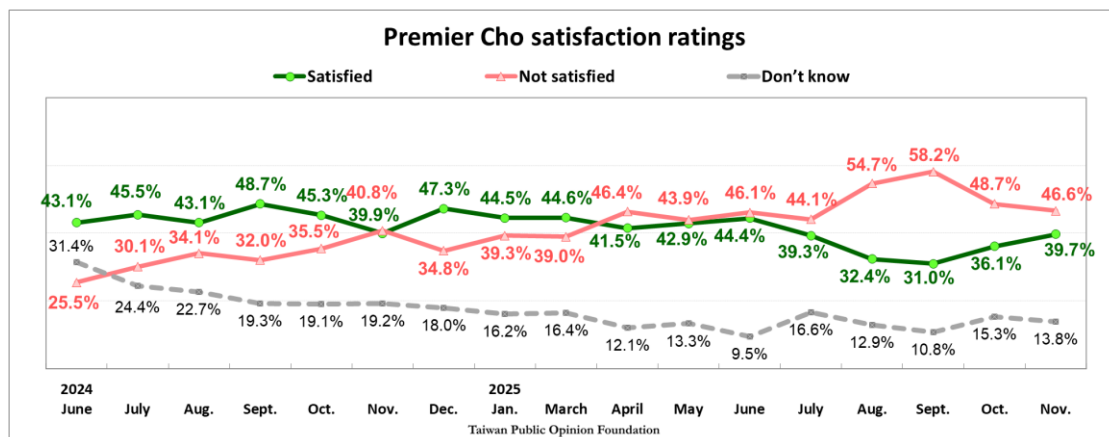


5. On President Lai Ching-te's approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 50.2% said they disapprove of the way Lai is handling his job as the president, while a minority of 37.9% approve of him. Compared to October, disapproval of Lai continued to drop while approval continued to increase, but currently the majority of the public still disapproved of him.

