

PRESS RELEASE

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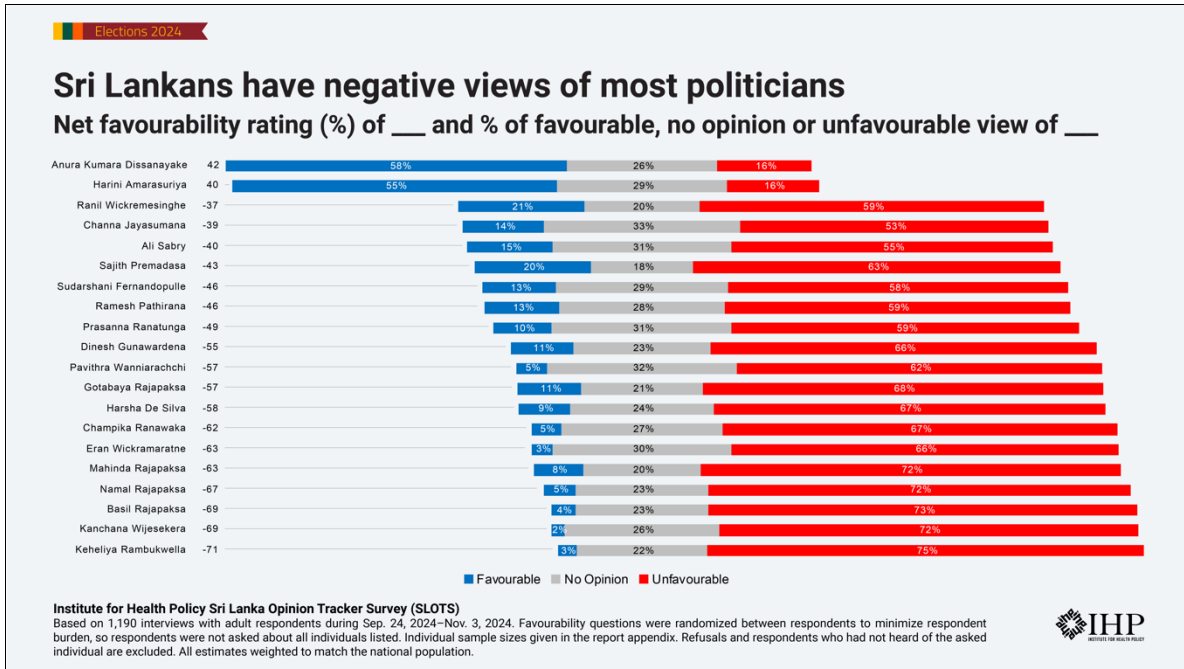
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Pres. Anura Dissanayake and Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya see surge in favourability ratings post-election

In post-election IHP SLOTS polling, net favourability ratings for President AK Dissanayake and Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya increased to +42% and +40%, respectively, up from -10% before the election. Over half of respondents expressed favourable views toward both leaders after the election.

However, all other politicians tracked by SLOTS had negative net ratings (below -35%), with over 50% of respondents viewing them unfavourably. Ranil Wickremesinghe (-37%) was the least unfavourable among them, followed by Sajith Premadasa (-43%).

IHP tracked the favourability of 20 active politicians during the year, consisting of recent Presidents and Prime Ministers, major party leaders, current and recent health ministers and selected other MPs. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and it's possible that more popular politicians were not tracked. All favourability estimates are weighted for age, gender, ethnicity, province, income ranking, education and sector to match the national population.



Full report

Institute for Health Policy, November 2024, “Pres. Anura Dissanayake and Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya see surge in favourability ratings post-election” Available at : <https://ihp.lk/sites/default/files/press-release/SLOTSReport202417.pdf>

Previous reports available from ihp.lk

Institute for Health Policy, October 2024, “Harini Amarasuriya a popular choice for Prime Minister” Available at : <https://ihp.lk/sites/default/files/press-release/SLOTSReport202414.pdf>

Institute for Health Policy, March 2023, “Public continue to hold deeply unfavourable views of almost all politicians across all parties”, SLOTS Report #2023-07. Available at <https://www.ihp.lk/publications/docs/SLOTSReport202307.pdf>

Institute for Health Policy, April 2022, “Economic crisis results in growing public disaffection with politicians, but particularly with President Rajapaksa”, SLOTS Report #2022-04. Available at: <https://www.ihp.lk/publications/docs/SLOTSReport202204.pdf>

About IHP

IHP is solely responsible for commissioning and designing the survey, and it takes full responsibility for it. IHP is an independent, non-partisan research institution based in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The SLOTS lead investigator is Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya of IHP, who was trained in public opinion polling at Harvard University, and who has conducted many opinion surveys over three decades, both in and outside Sri Lanka.

Methodology

SLOTS surveys a national sample of adults (ages 18 and over) reached by random digit dialling of mobile numbers, and others coming from a national panel of respondents who were previously recruited through random selection. SLOTS tracks favourability by asking respondents if they have a favourable, unfavourable or neutral opinion of a public figure or institution: net favourability percentage being the difference

of the favourable and unfavourable responses. All estimates are weighted to match the national population with respect to age, sex, sector, ethnicity, religion, education, socioeconomic status, and province.

Funding

IHP conducts the SLOTS survey to track changes in health and social conditions, and public opinion in the country. IHP is solely responsible for conceiving, commissioning and designing the survey, and it takes full responsibility for it. Interviews are done daily by phone by IHP employees, with respondents recruited by a national field survey or by randomly dialling phone numbers. SLOTS fieldwork since 2021 has been supported by a range of funders, who play no role in question design, data analysis, or reporting. Past funders have included the Neelan Tiruchelvam Trust, Asia Foundation, European Commission, UK National Institute for Health and Care Research, the Foundation Open Society Institute, and others. Current fieldwork is supported by funding from the Velux Stiftung foundation, New York University Abu Dhabi, USAID, and the IHP Public Interest Research Fund. The survey findings and IHP reporting do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of past and present funders. Interested parties can contact IHP for more detailed data and results.