



香港中文大學 傳播與民意調查中心  
Centre for Communication and Public Opinion Survey  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

## **Public Opinion & Political Development in Hong Kong**

### **Survey Results**

**(Press Release)**

September 21, 2014

In recent years, controversies over political reforms in Hong Kong have become serious. To gauge people's views on various issues about political development in Hong Kong, the Centre for Communication and Public Opinion Survey at the School of Journalism and Communication, The Chinese University of Hong Kong launched a project named *Public Opinion and Political Development Studies* in August. The Project will conduct telephone interviews and publish the findings regularly for the reference of various parties.

The first wave study was conducted in September 10-17, 2014. Using the method of random sampling, the Centre successfully interviewed 1,006 Hong Kong Cantonese-speaking residents aged 15 or above on phone (with a sampling error of  $\pm 3.1\%$  at 95% confidence level). The response rate was 43%. All data were weighted by the proportion of gender, age and education according to the most recent statistics of people aged 15 or above issued by the Census and Statistics Department of the Hong Kong SAR Government. The summary of the findings are provided below:

### **(1) Whether the Legislative Council should approve or reject the draft for the 2017 election of Hong Kong Chief Executive?**

Following the decision of the Standing Committee of the People's Congress, Hong Kong Government will propose a draft for the 2017 one-person one-vote Chief Executive election. If the proposed draft will forbid people having different political views from the Central Government to stand for the election, 53.7% respondents consider that the Legislative Council should reject the draft while 29.3% consider that the Legislative Council should approve it. (See Table 1)





Further analysis by demographics (See Table 2):

- The proportion of males is higher than females in both the group which favours rejection and the group which favours approval of the draft by the Legislative Council. There is a higher proportion of females expressing no opinions than males.  
(Male: 33.3% favour approval, 56.0% favour rejection, 10.7% no opinion;  
Female: 25.5% favour approval, 51.7% favour rejection; 22.8% no opinion)
- The lower the age level, the more likely the respondent favours rejection of the draft by the Legislative Council.  
(Age 15-24: 75.8%; Age 25-39: 65.1%; Age 40-59: 45.3%; Age 60 or above: 42.3%)
- The higher the educational level, the more likely the respondent favours rejection of the draft by the Legislative Council.  
(Tertiary or above: 63.5%; F. 4-F.7: 54.4%; F. 3 or below: 41.6%)

## **(2) Whether election method of HK Chief Executive will affect national security?**

51.8% respondents “disagree” (strongly disagree/quite disagree) that how Hong Kong Chief Executive is elected will affect national security; 24.1% respondents “agree” (strongly agree/quite agree); 19.8% indicated “so-so”. (See Table 3)

## **(3) Trust in Hong Kong SAR Government**

Respondents assess their trust in the Hong Kong SAR Government along a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being “no trust at all”, 10 being “total trust”, and 5 being “so-so”. Results show that the mean score for people’s trust in HKSAR Government is 4.02. 49.7% respondents tend not to trust the HKSAR Government (score ranging from 0 to 4) and 15.8% give a score 0, i.e., “no trust at all”. 22.5% respondents tend to trust the HKSAR Government (score ranging from 6 to 10) and 3.5% give a score of 10, i.e., “total trust”. The trust of 27.3% respondents in HKSAR Government is “so-so” (a score of 5) (See Table 4)





#### **(4) Trust in Central Government**

Respondents assess their trust in the Central Government along a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being “no trust at all”, 10 being “total trust”, and 5 being “so-so”. Results show that the mean score for people’s trust in Central Government is 4.05. 48.5% respondents tend not to trust the Central Government (score ranging from 0 to 4) and 19.6% give a score 0, i.e., “no trust at all”. 25.0% respondents tend to trust the Central Government (score ranging from 6 to 10) and 6.0% give a score of 10, i.e., “total trust”. The trust of 24.2% respondents in HKSAR Government is “so-so” (a score of 5). (See Table 5)

#### **(5) Views on “Occupy Central”**

46.3% indicate “not support” (strongly not support/ quite not support) for the “occupy Central” movement; 31.3% respondents indicate “support” (strongly support/quite support). 20.5% respondents are “so-so”. (See Table 6)

Further analysis by demographics (See Table 7):

- Males tend to support “occupy Central” more than females  
(Male: 35.3%; Females: 27.2%)
- Youngsters tend to support “occupy Central” more than older generation.  
(Age 15-24: 46.7%; Age 25-39: 39.8%; Age 40-59: 20.9%; Age 60 or above: 29.5%)
- The higher educated tend to support “occupy Central” more than lower educated  
(Tertiary or above: 39.2%; F. 4-F.7: 26.5%; F. 3 or below: 26.7%)

#### **(6) Views on future development of Hong Kong**

Respondents assess the future of Hong Kong along a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being “extremely pessimistic”, 10 being “extremely optimistic”, and 5 being “so-so”. Results show that the mean score for people’s view about Hong Kong’s future is 4.22. 45.6% respondents tend to feel pessimistic (score ranging from 0 to 4) and 10.8% give a score 0, i.e., “extremely pessimistic”. 21.2% respondents tend to feel optimistic (score ranging from 6 to 10) and 3.2% give a score of 10, i.e., “extremely optimistic”. 32.2% respondents consider Hong





