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**HKU POP SITE and Civic Exchange releases the 10th
Legislative Council election rolling survey result**

Preamble

This year, the Public Opinion Programme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong and the Civic Exchange are jointly conducting a series of rolling surveys on the 2004 Legislative Council direct elections starting from August 4. While the background and the methodology have been discussed before, please refer to the websites of POP and Civic Exchange at <http://hkupop.hku.hk> and <http://www.civic-exchange.org> respectively for the details. This press release mainly highlights the key findings in the rolling surveys conducted from August 13 to 17, previous findings dating back to August 4 are available in the websites mentioned.

Feature questions

The latest territory-wide rolling surveys (i.e. August 15 to 17) revealed that, as high as 76% of the voters interviewed did not know how many functional constituency seats would be automatically returned in this Legislative Council Election. Meanwhile, 57% thought that the eligible voters should be given a choice to cast a vote of confidence or no confidence to the only candidate running in their functional constituency, while that candidate had to obtain a certain number of votes of confidence in order to be officially elected. The relevant figures are summarized as follows:

Territory-wide rolling surveys	
Date of survey	<u>15-17/8</u>
Sample base	1,131
Overall response rate	73.6%
Sampling error of percentages (at 95% conf. level)*	+/- 3%
Correct answer to the number of automatically returned FC seats	7%
Wrong answer to the number of automatically returned FC seats	16%
No idea at all to the number of automatically returned FC seats	76%
Regarding vote of confidence to the only candidate necessary in order to be officially elected	57%
Regarding vote of confidence to the only candidate not necessary in order to be officially elected	20%

* "95% confidence level" means that if we were to repeat a certain survey 100 times, using the same questions each time but with different random samples, we would expect 95 times getting a figure within the error margins specified.

Knowledge of the election

The latest territory-wide rolling surveys (i.e. August 15 to 17) revealed that, 44% of the voters interviewed had no idea on any list in their geographical constituency, while 56% knew at least one list. For the scenarios in individual constituencies, please refer to the websites for details.

Territory-wide rolling surveys							
Date of survey	10-12/8	11-13/8	12-14/8	13-15/8	14-16/8	15-17/8	<u>Latest change</u>
Sample base	1,098	1,088	1,086	1,076	1,109	1,131	--
Overall response rate	74.2%	73.0%	72.9%	73.8%	74.7%	73.6%	--
Sampling error of percentages (at 95% conf. level)*	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	--
Totally no idea on the list in their constituency	49%	49%	47%	47%	44%	44%	--
Knew at least one list in their constituency ^	51%	52%	53%	53%	56%	56%	--
Knew at least half of the lists in their constituency ^	19%	19%	19%	20%	21%	24%	+3%
Knew all lists in their constituency ^	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	--

* "95% confidence level" means that if we were to repeat a certain survey 100 times, using the same questions each time but with different random samples, we would expect 95 times getting a figure within the error margins specified.

^ Since overlapping exists among these 3 answers, the total would add up to over 100%.

Propensity to vote

The territory-wide rolling surveys from August 15 to 17 revealed that, the registered voters' propensity to vote was 82%. Nevertheless, this percentage should never be taken as a projection of the actual turnout rate because many people who claimed they would vote at this stage would eventually not vote. For the scenarios in individual constituencies, please refer to the websites for details.

Territory-wide rolling surveys							
Date of survey	10-12/8	11-13/8	12-14/8	13-15/8	14-16/8	15-17/8	<u>Latest change</u>
Sample base	1,098	1,088	1,086	1,076	1,109	1,131	--
Overall response rate	74.2%	73.0%	72.9%	73.8%	74.7%	73.6%	--
Sampling error of percentages (at 95% conf. level)*	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	+/- 3%	--
Proportion of respondents definitely will vote	60%	58%	58%	57%	57%	56%	-1%
Propensity to vote (summation of "definitely will" and "most likely will" vote)	86%	84%	84%	82%	83%	82%	-1%

* "95% confidence level" means that if we were to repeat a certain survey 100 times, using the same questions each time but with different random samples, we would expect 95 times getting a figure within the error margins specified.

Stray voters

Since many voters still had not decided how to cast their vote, while stray voters would always have

significant influence on the election result, the POP Team therefore further look into the distribution of these votes in 5 constituencies. Firm voters are defined as those who said they would definitely and most likely vote, and have also decided to vote for which list, while stray voters are defined as those who said they would definitely and most likely vote, but have not decided to vote for which list. The rolling surveys in individual constituencies from August 13 to 17 showed that, there were around 19-29% of stray votes in each of the 5 constituencies, while the largest proportion of stray votes was found in New Territories West (29%) and the smallest in Hong Kong Island (19%). The figures are summarized as follows:

