

**POPS(5): PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION SURVEY
SEPTEMBER 2011**

SURVEY INSTRUMENT

The Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) conducted a telephone survey using the random sampling method based on landline numbers picked out of the Singapore residential telephone book. IPS aimed to collect a sample of about 2000 Singapore citizens of voting age, that is 21 years old and above.

The survey firm Degree Census was commissioned by IPS to administer the telephone survey.

The fieldwork was conducted from 20 September to 5 October 2011.

Of the 18,583 calls made, only 2,025 respondents met the criteria and completed the survey.

The following questionnaire was used in the interviews.

The sample of 2,025 was then weighed to match the distribution of Singapore residents based on Census 2010 on the variables of age, gender and ethnicity, resulting in a weighted sample of 2025 as well. The results of the survey can be found at http://www.lkyspp.nus.edu.sg/ips/Forum_Presidential_Election_011111.aspx

Please do not use any part of the survey instrument without permission.

For permission, please email public.affairs@nus.edu.sg

IPS PERCEPTIONS OF POLICIES IN SINGAPORE SURVEY - THE ELECTED PRESIDENCY (2011)

Hello, I am ____ from _____ (name of survey firm). I am conducting a survey on behalf of the National University of Singapore. This research is about what Singaporeans think of the presidential election held on 27 August 2011. May I speak to the person in your household who is a Singaporean, who is 21 years old and above, and celebrated his or her birthday most recently, please?

Hello, I am ____ from _____ (name of survey firm). I am conducting a survey on behalf of the National University of Singapore. This research is about the presidential election held on 27 August 2011. The survey should take 10-15 minutes. Participation in the survey is voluntary. You need not answer any question you are uncomfortable with. All answers will be confidential and anonymous and grouped with answers of about 2000 other people. The interview will be audio-recorded only for my supervisor to check against the completed survey entry to make sure that it has been done accurately. The recording is destroyed after this quality control. Can you please help us by participating in this survey?

FILTER

F1. Are you a**[READ OUT]** [SA]

1	Singaporean Citizen
2	Others (for instance, permanent resident, employment or work permit holder [THANK AND TERMINATE])

F2. How old are you? [SA]

1	Below 21 [THANK & TERMINATE]	7	45-49 yrs
2	21-24 yrs (or below 25 years)	8	50-54 yrs
3	25-29 yrs	9	55-59 yrs
4	30-34 yrs	10	60-64 yrs
5	35-39 yrs	11	65 yrs & above
6	40-44 yrs		

F3. Gender [SA] **[DO NOT READ OUT]**

1	Male	2	Female
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F4. Did you vote in the presidential election held on 27 August 2011? [SA]

1	Yes	2	No
3	Refuse to Answer [THANK & TERMINATE]		

F5. Did you vote in the general election on 7 May 2011? [SA]

1	Yes	2	No
3	Refuse to Answer [THANK & TERMINATE]		

QUESTIONS

Thank you. Let us begin:

Q1. I am going to read some statements. Can you please say 'yes' if you think a statement describes the role of the Elected President, 'no' if the statement does not describe his role. The Elected President is: [SA]

		Q1			Q2	
		Yes	No	DK [do not read]	Not Impt	Impt
	[INTERVIEWER PLEASE ROTATE THE STATEMENTS]					
A	Head of Government	1	2	9	1	2
B	Head of State	1	2	9	1	2
C	To ensure that Government does what it promised in the general election.	1	2	9	1	2
D	To ensure that the Government manages the economy wisely.	1	2	9	1	2
E	To block the Government's intention to spend national reserves if he disagrees with the plan.	1	2	9	1	2
F	To block the appointment of people to important positions in the public service if he disagrees with the Government's choice.	1	2	9	1	2
G	Free to speak publicly on national issues he thinks are important.	1	2	9	1	2
H	To represent Singapore in meeting and visiting foreign leaders.	1	2	9	1	2
I	Free to be a champion of social and charitable causes.	1	2	9	1	2
J	Not to speak publicly on any national issue unless the Government advises him to.	1	2	9	1	2
K	Free to decide the best way for the country to manage its foreign relations.	1	2	9	1	2
L	Free to decide on Singapore's policy on multiracialism.	1	2	9	1	2

Q2. I will read the statements you said describe the role of the Elected President does. Please tell me how important each of these were in shaping your decision on who to vote for. [SA]

[Repeat statements selected in Q1 that respondent cited as 'Yes' and code for 'important' and 'not important'.]

