

Governance and GE 2025 Outcomes: Linking Satisfaction, Voting Patterns and Perceptions

Selected findings from the study on *Perceptions of Governance and Belonging in Singapore*

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IPS Election Forum, September 2025

1. About the Study

Perceptions of Governance and Belonging in Singapore (POGABIS)

▶ About Perceptions of Governance and Belonging in Singapore (POGABIS)



National survey on perceptions of governance, belonging, and electoral behaviour



Spanned the **2025 General Election (GE2025)** period: before, during, and after

- The analysis for this paper is based on polling AFTER GE2025 using commercial and academic online panels
 - Survey instrument was fielded from 8 May 2025 to 30 Jun 2025 (n = 2,872)



Targeted **Singapore Citizens aged 21 and above**

Dataset 3D-weighted for **age, race and gender** to ensure representativeness of Singapore Citizen population

2. Demographic Predictors of Voting Behaviour

Across age, gender, affluence, and education

▶ Reported Voting Decisions

- Respondents were asked in the final wave of POGABIS which party they voted for in GE2025.
- A significant proportion opted to skip this question item entirely or indicated that they preferred not to respond to this question (**41.5 per cent of all respondents**).
 - **Thus care must be taken in the interpretation of the following results correlating reported voting and demographic/other variables. The analysis misses out a sizeable portion of the sample who voted.**
- Results that follow are based on a comprehensive binary logistic regression model constructed to ascertain the significant predictors of respondents' voting behaviour

Which political party did you vote for in the recent General Election?	Proportions selecting option (%) excl. non-responses		Actual GE Outcomes
	Weighted	Unweighted	
People's Action Party (PAP)	67.2%	65.2%	65.6%
Workers' Party (WP)	14.3%	15.1%	15.0%
Other Opposition Parties excl. WP and Independents (OOPIs)	18.4%	19.8%	19.4%

▶ More older voters voted for the PAP

- Almost 6 in 10 below 51 voted PAP, less than national average of 65.6 per cent
- About 7 in 10 between 51 and 65 voted PAP
- Among 65s+, proportion of PAP voters was 8 in 10.
- PAP's overall 65.6 per cent was helped by strong support from older voters; and close to 6 in 10 among younger voters continuing to support PAP
- WP's support tended to remain constant across age groups
- Support for other opposition parties (OOPI) tended to fall significantly among older voters

▶ Gender variations in voting patterns

- Slightly higher proportions reporting voting for PAP among women
 - Over two-thirds of women reported voting for PAP; compared to around six in 10 males
- Differences across genders not statistically significant for WP and OOPi voters

▶ **Higher-SES voters showed support for the PAP**

- There are also significant trends when examining reported voting by housing type
- Respondents residing in larger public housing or private property more likely to declare voting for PAP
 - Seven in 10 private property dwellers reported voting for PAP
 - Around six in 10 of those in HDB 1-3 room flats reported voting for PAP,
- Proportions who voted for WP were relatively consistent across housing types

- ▶ **Lower-educated strongly supported the PAP**
 - Education levels were also correlated with voting patterns
 - Over six in 10 higher-educated respondents indicated voting for the PAP
 - Over seven in 10 of those with secondary and below qualifications indicated voting for PAP, higher than the national average of 65.6 per cent
 - Proportions who voted for WP were relatively consistent across education levels