Rolling survey: Hong Kong Island							
Date of survey	<u>8-12/8</u>	<u>9-13/8</u>	<u>10-14/8</u>	<u>11-15/8</u>	<u>12-16/8</u>	<u>13-17/8</u>	<u>Latest change</u>
Sample base	341	352	323	316	328	337	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 5%	--
Proportion of firm voters	55%	56%	56%	56%	58%	61%	+3%
Proportion of stray voters	26%	24%	26%	24%	23%	19%	-4%
Proportion of "no-votes"	19%	19%	18%	20%	19%	19%	--
Rolling survey: Kowloon East							
Date of survey	<u>8-12/8</u>	<u>9-13/8</u>	<u>10-14/8</u>	<u>11-15/8</u>	<u>12-16/8</u>	<u>13-17/8</u>	<u>Latest change</u>
Sample base	302	309	310	317	322	328	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	--
Proportion of firm voters	50%	49%	49%	51%	49%	51%	+2%
Proportion of stray voters	34%	33%	35%	32%	30%	27%	-3%
Proportion of "no-votes"	16%	18%	16%	17%	21%	22%	+1%
Rolling survey: Kowloon West							
Date of survey	<u>8-12/8</u>	<u>9-13/8</u>	<u>10-14/8</u>	<u>11-15/8</u>	<u>12-16/8</u>	<u>13-17/8</u>	<u>Latest change</u>
Sample base	251	261	259	252	266	284	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	--
Proportion of firm voters	54%	56%	55%	57%	52%	53%	+1%
Proportion of stray voters	24%	19%	19%	20%	23%	23%	--
Proportion of "no-votes"	22%	25%	26%	24%	25%	24%	-1%
Rolling survey: New Territories East							
Date of survey	<u>8-12/8</u>	<u>9-13/8</u>	<u>10-14/8</u>	<u>11-15/8</u>	<u>12-16/8</u>	<u>13-17/8</u>	<u>Latest change</u>
Sample base	473	457	477	460	439	445	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	--
Proportion of firm voters	56%	56%	55%	53%	54%	54%	--
Proportion of stray voters	26%	27%	28%	27%	26%	26%	--
Proportion of "no-votes"	19%	18%	18%	20%	20%	20%	--

Rolling survey: New Territories West							
Date of survey	8-12/8	9-13/8	10-14/8	11-15/8	12-16/8	13-17/8	Latest change
Sample base	432	443	447	461	478	457	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	--
Proportion of firm voters	50%	48%	50%	49%	49%	50%	+1%
Proportion of stray voters	30%	31%	32%	31%	30%	29%	-1%
Proportion of "no-votes"	20%	21%	19%	20%	21%	22%	+1%

*Calculated at "95% confidence level" which means if we were to repeat a certain survey 100 times, using the same questions each time but with different random samples, we would expect 95 times getting a figure within the error margins specified.

Candidate strength

Concerning the rolling surveys in individual constituencies from August 13 to 17, the support ratings of various lists are summarized as follows:

Question: In the forthcoming Legislative Council direct election, in fact there are several lists as follows. Which list you tend to support?	Support rating						<u>Latest change</u>	Error margin*	Candidates surpassing threshold
Hong Kong Island Constituency (seats = 6, threshold = 17%)									
Date of survey	8-12/8	9-13/8	10-14/8	11-15/8	12-16/8	13-17/8	--	--	--
Sample base	341	352	323	316	328	337	--	--	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 5%	--	--	--
Audrey Eu's list	26%	25%	22%	21%	20%	23%	+3%	+/-5%	Audrey Eu
Yeung Sum's list	18%	20%	22%	21%	20%	21%	+1%	+/-4%	Yeung Sum
Rita Fan's list	14%	13%	13%	15%	16%	16%	--	+/-4%	--
Ma Lik's list	6%	7%	6%	7%	9%	10%	+1%	+/-3%	--
K. S. Tsang's list	<1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	+1%	+/-2%	--
K. F. Wong's list	1%	1%	1%	1%	<1%	0%	--	--	--
Not yet decide	32%	31%	32%	31%	30%	26%	-4%	+/-5%	--
Others^	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	--	+/-2%	--
Kowloon East Constituency (seats = 5, threshold = 20%)									
Date of survey	8-12/8	9-13/8	10-14/8	11-15/8	12-16/8	13-17/8	--	--	--
Sample base	302	309	310	317	322	328	--	--	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	--	--	--
Y. H. Chan's list	22%	20%	19%	19%	17%	18%	+1%	+/-4%	--
W. M. Li 's list	15%	17%	18%	15%	14%	13%	-1%	+/-4%	--
Albert Cheng's list	10%	11%	9%	13%	14%	13%	-1%	+/-4%	--
Alan Leong's list	5%	5%	6%	7%	8%	11%	+3%	+/-3%	--

