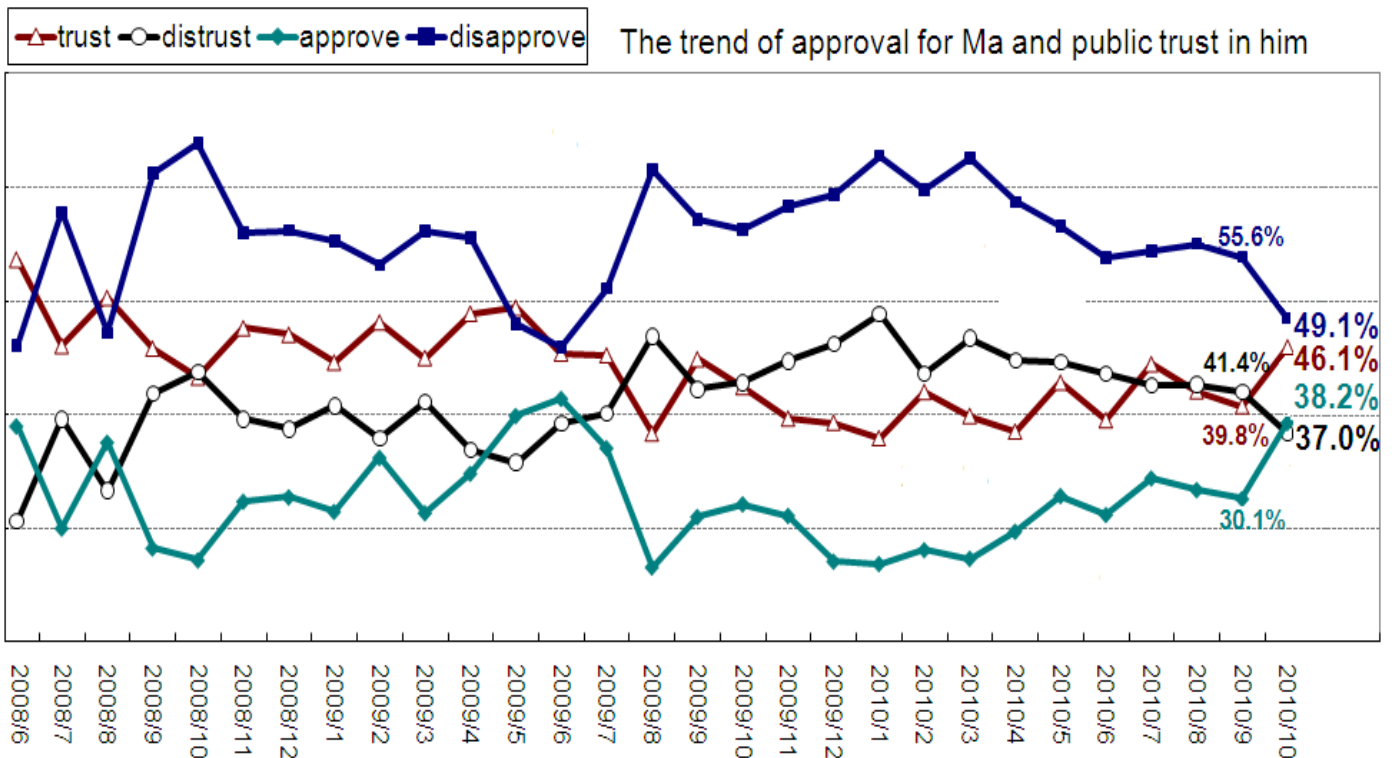


**Survey on President Ma Ying-jeou's Approval Rating and Removal of Missiles Deployed by China**

October 28, 2010

A. President Ma's approval rating: 46.1 percent of people trusted him (up from 39.8 percent last month) while 37 percent (down from 41.4 percent) said otherwise. 38.2 percent of the interviewed were satisfied with Ma's performance (up from 30.1 percent last month) but 49.1 percent were not (down from 55.6 percent). Both Ma's approval rating and public trust on him went up.