3. Impact of Satisfaction with Government Performance on Voting

2015 vs 2025 GE comparisons, across 28 key issues

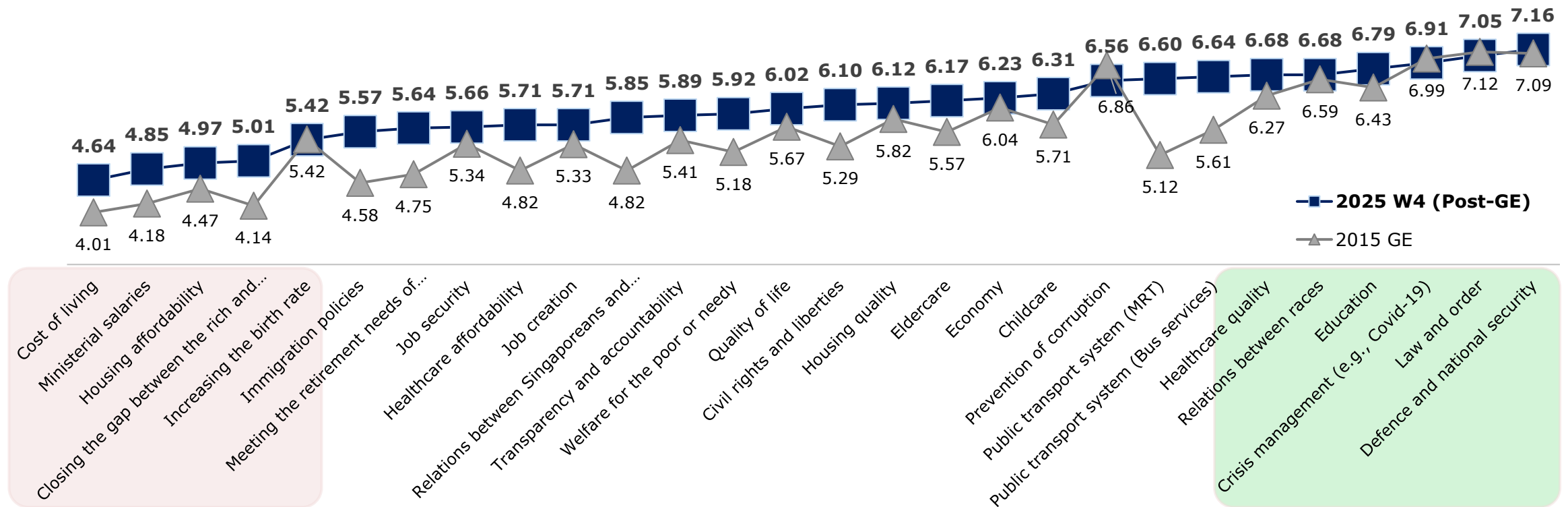
Correlation Between Government Satisfaction and Voting Behaviour

- Respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with how the Government has performed across the following 28 different key issues using a 1 to 9-point scale of agreement (1 = strongly disagree; 9 = strongly agree)

Cost of living	Ministerial salaries	Housing affordability	Closing the gap between the rich and poor	Increasing the birth rate	Immigration policies	Meeting the retirement needs of Singaporeans
Job security	Healthcare affordability	Job creation	Relations between Singaporeans and immigrants	Transparency and accountability	Welfare for the poor and needy	Quality of life
Civil rights and liberties	Housing quality	Eldercare	Economy	Childcare	Prevention of corruption	Public transport system: MRT
Public transport system: bus services	Healthcare quality	Relations between races	Education	Crisis management (e.g., Covid-19)	Law and order	Defence and national security

▶ The **bottom-5 areas** (least satisfaction with government performance) in 2025 were largely similar to the areas flagged in 2015

- Respondents were least satisfied with government performance in the following five areas in 2025: **(1) Cost of living, (2) Ministerial salaries, (3) Housing affordability, (4) Closing the gap between the rich and poor, and (5) Increasing the birth rate**
- Respondents were most satisfied with government performance in the following five areas in 2025: **(28) Defence and national security, (27) Law and order, (26) Crisis management (e.g., Covid-19), (25) Education, and (24) Relations between races**



4. Voting Decision Timeframes

on voting during GE2025

► Decision-making Timeframes in GE2025

- Respondents were asked when they decided which party they would vote for in GE 2025
- Among those who responded, over one-third indicated that they had already made up their mind on who or what party to vote for **even before Parliament was dissolved and the election officially announced** (35.9 per cent)
- Over one-third also indicated that they made up their mind in the **time following the dissolution of Parliament and during the nine-day campaigning period after Nomination Day** (36.3 per cent)
- Over one-quarter indicated that they made up their mind only **during Cooling-Off Day or on Polling Day** itself (27.8 per cent)

Thinking back, when did you decide which party to would vote for in this election?	Proportions selecting option (%) excl. non-responses
Even before Parliament was dissolved, and the election was officially announced	35.9
Before Nomination Day, and before the candidates in my GRC / SMC were confirmed	14.3
During the nine-day campaigning period after Nomination Day	22.0
During Cooling-Off Day, and after the nine-day campaigning period	9.7
On Polling Day itself	18.1