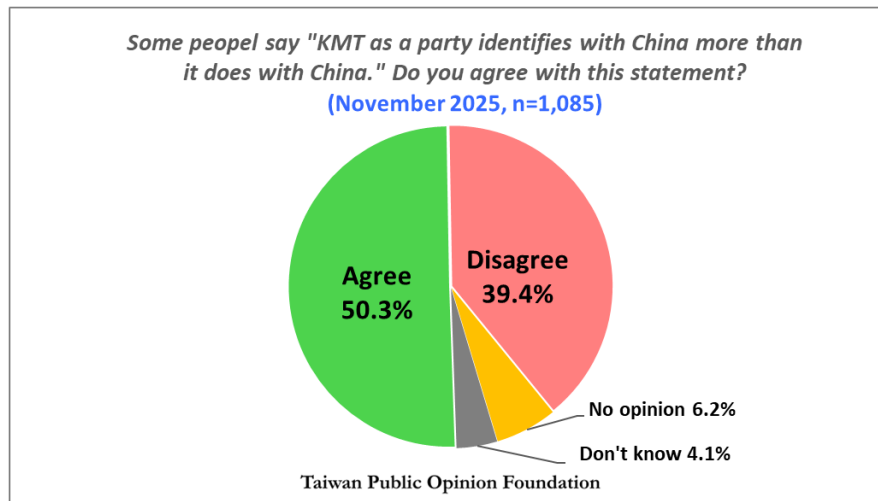




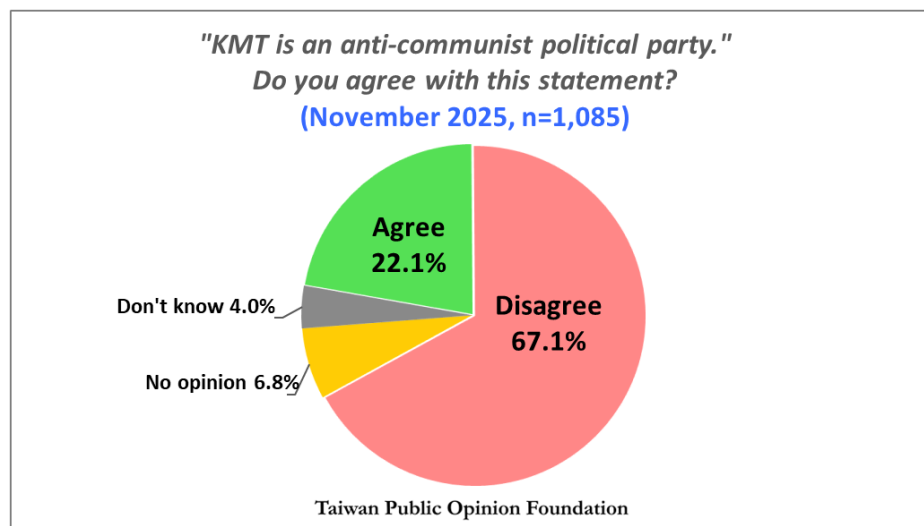
6. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 46.6% said they are not satisfied with the government cabinet under Premier Cho Jung-tai, while a minority of 39.7% are satisfied. Compared to October, Cho Cabinet's satisfaction continued to recover though majority remains unsatisfied.



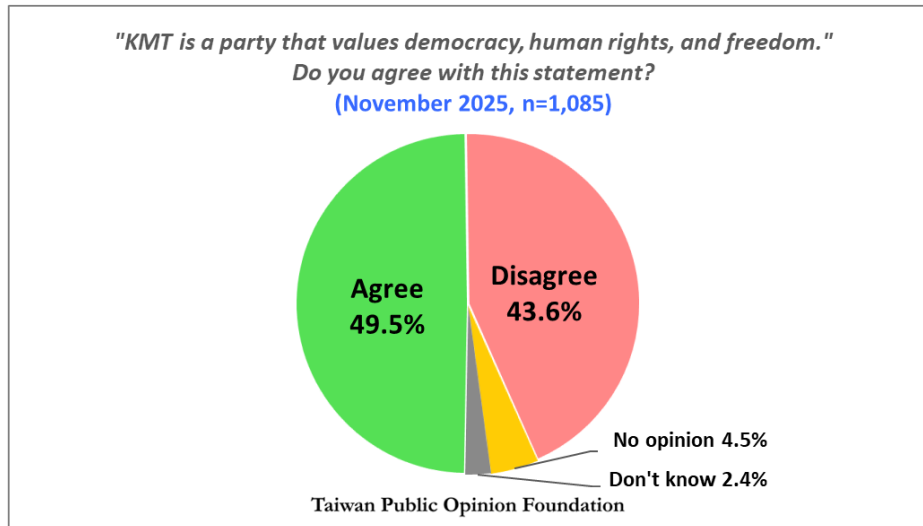
7. The poll asked a series of questions concerning the public's impression of the opposition party Kuomintang (KMT). One of the major criticisms against the KMT is that its China-friendly posture means the party as a whole identifies with China more than it does with Taiwan. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 50.3% agree with such description of the party, while a minority of 39.4% disagree. This means that majority Taiwanese public do agree with DPP's characterization of the KMT as a "pro-China" party that values China more than Taiwan. This is certainly not a good sign for the KMT.



