

Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation

November 2024 Public Opinion Poll – English Excerpt

Released:

November 19, 2024

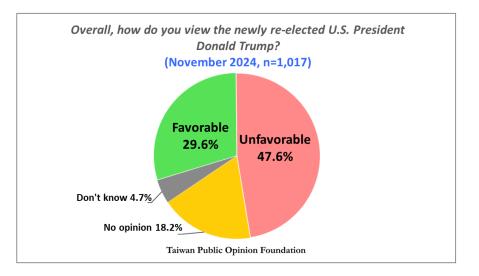
Taiwan Public Opinion Foundation (TPOF) today released the result of its November 2024 nation-wide poll. This marks the 99th monthly survey conducted by the TPOF aimed at tracking the development and changes in Taiwan's public opinion. The full release in Chinese language is available on our official website.

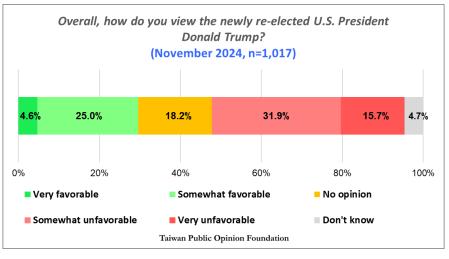
How the Survey was Conducted

This survey was conducted on November 11-13, 2024, with a sample size of 1,017. 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 ± 3.07 percentage points with 95% level of confidence.

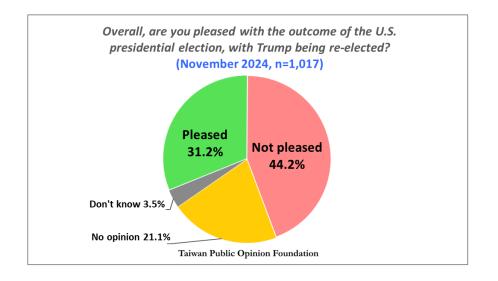
Main Findings:

1. Regarding the newly re-elected, U.S. President-elect and former President Donald Trump, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 47.6% said they have an unfavorable view of Trump, while a minority of 29.6% have a favorable view. Interestingly this is similar to how Trump was perceived by the Taiwanese public back in December 2016, right after Trump was first elected but before taking office, when about 48% Taiwanese polled back then had an unfavorable view of Trump versus 31% who had a favorable view. In comparison, polls done by U.S. media The Hill in November 2024 found Trump had a favorability of 53% versus unfavourability of 44% among American public. The current Taiwanese public views of Trump are actually not too different from the prevailing American public views, despite being slightly more unfavorable.





 The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 44.2% said they are not pleased with the outcome of Trump being re-elected, while a minority of 31.2% are pleased. Notably, 25% of respondents have no opinion or are unsure about their feelings of the outcome. This points to a far more pessimistic public sentiment today compared to four years ago in November 2016, when 53% of Taiwanese public back then said they were pleased with the outcome of Trump being elected to the first term.

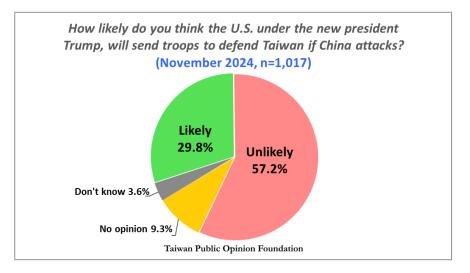


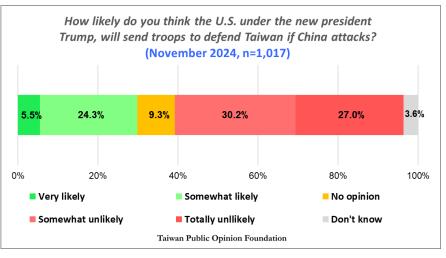
3. The poll asked Taiwanese public whether they believe the United States under the new president Trump will send troops to Taiwan should China attacks. Among adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 57.2% believe the U.S. intervention is either somewhat or totally unlikely, while a minority of 29.8% still believe it is likely.