Kong's future development "so-so" (a score of 5). (See Table 8)

### **(7) Migration**

77.2% respondents do not consider migration at present; 21.2% do. (See Table 9)

### **(8) Views on police's handling of protests and assemblies in recent years**

36.5% respondents consider the way Hong Kong police handles protests and assemblies in recent years "not appropriate" (very inappropriate/ quite inappropriate); 31.4% consider it appropriate (very appropriate/ quite appropriate); 29.5% consider it "so-so". (See Table 10)

### **(9) Political Orientation**

39.5% respondents consider themselves to be "pan-democrats" ("radical democrats" and "moderate democrats"); 9.1% consider themselves "pro-establishment" (including "pro-Beijing" and "business-industrial"); 24.1% consider themselves "middle-neutral"; and 21.5% consider themselves "possessing no political orientation". (See Table 11).

Further analysis shows that political orientation makes a marked difference in people's views about the approval of the draft for 2017 election of Chief Executive, and the "occupy Central" movement:

#### **Views on whether the Legislative Council should approve or reject the draft for the 2017 election of Hong Kong Chief Executive (See Table 12)**

- Pan-democrat respondents ("radical democrats"/ "moderate democrats") tend to consider that Legislative Council should reject the draft for the 2017 election of Chief Executive (72.2%)
- Pro-establishment respondents (including "pro-Beijing" and "business-industrial") tend to consider that Legislative Council should approve the draft for the 2017 election of Chief Executive (66.3%)





- More respondents of middle-neutral (51.6%) or no political orientation (41.6%) consider that Legislative Council should reject the draft for the 2017 election of Chief Executive

### **Views on “Occupy Central” (See Table 13)**

- Pan-democrat respondents (“radical democrats”/ “moderate democrats”) tend to support “occupy Central” (52.3%)
- Pro-establishment respondents (including “pro-Beijing” and “business-industrial”) tend not to support “occupy Central” (84.9%)
- Respondents of middle-neutral (58.7%) or no political orientation (56.9%) tend not to support “occupy Central”





*【The total N may not add up to 100% due to rounding errors and weighting】*

**Table 1:**  
**Views on whether the Legislative Council should approve or reject the draft for the 2017 election of Hong Kong Chief Executive**

	N	%
Approve	294	29.3
Reject	541	53.7
No Opinion / Refuse to answer	171	17.0
Total	1006	100.0

Question: Following the decision of the Standing Committee of the People's Congress, Hong Kong Government will propose a draft for the 2017 one-person one-vote Chief Executive election. If the proposed draft will forbid people having different political views from the Central Government to stand for the election, do you think the Legislative Council at that time should approve the draft or reject it?

**Table 2: : Approve or reject draft for 2017 election of Chief Executive by Demographics**

	Approve	Reject	No Views / Refuse	Total	(n)
<b>Sex</b>					
M	33.3%	56.0%	10.7%	100.0%	(482)
F	25.5%	51.7%	22.8%	100.0%	(524)
<b>Age</b>					
15 - 24	15.0%	75.8%	9.2%	100.0%	(140)
25 - 39	22.8%	65.1%	12.1%	100.0%	(238)
40 - 59	38.2%	45.3%	16.5%	100.0%	(381)
60 or Above	30.6%	42.3%	27.2%	100.0%	(241)
<b>Edu Level</b>					
F.3 or Below	28.9%	41.6%	29.5%	100.0%	(313)
F. 4 - F. 7	33.1%	54.4%	12.5%	100.0%	(334)
Tertiary or Above	26.3%	63.5%	10.2%	100.0%	(354)





**Table 3: Views on whether election method of Chief Executive will affect national security**

	N	%
Strongly agree	125	12.4
Quite agree	118	11.7
So-so	199	19.8
Quite disagree	238	23.7
Strongly disagree	283	28.1
No Opinion / Refuse to answer	43	4.2
Total	1006	100.0

Question: Some people say that how to elect the Chief Executive of Hong Kong will affect national security. Do you agree with this view? Strongly agree, quite agree, so-so, quite disagree or strongly disagree?

**Table 4: Trust in Hong Kong SAR Government**

	N	%
0 No trust at all	159	15.8
1	41	4.1
2	74	7.4
3	108	10.8
4	116	11.5
5 So-so	274	27.3
6	77	7.6
7	67	6.6
8	36	3.6
9	11	1.1
10 Total trust	35	3.5
Don't know / Refuse to answer	6	0.6
Total	1006	100.0
Mean* (N) =	4.02 (1000)	

\* Don't know / Refuse to answer are not included in the calculation of the mean

Question: How high is your trust in the HKSAR Government? Along a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being "no trust at all", 10 being "total trust", and 5 being "so-so", what score will you give?