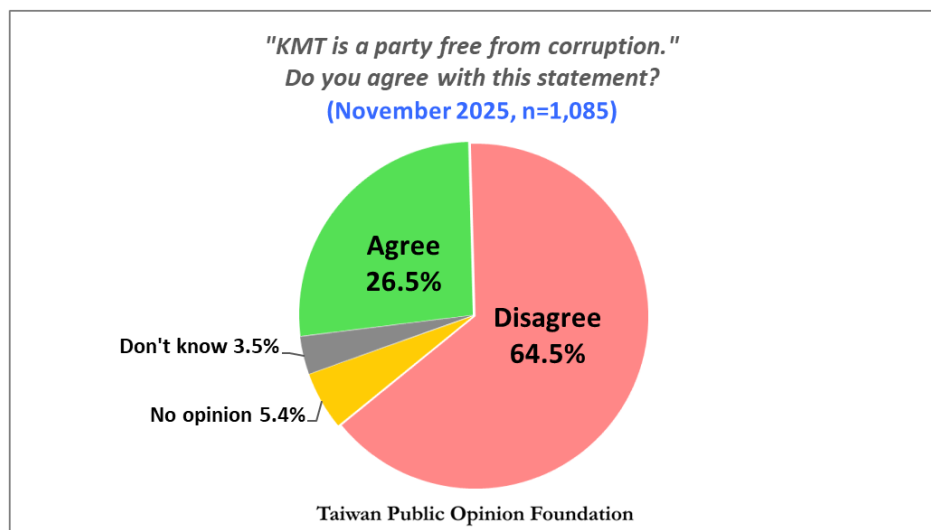
The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 67.1% disagree with the statement that “KMT is anti-communist”, while only 22.1% agree with it. This means that most Taiwanese public do not see the KMT as an anti-communist party. Even among supporters of KMT the majority of them (48% vs. 42%) do not see their party as being anti-communist.



The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 49.5% agree with the statement that “KMT is a party that values democracy, human rights, and freedom”, while 43.6% disagree. Considering that the KMT was the party that ruled Taiwan under authoritarian rule for nearly 40 years in the 20th Century, this finding means that decades since Taiwan’s democratization the majority public now see the party as having redeemed itself and is compatible with Taiwan’s democracy and way of life.



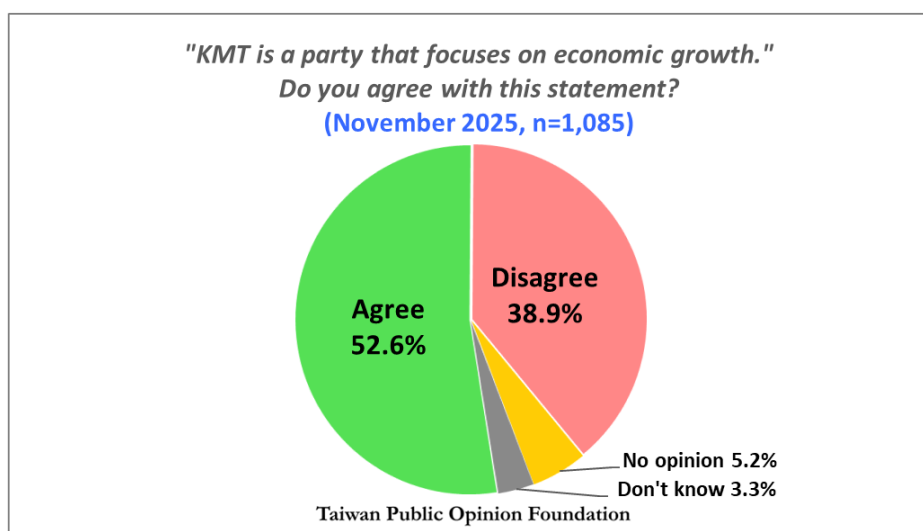
The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 64.5% disagree with the statement that “KMT is a party free from corruption”, while 26.5% agree. While majority of KMT supporters agree their party is free from corruption, majority of opposition TPP supporters and independents overwhelmingly disagree. Despite having been in opposition for nearly a decade without access to central government power, the public still associates the KMT with the image of corruption.



The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 52.6% agree with the statement that “KMT is a party that focuses on economic growth”, while a minority of 38.9% disagree. This means the majority of the public do see the KMT as an economy-focus political party, something that observers generally attributed as among KMT’s strong suit.