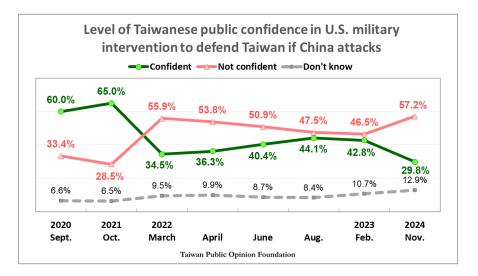
Compared to past polls on Taiwanese confidence in U.S. military intervention, it is apparent that Trump's 2024 victory has caused a major psychological shock to Taiwanese public regarding their confidence in U.S. intervention. The level of non-confidence now reached and even exceeded the previous height during early 2022 when Taiwanese public saw the U.S. did not intervene militarily to defend Ukraine when Russia invaded it. The drop in public confidence in the U.S. due to "Ukraine situation effect" lasted a full year from February 2022 and only graduated recovered over the one year period. Furthermore, a few

 Supporters of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) have majority of 48% confident in U.S. intervention versus 42% nonconfidence. While only 15% supporters of opposition Kuomintang (KMT) have confidence versus 83% non-confidence. Among supporters of Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 31% confidence versus 64% non-confidence. Among independent, 19% confidence versus 51% non-confidence.

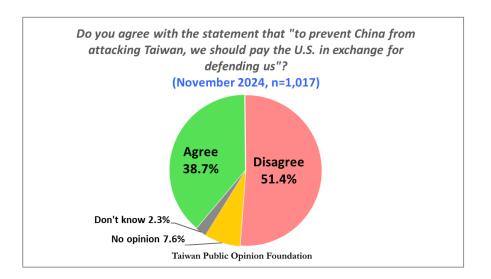
- Younger age groups of those below 40 seem to have higher confidence compared to older people. The only age group with majority confidence is those aged 20-24 with 53% confidence versus 34% non-confidence. All other age groups have majority non-confidence.
- All levels of education attainment have majority not confidence in U.S. intervention. High level of education attainment is correlated with higher confidence however, as among those with college education and above 35% have confidence though a majority of 58% amongst them are still not confident.



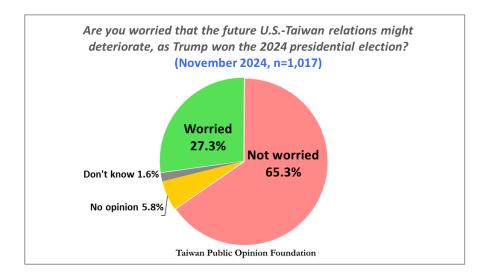




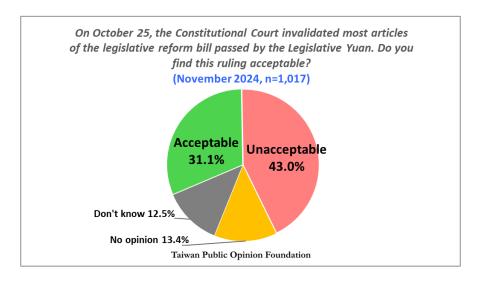
4. Concerning Trump's statement made earlier this year that Taiwan should "pay" the U.S. for defense, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 51.4% disagree with the idea of Taiwan paying in exchange for U.S. defense, while a minority of 38.7% agree with it. Notably, supporters of ruling DPP have a majority of 58% agree with the idea of Taiwan paying the U.S., but supporters of oppositions are mostly against it especially among opposition KMT with 77% disagree with the statement.



5. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 65.3% said they are not worried regarding the possibility of future U.S.-Taiwan relations might deteriorate under Trump, while a minority of 27.3% are worried. This means that despite whatever alarming statements and reporting regarding Trump's stance on Taiwan, majority of Taiwanese public do not feel like the existing U.S.-Taiwan relations is at risk.

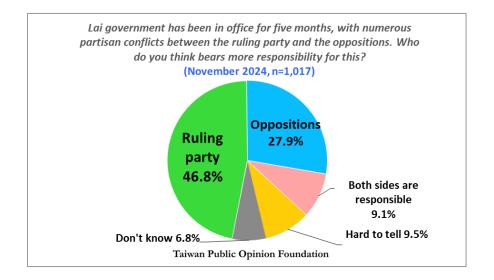


6. On October 25, Taiwan's Constitutional Court <u>invalidated</u> most articles of the legislative reform bill passed earlier by the oppositions-controlled Legislative Yuan. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 43% said this ruling is unacceptable to them, while a minority of 31.1% find it acceptable. In the past, Taiwan's Constitutional Court came under spotlight for several controversial rulings that not only went against prevailing Taiwanese public opinion but also failed to resolve partisan disputes. The latest ruling sided with the ruling party's wish to quash legislature-empowering reform is certainly not going to improve the court's perception among the Taiwanese public.