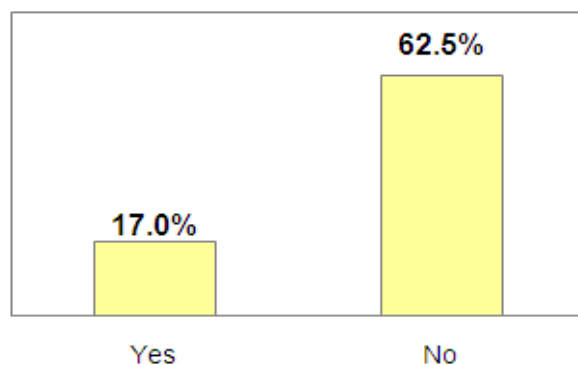
When asked about President Ma's overall performance, 38.2 percent of the respondents were content with it, while 49.1 percent were not. Compared with last month, Ma's approval rating rocketed 8.1 percentage points and hit a record high since July last year with his disapproval rating decreasing 6.5 percentage points. As for the public trust on Ma, 46.1 percent of people trusted him while 37 percent said otherwise. Ma's public trust index advanced 6.3 percentage points and distrust index fell 4.4 percentage points in comparison with last month. Generally speaking, Ma's approval rating and the public trust index on him are close to the ones he received in June last year, which should be ascribed to people's increasing confidence in the economy (based on the Taiwan Public Mood Index, which will soon be released). The rising confidence in economy also resulted in mounting support rate for ECFA (according to the GVSRC another survey) and was related to the positive election propaganda on Ma's achievements for the upcoming mayoral elections. However, further observations are needed to see whether Ma's approval rating would continue going up, after having dropped to a record low in August last year, after the flooding incident in southern Taiwan.



B. 62.5 percent of the polled said it was very unlikely that China would dismantle the missiles targeting Taiwan before the presidential election in 2012. 45.3 percent said ECFA was much more important than removal of the missiles aimed at Taiwan. 65.7 percent said Taiwan should not stop buying military weapons from the U.S. even if the missiles were removed.

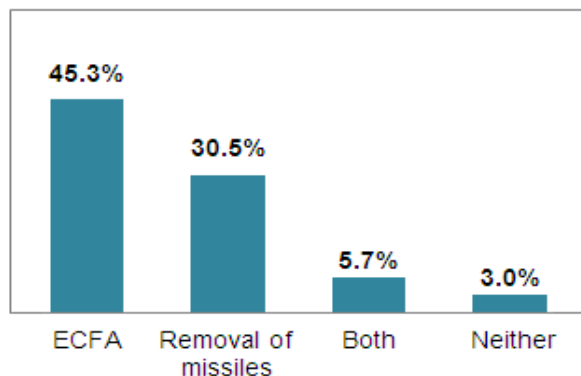
Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao mentioned in late September that China would eventually dismantle the missiles aimed at Taiwan, and President Ma said during the speech on National Day that China should remove the missiles because it would be significant to cross-Strait relations. Compared with the poll held in May 2008 when 76.6 percent of people said China should disassemble the missiles targeting Taiwan to demonstrate its sincerity for building mutual trust, this poll indicated 62.5 percent of people did not think China would remove the missiles before the presidential election in 2012 (with people saying “very unlikely” accounting for 41.1 percent, and “unlikely” 21.4 percent). 17 percent said it was possible that China would remove the missile before the next presidential election while 20.5 percent failed to give explicit response. Regardless of people's expectation for peace across the Straits, there are still innumerable political obstacles.

**Is it possible that China removes the missiles aimed at Taiwan before the presidential election in 2012?**



Nevertheless, people are still pragmatic about the necessity of cross-Strait exchanges, with 45.3 percent saying ECFA is much more important to the future development of cross-Strait relations. Among them, people who have college degrees and are in favor of the blue alliance account for over sixty percent. 30.5 percent said removal of Chinese missiles took precedence over anything, with people living in Yunlin and Chiayi and those who politically favor the green alliance accounting for more than 40 percent. In addition, the cross-tabulation shows 41.3 percent of pan-green voters will be more supportive of ECFA if China dismantles the missiles.