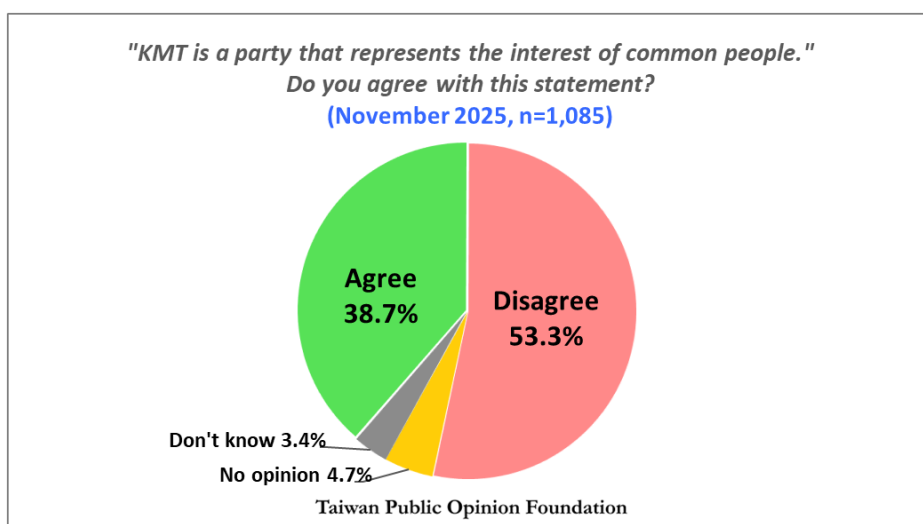
Across all different age and education attainment groups, there is a majority

agreement that KMT is an economy-focus party. Even among supporters of the ruling DPP, there is a noticeable 23% agree with the statement.



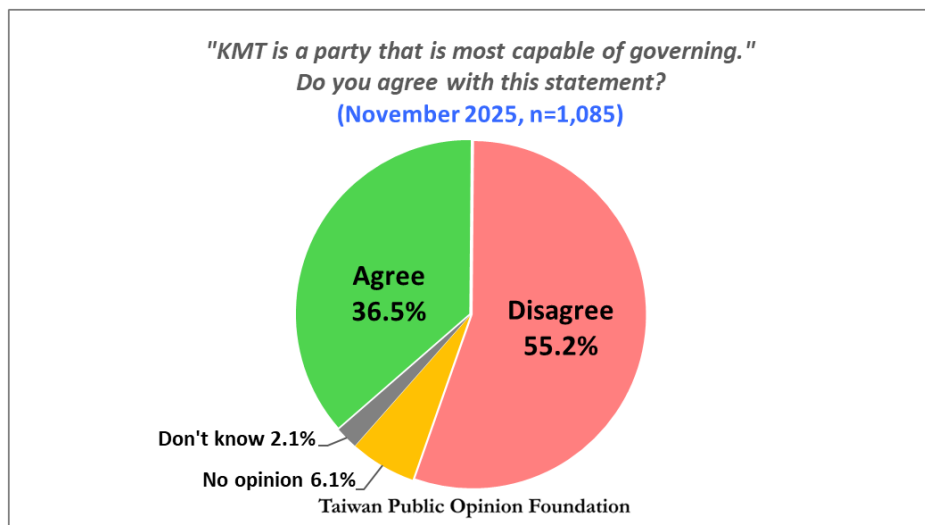
The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 53.3% disagree with the statement that “KMT is a party that represents the interest of common people”, while a minority of 38.7% agree. This means that the majority of the public perceive KMT as a party representing other interest groups but not the interest of the common people.

Notably, the places that have majority seeing the KMT as representing the common people are Keelung, Yilan, Hualien, Taitung, and Kinmen – all traditional KMT strongholds. While majority in all other major cities and administrative areas see KMT as not representing the common people.