Q3. How important were the following **characteristics** or **qualities of candidates** in shaping your decision on who to vote for? [SA]

As I read out these characteristics one-by-one, please tell me whether it is 'not important at all', 'not important', 'important' or 'very important'.

		Not imp at all	Not impt	Neutral [do not read]	Impt	Very impt	DK [do not read]
A	Honesty	1	2	3	4	5	9
B	Empathy: Someone who can understand people like you	1	2	3	4	5	9
C	Someone who shares your views about national issues	1	2	3	4	5	9
D	Committed to serving the public.	1	2	3	4	5	9
E	Independent-minded.	1	2	3	4	5	9
F	Someone who will treat people fairly, regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, age or class.	1	2	3	4	5	9
G	Credentials and work experience (Explain: educational qualifications, work experience)	1	2	3	4	5	9
H	Ability to represent the country well	1	2	3	4	5	9
I	The candidate's complete lack of formal ties to political parties	1	2	3	4	5	9
J	Good communication skills	1	2	3	4	5	9
K	Ethnicity	1	2	3	4	5	9

Q4. Which communication channels provided the material that was important in shaping your decision on who to vote for? [SA]

As I read out the **type of communication channels** one-by-one, please tell me if the material you found through it was 'not important at all', 'not important', 'important' or 'very important' in shaping your vote.

		Not imp at all	Not impt	Neutral [do not read]	Impt	Very impt	DK [do not read]
A	Radio	1	2	3	4	5	9
B	Local free-to-air television	1	2	3	4	5	9
C	Internet	1	2	3	4	5	9
D	Mobile Phone	1	2	3	4	5	9
E	Newspapers	1	2	3	4	5	9
F	Word of mouth (family, friends)	1	2	3	4	5	9
G	Election Rallies	1	2	3	4	5	9
H	Election literature (Explain: fliers, mailers etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	9
I	Meeting with candidate(s)	1	2	3	4	5	9
J	Meeting supporters of candidate(s)	1	2	3	4	5	9

Q5. If the response to Q4 is **C) 'Internet'** and/or **D) 'Mobile phone'** is 'Important' or 'Very important', ask respondent: Since you mentioned that the [answer to Q4] was important, can you name up to three websites, blogs, twitter or facebook accounts that were important in helping you decide how to vote:?

A	
B	
C	

Q6. Please tell me what you think about the following statements. As I read out each one just tell me if you 'Strongly Disagree', 'Disagree', 'Agree', 'Strongly Agree' with it. [SA]

		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral [do not read]	Agree	Strongly Agree	DK [do not read]
A	The process of certifying who is eligible to contest for the post of Elected President is necessary .	1	2	3	4	5	9
B	The 2011 process of certification gave those I think were truly qualified the chance to contest.	1	2	3	4	5	9
C	The person who exercises the powers of the Elected President must be chosen through an election by Singaporeans and not selected by Parliament.	1	2	3	4	5	9
D	I believe a person of an ethnic minority group can be elected as president through the current system.	1	2	3	4	5	9
E	Overall, there is no need to change anything in the system of the Elected Presidency.	1	2	3	4	5	9
F	All candidates got fair coverage by the mass media , that is, free-to-air television, newspapers and radio.	1	2	3	4	5	9
G	Social organisations, unions or other community groups should not be allowed to endorse candidates in the presidential election.	1	2	3	4	5	9
H	Political parties should not be allowed to endorse candidates in the presidential election.	1	2	3	4	5	9
I	The Elected President should be paid more than the Prime Minister.	1	2	3	4	5	9
J	The outcome of who has been elected on 27 August will strengthen Singapore's governing system.	1	2	3	4	5	9
K	I am interested in matters related to Singapore's governing system.	1	2	3	4	5	9
L	The outcome of the May general election shaped my vote in the presidential election.	1	2	3	4	5	9
M	The Patrick Tan issue was very important in my decision about who to vote.	1	2	3	4	5	9
N	The issue of the financial competence of the candidates was very important in my decision about who to vote.	1	2	3	4	5	9

DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. What is your ethnic group? [SA]

1	Chinese	3	Indian
2	Malay	4	Others

D2. What is the language/dialect that you speak most of the time which includes time at home and outside of it? [SA]

1	English	4	Malay
2	Chinese Dialect, please specify: _____	5	Indian Language, please specify: _____
3	Mandarin	6	Others, please specify: _____

D3. What type of housing do you live in? [SA]

1	HDB 1 room	6	HDB Executive Flat
2	HDB 2 room	7	Executive Condo\Private Condo\ Apartment
3	HDB 3 room	8	Landed Property
4	HDB 4 room	9	Others, please specify: _____
5	HDB 5 room		

D4. Were you a Singapore citizen at birth? [SA]

1	At birth [GO TO D6]	2	Naturalised
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D5. When did you become a naturalised citizen?

RECORD YEAR: _ _ _ _

D6. What is your current employment status? [SA]

1	Employer	6	Full-time student [GO TO D8]
2	Own account worker (e.g self-employed, free-lance)	7	Retiree
3	Employee	8	Unemployed
4	Unpaid family worker	9	Others, please specify: _____
5	Full-time home-maker		

D7. What is your current main occupation? [SA] **[RECORD AND CODE]**
(if not currently employed/self-employed/retiree, what was your last main occupation?)

RECORD OCCUPATION: _____

1	Legislators, Senior Officials, Senior Executives and Senior Managers	5	Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales workers
2	Professionals	6	Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers, Semiskilled Workers
3	Technicians, middle to lower-level managers, foremen, and supervisors	7	Cleaners, Labourers and Related Workers, Unskilled Workers.
4	Clerical Workers	99	Never worked / employed

D8. What is your monthly **household** income? [SA] You could give me a range, for example, below \$1,000, \$1,000 - \$1,999?

1	None	8	\$6,000-\$6,999
2	Below \$1,000	9	\$7,000-\$7,999
3	\$1,000-\$1,999	10	\$8,000-\$8,999
4	\$2,000-\$2,999	11	\$9,000-\$9,999
5	\$3,000-\$3,999	12	\$10,000 and above
6	\$4,000-\$4,999	13	Refused / Don't know
7	\$5,000-\$5,999		

If interviewee refuses to answer ask:

D8a. What is the nearest bracket then: [SA]

1	None to \$1,999	3	\$5,000 to \$6,999
2	\$2,000 to \$4,999	4	\$7,000 and above

D9. What is the highest level of schooling that you have completed? [SA] **[RECORD AND CODE]**
(Please refer to SSEC if unsure of category)

1	None	6	Post – secondary ('A' levels, NTC ½ Cert. in Office Skills)
2	Some Primary	7	Diploma level (includes some Diploma education)
3	PSLE or equivalent	8	University level (includes some University education)
4	Some Secondary	9	Post – graduate level
5	'O' / 'N' levels (includes NTC 3 or equivalent)	10	Other professional qualifications (ACCA, etc), please specify: _____

[DO NOT ASK IF F5 IS NO]

D10. Which party did you vote for in the general election held in May 2011? [SA]
[Do not force if interviewee refuses]

1	People's Action Party	5	National Solidarity Party
2	Workers' Party	6	Reform Party
3	Singapore Democratic Party	7	Singapore People's Party
4	Singapore Democratic Alliance	8	Refuse to answer [DO NOT READ]

[DO NOT ASK IF F4 IS NO]

D11. Whom did you vote for in the presidential election? [SA]
[Do not force if interviewee refuses]

1	Tan Cheng Bock	4	Tan Jee Say
2	Tony Tan	5	Refuse to answer [DO NOT READ]
3	Tan Kin Lian		

Thank you for participating in our survey. If you have any questions about the study, please call Dr Leong Chan Hoong, Research Fellow at the NUS Institute of Policy Studies, at 6516-5601. Alternatively, you may contact the NUS Institutional Review Board for an independent opinion regarding this study and the rights of research participation. Kindly call Mr Chan Tuck Wai at 65-6516 1234. Thank you.