**Which is more important to the future development of cross-Strait relations?**

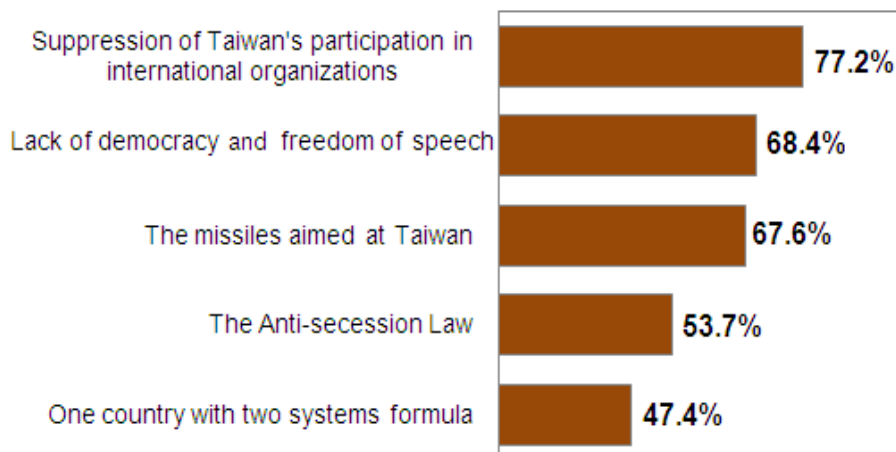


When asked if Taiwan should stop buying defensive weapons from the U. S. once China removed the missiles aimed at Taiwan, 65.7 percent of people were against the idea ( with 40.4 percent being strongly opposed to it, and 25.3 percent moderately opposed to it), while 18.6 percent were supportive of it, with 15.6 percent failing to give clear response. According to the previous polls, the majority of people's support of arms procurement from the U.S. should be mainly attributed to the possible assistance from the allies, awareness of importance of self-defense capability, and bargaining chips when dealing with China.

C. In spite of improved cross-Strait relations, people still have an aversion to China, with 77.2 percent of people, who dislike China's suppression of Taiwan's participation in international organizations, 68.4 percent who dislike China's lack of democracy and freedom of speech, and 67.6 percent who dislike the missiles targeting Taiwan.

Regardless of the greatly improved cross-Strait relations since President Ma took office, and that 80 percent of people consider themselves ethnically Chinese, 77.2 percent of people still have an aversion to China's suppression of Taiwan's participation in international organizations, 68.4 percent to China's lack of democracy and freedom of speech, 67.6 percent to the Chinese missiles targeting Taiwan, 53.7 percent to the Anti-secession law and 47.4 percent to the one country with two systems formula. In general, people acknowledge the convenience and necessity of cross-Strait exchanges, but the differences in political systems across the Straits

**With the improved cross-Strait relations, what do people have aversion to China?**



cannot be eliminated in a short period of time. For example, the Constitution of each side across the Strait stipulates protection of human rights and several kinds of freedom; however, there are distinct differences in how governments across the Strait abide by the Constitution with each side developing its own social values and ways of living. This poll reflects Taiwanese people's long-standing thoughts or even the collective awareness, which needs to be taken seriously.

D. People's evaluation on KMT legislators' overall performance: 23.6 percent (up from 19.4 percent) of people were satisfied with it while 55.1 (down from 58.2 percent) percent were dissatisfied.

KMT controls nearly 70 percent of seats and has the dominating power in the Legislative Yuan. The poll found 55.1 percent of the respondents not satisfied with the overall performance of the KMT legislators, much higher than their approval rating of 23.6 percent. Compared with last month, their approval rating advanced 4.2 percentage points and disapproval rating dropped 3.1 percentage points.

This survey was conducted by GVSRC from 6.20 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. from October 14 to 17, 2010. It was conducted with random-digit-dial sampling and computer-assisted telephone interviewing methods. 1007 Taiwanese people who are 20 or older completed the interview. One can say with 95% confidence level that the margin of error is  $\pm 3.1\%$ . Gender, living areas, ages, and educational level of the interviewees have undergone weighting procedure and test of the sample's representativeness in the survey results.