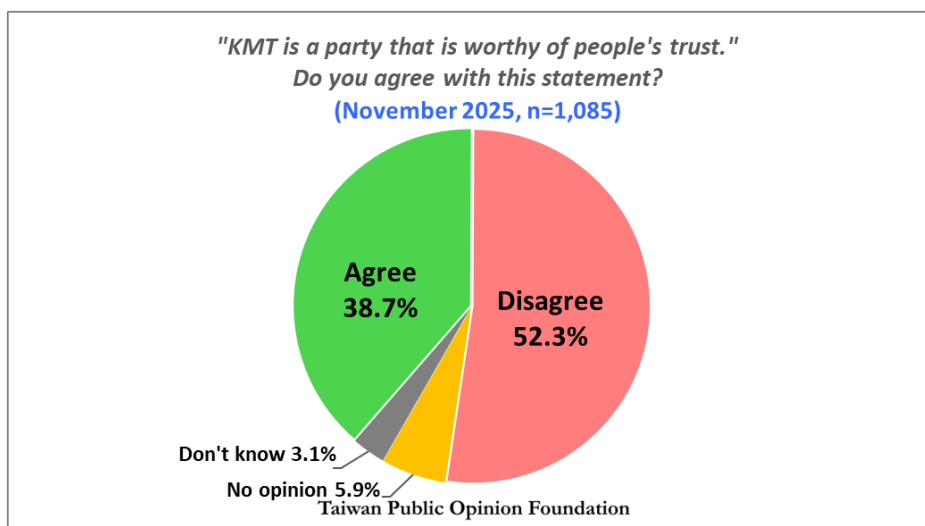


The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of

55.2% disagree with the statement that “KMT is a party that is most capable of governing”, while a minority of 36.5% agree. Again Keelung, Yilan, Hualien, Taitung, and Kinmen see majority of people agree that KMT is capable of governing, while all other cities and areas disagree with it.

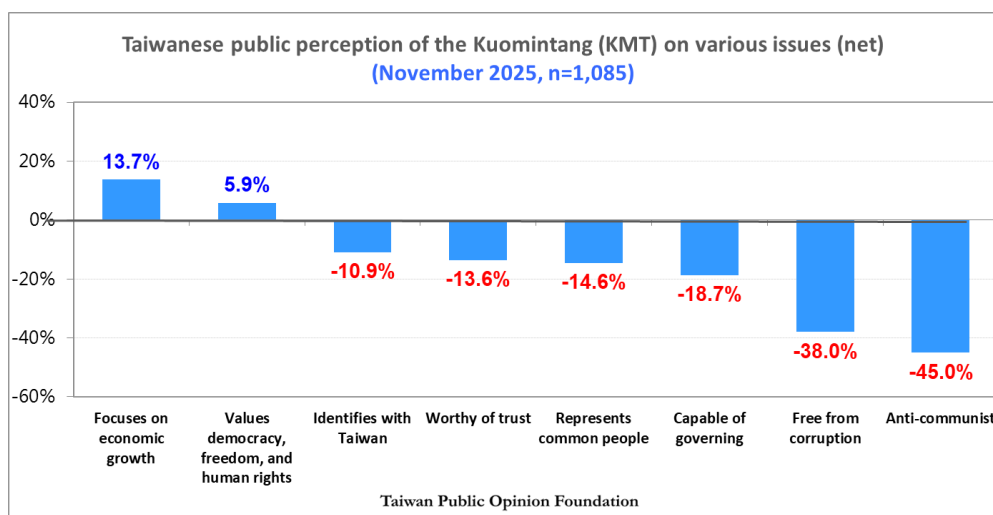


The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 52.3% disagree with the statement that “KMT is a party that is worthy of people's trust”, while a minority of 38.7% agree. This means majority of public do not see the KMT as a trustworthy party.



Overall, majority of Taiwanese public see KMT as a party focusing on economic growth, while also seeing it as a party in line with the values of democracy, freedom, and human rights. These are KMT's current strong suits. On the other hand, majority of public see the KMT as a party that identifies with China more than Taiwan, not worthy of trust, not representing the interests of the common people, not capable of governing, not being anti-communist, and associated the