Question: In the forthcoming Legislative Council direct election, in fact there are several lists as follows. Which list you tend to support?	Support rating					<u>Latest change</u>	Error margin*	Candidates surpassing threshold	
K. L. Chan's list	4%	4%	4%	6%	5%	8%	+3%	+/-3%	--
Not yet decide	40%	42%	42%	38%	37%	35%	-2%	+/-5%	--
Others^	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%	-1%	+/-2%	--
Kowloon West Constituency (seats = 4, threshold = 25%)									
Date of survey	<u>8-12/8</u>	<u>9-13/8</u>	<u>10-14/8</u>	<u>11-15/8</u>	<u>12-16/8</u>	<u>13-17/8</u>	--	--	--
Sample base	251	261	259	252	266	284	--	--	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	+/- 6%	--	--	--
James To's list	26%	26%	28%	27%	23%	22%	-1%	+/-5%	--
Jasper Tsang's list	17%	16%	13%	15%	14%	14%	--	+/-4%	--
Frederick Fung's list	9%	12%	12%	13%	11%	12%	+1%	+/-4%	--
C. S. Lau's list	10%	9%	10%	9%	10%	12%	+2%	+/-4%	--
S. L. Liu's list	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	+1%	+/-2%	--
Y. S. Lau's list	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	-1%	--	--
Not yet decide	30%	29%	31%	30%	34%	34%	--	+/-6%	--
Others^	5%	5%	4%	4%	5%	4%	-1%	+/-2%	--
New Territories East Constituency (seats = 7, threshold = 14%)									
Date of survey	<u>8-12/8</u>	<u>9-13/8</u>	<u>10-14/8</u>	<u>11-15/8</u>	<u>12-16/8</u>	<u>13-17/8</u>	--	--	--
Sample base	473	457	477	460	439	445	--	--	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	--	--	--
Andrew Cheng's list	33%	32%	32%	32%	32%	32%	--	+/-4%	Andrew Cheng Emily Lau
James Tien's list	11%	10%	10%	9%	11%	12%	+1%	+/-3%	--
K. W. Lau's list	10%	11%	11%	9%	10%	8%	-2%	+/-3%	--
Andrew Wong's list	6%	5%	4%	4%	5%	4%	-1%	+/-2%	--
W. W. Tsoi's list	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	--	+/-2%	--
K. H. Leung's list	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	-1%	+/-1%	--
Not yet decide	32%	34%	35%	35%	33%	34%	+1%	+/-4%	--
Others^	4%	3%	3%	4%	4%	4%	--	+/-2%	--
New Territories West Constituency (seats = 8, threshold = 13%)									
Date of survey	<u>8-12/8</u>	<u>9-13/8</u>	<u>10-14/8</u>	<u>11-15/8</u>	<u>12-16/8</u>	<u>13-17/8</u>	--	--	--
Sample base	432	443	447	461	478	457	--	--	--
Sampling error of percentages*	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	+/- 5%	--	--	--

Question: In the forthcoming Legislative Council direct election, in fact there are several lists as follows. Which list you tend to support?	Support rating					<u>Latest change</u>	Error margin*	Candidates surpassing threshold	
C. Y. Ho's list	10%	8%	10%	9%	10%	11%	+1%	+/-3%	--
Y. C. Tam's list	12%	11%	10%	10%	10%	9%	-1%	+/-3%	--
Y. C. Leung's list	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	9%	+1%	+/-3%	--
Selina Chow's list	9%	9%	9%	8%	9%	8%	-1%	+/-3%	--
W. T. Lee's list	7%	6%	7%	8%	7%	7%	--	+/-2%	--
C. Y. Lee's list	6%	7%	6%	7%	7%	7%	--	+/-2%	--
Albert Chan's list	5%	5%	5%	5%	4%	4%	--	+/-2%	--
T. S. Yim's list	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	--	+/-1%	--
Stephen Char's list	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	< 1%	--	+/-<1%	--
P. T. Chow's list	<1%	<1%	0%	0%	0%	< 1%	--	+/-<1%	--
H. T. Lui's list	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	0%	0%	--	--	--
T. L. Ng's list	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	0%	0%	--	--	--
Not yet decide	38%	41%	40%	41%	41%	41%	--	+/-5%	--
Others^	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	+1%	+/-2%	--

*Calculated at "95% confidence level" which means if we were to repeat a certain survey 100 times, using the same questions each time but with different random samples, we would expect 95 times getting a figure within the error margins specified.

^Included responses of "Won't vote" and "Won't support any political parties or candidates".

The support ratings shown above have not excluded those who had not decided and claimed not to vote. Readers may exclude this group of uncertain voters (assuming that they would not vote at all), reallocate the vote share according to the new base. The number of seats obtained by each list can then be deduced based on the Largest Remainder Formula. Yet, one must take note of the sampling errors. Please refer to the websites for the exact phrasing and wordings adopted.

It must be stated that since many voters have not yet made their choice, while most candidates have not started their full-scale election campaign, the influence of these stray votes is yet to be seen. For the results of other rolling surveys, please refer to the websites for detailed figures and updates.

Other points to note

POP will release the latest results of the rolling surveys every day at 2 pm via our POP Site. Shall anyone have any question regarding the research design of the surveys published in the POP Site, members of the POP Team will be happy to answer them, but we will not further comment on the findings. Shall any person or journalist have any other questions, please email them to us at <pop.network@hkupop.hku.hk>. Please note that everything carried in the POP Site does not represent

the stand of the University of Hong Kong. Dr Robert Ting-Yiu Chung, Director of Public Opinion Programme, is responsible for everything posted herewith, except for column articles which represent the stand of their authors.

**This is a translation of the Chinese press release; should there be any discrepancy or ambiguity, please refer to the Chinese version.