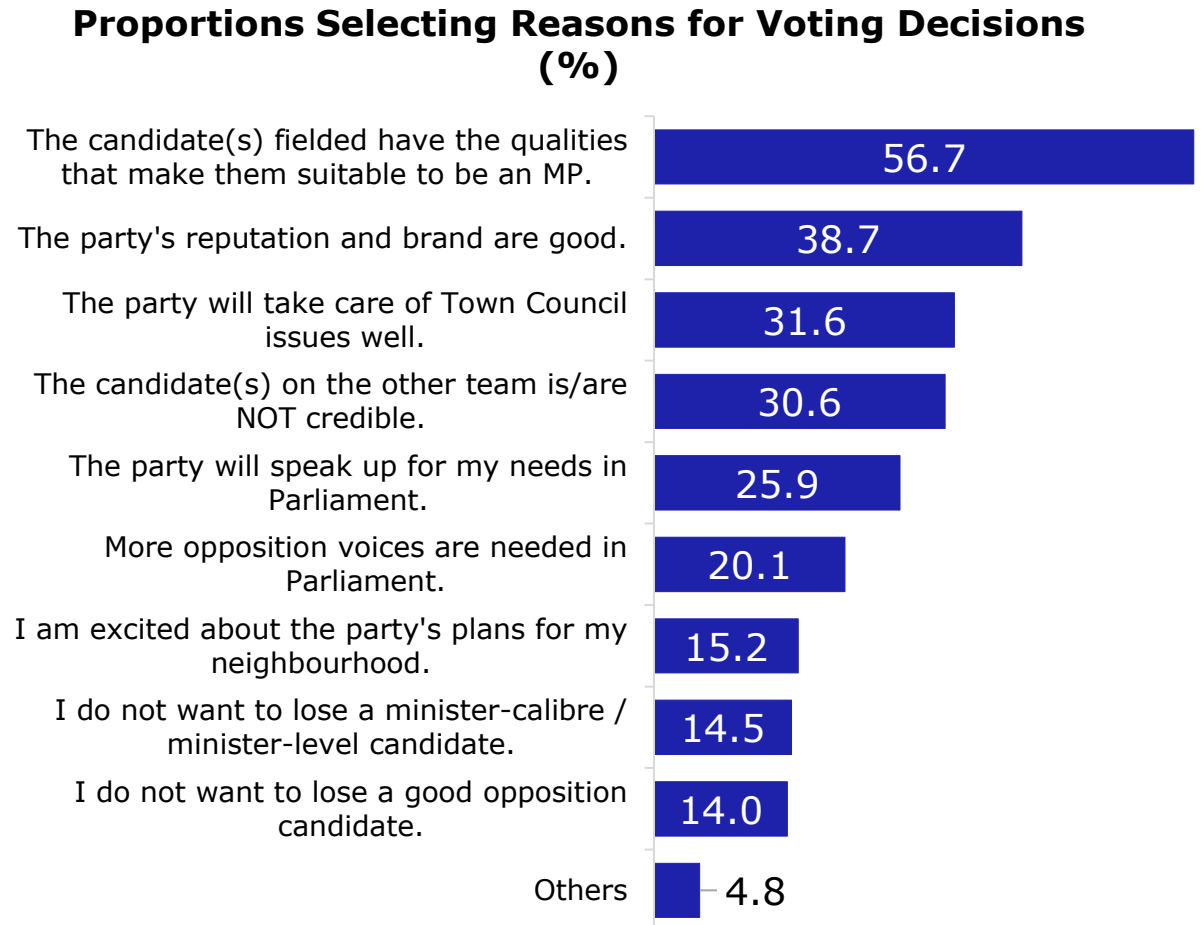
- ▶ **Older respondents and more affluent** were more likely to already have made up their minds on what party to vote for even before Parliament dissolution
- An OLS regression model comprising demographic predictors, index variables, and the voting decision timeframe variable was constructed to identify salient indicators of voting decision timeframes
- **Older respondents and those with highest personal income** were more likely to already have made up their minds on who or what party to vote for even before Parliament dissolution
- **Lower-educated respondents** were significantly more likely to make their decisions only on Cooling-off or Polling Day; those with highest personal income least likely to do so.

5. Reasons for Voting Decisions

during GE2025

▶ **Under six in 10 respondents indicated voting because of the qualities of the candidate(s) fielded in their constituency; close to four in 10 respondents indicated voting due to the reputation or brand of the party**

- For respondents who answered the aforementioned item on the party that they voted for in GE2025, they were subsequently asked for the reasons why they voted as such
- Under six in 10 respondents indicated voting because of the qualities of the candidate(s) fielded in their constituency (56.7 per cent); close to four in 10 respondents indicated voting due to the reputation or brand of the party (38.7 per cent)
- Other factors were less salient; three in 10 or more respondents indicated voting because the other candidate(s) that they did not vote for were not credible (30.6 per cent) or that they felt the party that they voted for will take care of Town Council issues well (31.6 per cent)
- One in five indicated voting as they did because more opposition voices are needed in Parliament (20.1 per cent)