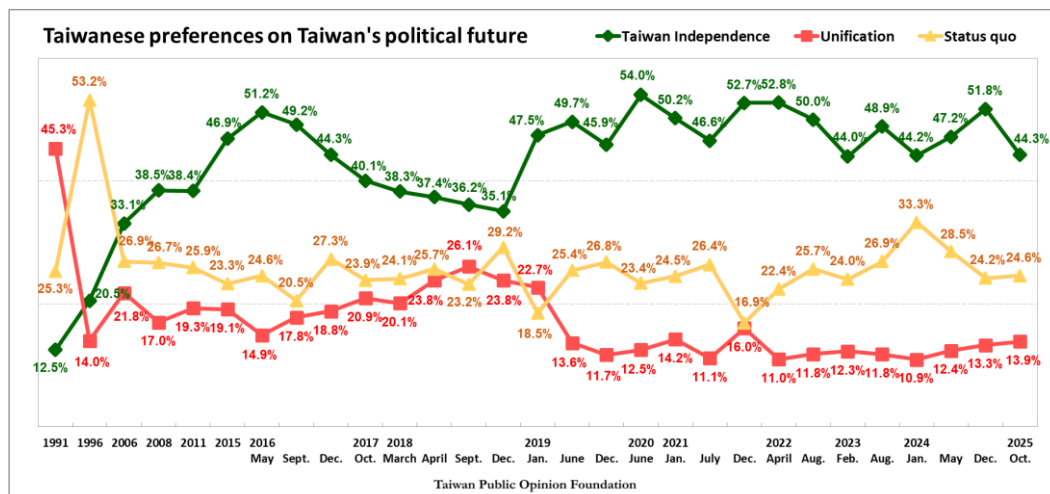
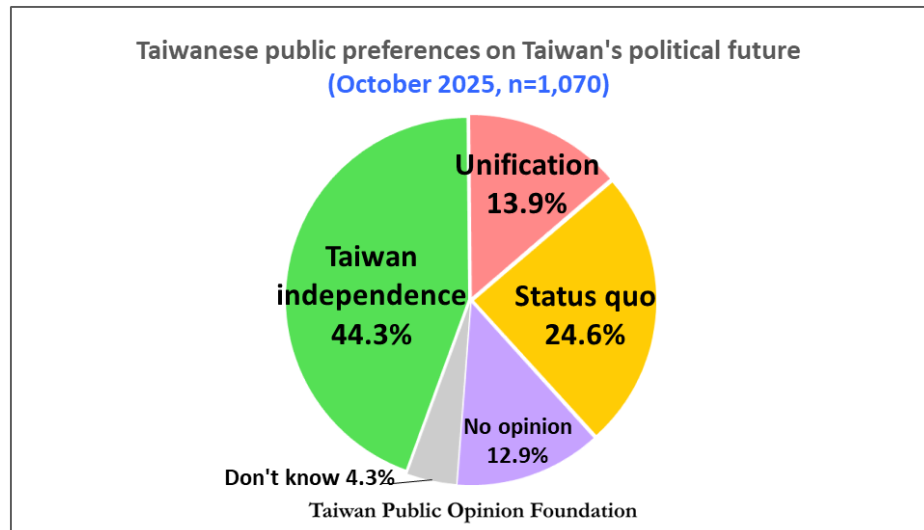
party with image of corruption. How can KMT improve its image on these areas, that will be a very important challenge for its party leadership and the party as a whole.



8. TPOF poll conducted in October 2025 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?”*

It was found that among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 44.3% prefer Taiwan independence, 24.6% prefer maintaining status quo, 13.9% prefer unification with China, while 17.3% said they do not know or have no opinion on the matter. In other words, the majority of Taiwanese people still prefer Taiwan independence as the most desirable political future, while maintaining status quo only constitutes the second most popular position, and those who prefer unification with China remain an extremely small minority.

Compared to the previous poll that was done in December 2024, support for independence decreased by 7.5%, but support for status quo and unification with China only increased by extremely marginal extent. What explains the noticeable drop in independence support? That ruling President Lai’s support plummeted in the second half of 2025 was a possible factor. Among the three TPOF polls conducted during Lai’s presidency so far regarding political future questions, October 2025 was the lowest on record.



9. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 31.1% support the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 25.8% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 14.7% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 2.4% support other minor parties, and 24.7% respondents identified themselves as independent. Compared to October, the ruling DPP's support decreased slightly, while KMT's support increased slightly. While the DPP continues to be the most popular party, the combined support for opposition KMT and TPP would still outnumber the DPP.

