

2013 Post House of Councilors Election Poll [Internet Survey]

Q1: Did you go to vote in the House of Councilors election on July 21 (Sunday)? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. I voted on the day
2. I voted using early voting or absence ballot
3. I abstained from voting

[To those who chose 1 and 2 in Q1]

SQ1: Did you vote in the single-seat constituency where you vote in your prefecture? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Yes, I voted
2. No, I did not vote (Go to SQ3)

SQ2: Which party's candidate did you vote for? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)
2. Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ)
3. Clean Government Party (Komeito/CGP)
4. Japan Restoration Party
5. Your Party (Minnano tou)
6. Japan Communist Party (JCP)
7. Other
8. Independent

SQ3: Did you vote in the proportional representation constituency where you vote for a political party or individual nationally? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Yes, I voted
2. No, I did not vote (Go to Q2)

SQ4: Which party or party's candidate did you vote for?

1. Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)

2. Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ)
3. Clean Government Party (Komeito/CGP)
4. Japan Restoration Party
5. Your Party (Minnano tou)
6. Japan Communist Party (JCP)
7. Other

SQ5: How much did you pay attention to the lists of candidates that political parties issue when you voted for a party in the proportional representation constituency? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. A lot
2. A little
3. Not so much
4. Almost no attention

Q2: How much are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the results of this House of Councilors election? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty satisfied
2. A little satisfied
3. Neither
4. A little dissatisfied
5. Pretty dissatisfied

Q3: Do you appreciate or not appreciate the administrative change realized as the result of the general election in 2012? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Appreciate a lot
2. Appreciate
3. Neither
4. Not appreciate
5. Never appreciate

Q4: Do you think Japanese politics became better or worse after the administrative change realized as the result of the general election in 2012? (Please circle only one choice.)

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1. Much better
2. A little better
3. Unchanged
4. A little worse
5. Much worse

Q5: How much were you interested in an election campaign of each political party? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. A lot
2. A little
3. No so much
4. Almost no interest

Next, please give us your views on several recent propositions.

Q6: The following are two major points of view about the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) which attempt to reduce the trade tariff to zero among countries in the Pacific Ocean.

A: We should join the TPP since it increases the export of Japanese industrial products to abroad.

B: We should not joint the TPP since it encourages the import of cheap agricultural products to Japan and damages Japanese farmers.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the issue of TPP to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q7: The following are two major points of view about fiscal reconstruction and economic policy

A: Amidst the current sluggish economy, economic stimulus measures should be implemented first at the risk of fiscal reconstruction postponement.

B: With the government saddled with a massive amount of debt, fiscal reconstruction measures should come first at the risk of postponing economic stimulus packages.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the fiscal-or-economy question to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q8: The following are two major points of view about the right of collective self-defense.

A: The exercise of the right of collective self-defense should be approved to enhance the Japan-U.S. security alliance.

B: The exercise of the right of collective self-defense should not be approved because it will lead to Japan's involvement in international disputes.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the right of collective self-defense to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q9: The following are two major points of view about welfare and taxes.

A: Public services like welfare should be developed even if a tax hike is required.

B: Taxes should be reduced even if the quality of public services like welfare deteriorates.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the issue of welfare and taxes to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q10: The following are two major points of view about the restart of nuclear power plants.

A: We should restart nuclear power plants, because we cannot cover the demand for electricity only with thermal power, wind power, and solar power generation and we have to bear the influence of power saving.

B: We should not restart nuclear power plants and cover the demand for electricity with thermal power, wind power, and solar power generation and power saving, until we will be certain about the safety of nuclear power generation.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the restart of nuclear power plants to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q11: The following are two major points of view about the relationships between the central and local governments.

A: Naturally, the central government should provide subsidies and other forms of aid to support less competitive local areas.

B: It is significant to aim to create communities with vitality based on free competition among local areas by reducing the central government's subsidies and other forms of aid.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the relationships between the central and local governments to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q12: The following are two major points of view about constitutional revision.

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A: The current Constitution is obsolete and should be revised as soon as possible.