**Table 5: Trust in Central Government**

	N	%
0 No trust at all	198	19.6
1	43	4.3
2	64	6.3
3	100	10.0
4	83	8.2
5 So-so	243	24.2
6	66	6.6
7	50	5.0
8	65	6.5
9	10	1.0
10 Total trust	60	6.0
Don't know / Refuse to answer	23	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1006</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Mean* (N) = 4.05 (983)		

\* Don't know / Refuse to answer are not included in the calculation of the mean

Question: How high is your trust in the Central Government? Along a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being “no trust at all”, 10 being “total trust”, and 5 being “so-so”, what score will you give?

**Table 6: Views on “Occupy Central”**

	N	%
Strongly support	143	14.2
Quite support	170	16.9
So-so	206	20.5
Quite not support	126	12.5
Strongly not support	340	33.8
No Opinion / Refuse to answer	22	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1006</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Question: Some people start an “Occupy Central” movement to fight for a 2017 election plan for Chief Executive without screening, do you support the movement or not? Strongly support, quite support, so-so, quite not support, or strongly not support?







**Table 7: “Occupy Central” by Demographics**

	Support	So-So	Not Support	No Views / Refuse	Total	(n)
<b>Sex</b>						
M	35.3%	16.9%	46.2%	1.6%	100.0%	(482)
F	27.2%	23.8%	46.4%	2.6%	100.0%	(524)
<b>Age</b>						
15 - 24	46.7%	29.5%	22.5%	1.4%	100.0%	(140)
25 - 39	39.8%	27.8%	31.7%	0.7%	100.0%	(238)
40 - 59	20.9%	17.4%	60.8%	0.8%	100.0%	(381)
60 or Above	29.5%	12.4%	52.4%	5.8%	100.0%	(241)
<b>Edu Level</b>						
F. 3 or Below	26.7%	16.4%	52.8%	4.1%	100.0%	(313)
F. 4 - F. 7	26.5%	22.8%	49.7%	1.0%	100.0%	(334)
Tertiary or Above	39.2%	22.2%	37.5%	1.1%	100.0%	(354)





**Table 8: Future Development of Hong Kong**

	N	%
0 Extremely pessimistic	109	10.8
1	20	2.0
2	70	7.0
3	137	13.6
4	122	12.1
5 So-So	324	32.2
6	95	9.4
7	58	5.7
8	26	2.6
9	2	0.2
10 Extremely optimistic	32	3.2
Don't know / Refuse to answer	10	1.0
Total	1006	100.0
Mean* (N) = 4.22 (996)		

\* Don't know / Refuse to answer are not included in the calculation of the mean

Questions: What is your view about the future development of Hong Kong? Along a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being "extremely pessimistic", 10 being "extremely optimistic", and 5 being "so-so", what score will you give?

**Table 9: Think of Migration?**

	N	%
Yes	214	21.2
No	776	77.2
Don't know / Refuse to answer	16	1.6
Total	1006	100.0

Question: Are you considering migration to overseas?





**Table 10: Police's handling of protests and assemblies in recent years**

	N	%
Very appropriate	134	13.3
Quite appropriate	181	18.0
So-so	297	29.5
Quite inappropriate	214	21.3
Very inappropriate	153	15.3
No Opinion / Refuse to answer	26	2.6
Total	1006	100.0

Question: What is your view about the way Hong Kong police handles protests and assemblies in recent years?  
Very appropriate, quite appropriate, so-so, quite inappropriate, or very inappropriate?

**Table 11: Political Orientation**

	N	%
Radical democrats	37	3.7
Moderate democrats	361	35.8
Middle/neutral	243	24.1
Pro-establishment	42	4.1
Business-industrial	19	1.9
Pro-Beijing	31	3.1
No orientation / not belonging to any orientation	216	21.5
Don't Know/ Hard to say / Refuse to answer	58	5.8
Total	1006	100.0

Question: You consider yourself leaning toward which political orientation? Radical democrats, moderate democrats, middle-neutral, pro-establishment, business-industrial, or pro-Beijing?





**Table 12:**  
**Political orientation and views on approval or rejection of draft for 2017 election plan for Chief Executive by Legislative Council**

	Approve	Reject	No Views / Refuse	Total	(n)
Political orientation					
Pan-democrats	18.4%	72.2%	9.4%	100.0%	(398)
Middle-Neutral	34.4%	51.6%	14.0%	100.0%	(243)
Pro-establishment	66.3%	23.9%	9.9%	100.0%	(92)
No orientation	26.6%	41.6%	31.7%	100.0%	(216)

**Table 13: Political orientation and views on “Occupy Central”**

	Support	So-So	Not Support	No views / Refuse	Total	(n)
Political orientation						
Pan-democrats	52.3%	23.0%	23.1%	1.5%	100.0%	(398)
Middle-neutral	18.5%	22.3%	58.7%	0.4%	100.0%	(243)
Pro-establishment	7.2%	7.9%	84.9%	--	100.0%	(92)
No orientation	18.6%	20.7%	56.9%	3.9%	100.0%	(216)

-- End --