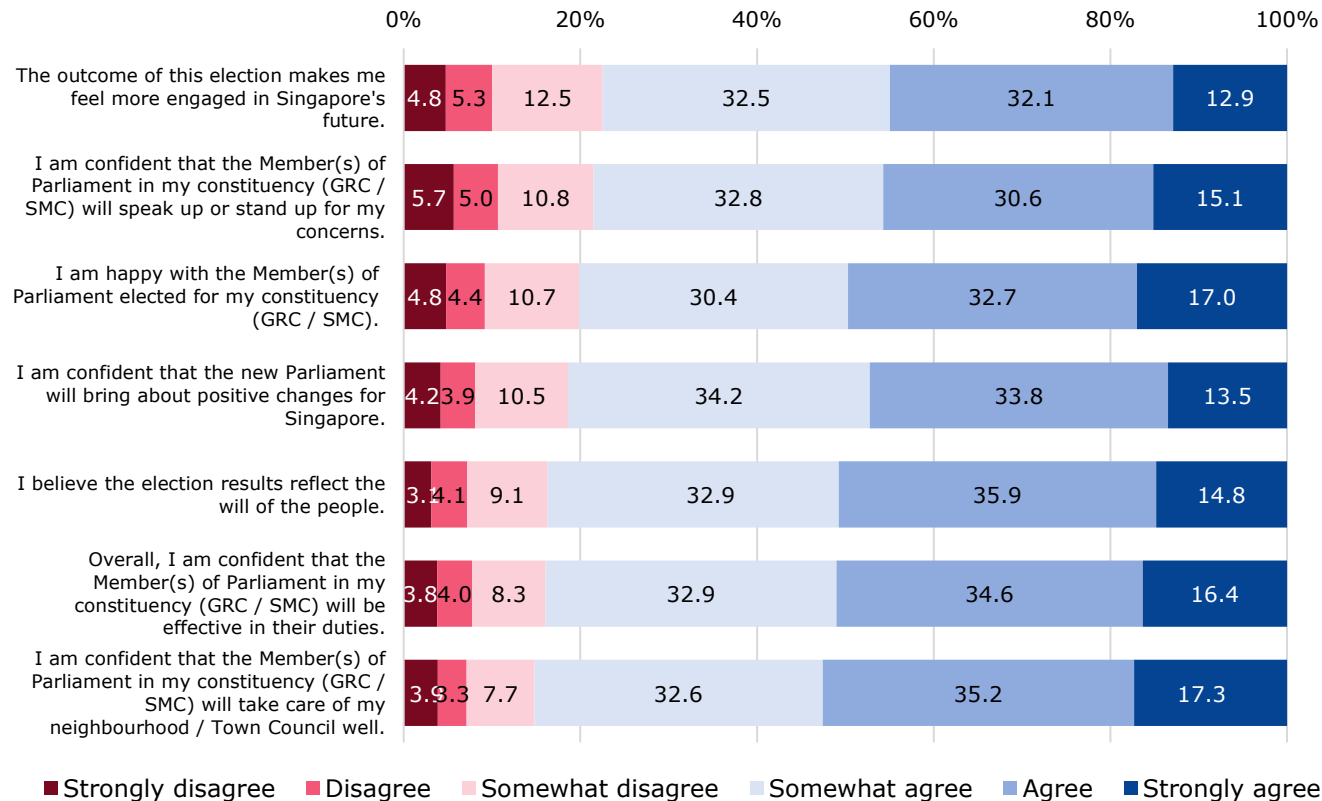


6. Perceptions of the Outcomes

of GE2025

About eight in 10 agreed to varying extents that they were confident about the work their MPs will do, though about one-third only somewhat agree

Overall responses in relation to attitudes towards GE2025 outcomes



- Respondents were presented a series of question items on the outcomes of GE 2025 and asked to indicate their levels of agreement or disagreement with these items. In general, over eight in 10 respondents:
 - Were confident that the Member(s) of Parliament in their constituency (GRC / SMC) will take care of their neighbourhood / Town Council well (85.2 per cent);
 - Were confident that the Member(s) of Parliament in their constituency (GRC / SMC) would be effective in their duties (83.9 per cent);
 - Believed the results reflected the will of the people (83.7 per cent)
 - Were confident that the new Parliament would bring about positive changes for Singapore (81.4 per cent)
 - Were happy with the MPs elected for their constituencies (80.1 per cent)

▶ Those who reported voting for **PAP** were overwhelmingly satisfied with election outcomes; fewer **WP** and **other opposition party** voters satisfied

- **Over seven in 10** satisfied to varying extents with overall outcome of results for GE 2025
- **Nine in 10** **PAP** voters indicated being satisfied to varying extents with the outcome of GE2025, as compared to **about four in 10** **WP** or **OOP** voters

The End

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