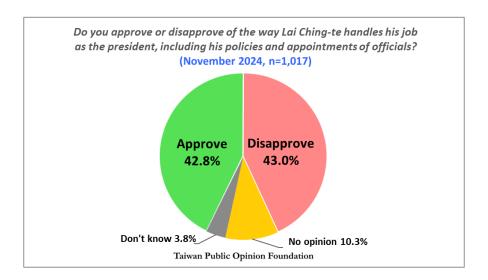


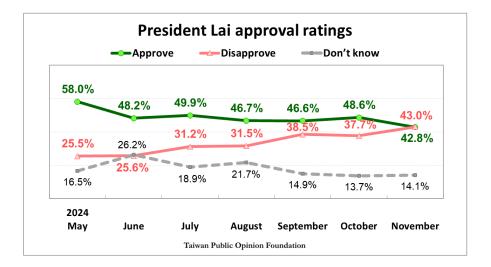
7. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 46.8% said the ruling DPP bears more responsibility to the recent partisan conflicts between the ruling government and the opposition, while a minority of 27.9% said the oppositions are responsible. In other words, a majority of Taiwanese public currently side with opposition-controlled legislature. Should the

Legislative Yuan move forward with and pass a vote of no-confidence against the ruling government cabinet, and should President Lai proceed with the dissolution of the current Legislative Yuan and hold a new election, the prevailing public opinion will be unfavorable to the ruling DPP.

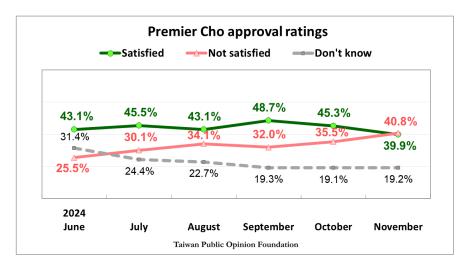


8. On President Lai Ching-te's approval rating, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a slim majority of 43% said they disapprove of the way Lai is handling his job as the president, while a minority of 42.8% approve of him. With just five months into office, President Lai has lost majority approval and is now on the verge of becoming a minority president, if not already being one. A loss of 5.8% approval rating means losing the support of approximately 1.1 million Taiwanese, which is no doubt a serious warning sign for President Lai and his administration.

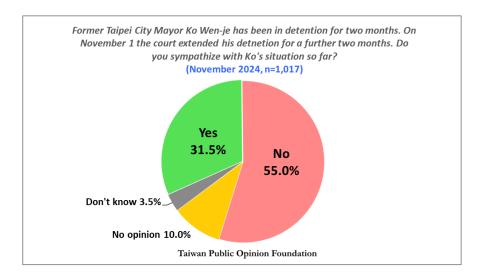




9. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 40.8% said they are not satisfied with the government cabinet under Premier Cho Jung-tai, while a minority of 39.9% are satisfied. Compared to October, satisfaction decreased further while dissatisfaction increased, which now means majority Taiwanese are not satisfied with the government under Cho's cabinet.



10. Former Taipei City Mayor, Ko Wen-je has been in detention for two months pending prosecutor's investigation over corruption allegations, though he has not yet been criminally charged. On November 1 the court <u>extended</u> his detention for a further two months. The poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, a majority of 55% said they do not sympathize with Ko's situation, while a minority of 31.5% sympathize with him. This means that majority Taiwanese public do not find Ko's treatment by the judicial system to be unfair, though a sizeable minority sympathize with him.



11. On political party affiliation, the poll finds among Taiwanese adults aged 20 years and older, 30.6% support the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), 24.1% support the Kuomintang (KMT), 12.2% support the Taiwan People's Party (TPP), 3.3% support the New Power Party (NPP), and 28.2% respondents identified themselves as independent.

Compared to October, the DPP managed to maintain the most popular party position, this is despite President Lai's substantial decline in approval rating this month. On the other hand the third party TPP continues to maintain around 12% support despite the party leader Ko's corruption allegation and detention, which has been widely seen as a major scandal for the party despite the fact that Ko has yet to be criminally charged. As such, 12% seems to be the baseline support the TPP can maintain despite the worst of the circumstances.