B: The current Constitution overall is satisfactory and should remain unchanged.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the issue of constitutional revision to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q13: The following are two major points of view about how to sustain the public pension system.

A: Insurance premiums should be raised to secure stable financial resources for the future.

B: The consumption tax rate should be increased so that all generations can shoulder an equal level of responsibility.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the issue of public pension system to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important

4. Not important at all

Q14: Due to Article 96, to revise the constitution, each of the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors has to gain the two-thirds or more approvals. The following are two major points of view about Article 96. Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

A: It is better to keep the current conditions of the two-thirds of approvals.

B: The condition must be that each House has to gain the half or more approvals.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the issue of Article 96 to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q15: The current Article 9 provides for the renunciation of war and the renunciation of military forces. The following are two major points of view about Article 9.

A: Article 9 should be revised and include the possession of right of self-defense and armed forces.

B: There is no need for changing the current Article 9.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the issue of Article 9 to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q16: The following are two major points of view about making the self-defense forces into the national armed forces.

A: We should make the self-defense forces armed forces to have strong actions over Japanese land toward neighboring countries.

B: We should not make the self-defense forces armed forces not to cause any more turmoil with neighboring countries.

SQ1: Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

SQ2: How important is the issue of making the self-defense forces into the national armed forces to you? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty important
2. A little important
3. No so important
4. Not important at all

Q17: The election campaign using the Internet was allowed from this House of Councilors election. How much did you do the following things? (Please circle only one choice for each item.)

- (1) Check the SNS (like Facebook or Twitter) of the candidates of your districts
- (2) Check the SNS (like Facebook or Twitter) of the candidates of the proportional-representation

constituency.

- (3) Check the SNS (like Facebook or Twitter) of other politicians.
- (4) Comment upon the SNS (like Facebook or Twitter) of the candidates of your districts
- (5) Comment upon the SNS (like Facebook or Twitter) of the candidates of the proportional-representation constituency.
- (6) Comment upon the SNS (like Facebook or Twitter) of other politicians.

- 1. Almost everyday
- 2. Often
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Not at all

Q18: When you decide political party or candidate to vote in the single-seat constituency in this election, what types of Internet media did you think are useful? (Please circle only one choice for each item.)

- (1) Internet media such as the Internet news and web magazines
- (2) Website and SNS of political party and party leader
- (3) Website and SNS of famous politician (who is not a candidate)
- (4) Website and SNS of candidate

- 1. Very useful
- 2. A little useful
- 3. Not so much useful
- 4. Not useful at all
- 5. I do not check such media

Q19: When you decide political party or candidate to vote in the proportional representation constituency in this election, what types of Internet media did you think are useful? (Please circle only one choice for each item.)

- (1) Internet media such as the Internet news and web magazines
- (2) Website and SNS of political party and party leader
- (3) Website and SNS of famous politician (who is not a candidate)
- (4) Website and SNS of candidate

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1. Very useful
2. A little useful
3. Not so much useful
4. Not useful at all
5. I do not check such media

Q20: Are you currently following the Facebook or Twitter of any politician or candidate? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. I do not follow anyone
2. Only 1 person
3. 2 to 5 people
4. 6 to 10 people
5. Over 10 people

Q21: What kind of impression did you have when you see the online communication between politicians/candidates and the electorate? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. They had an appropriate communication
2. Politicians' comments were appropriate, but the electorates were not
3. Politicians' comments were not appropriate, but the electorates were appropriate
4. They did not have an appropriate communication

Q22: Whether or not there is an election, some people always pay attention to politics while others do not. How much do you pay attention to political issues? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. A lot
2. A little
3. No so much
4. Hardly

Q23: How much do you feel the politics of our nation is trustworthy? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. A lot
2. A little
3. No so much

4. Almost no trust

Q24: How much are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current politics? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Pretty satisfied
2. A little satisfied
3. A little dissatisfied
4. Pretty dissatisfied

Q25: Regarding the political stance of being conservative or liberal, what is your stance? In the scale, the left end (0) means the most liberal and the right end (10) means the most conservative. Please circle the number that best describes your thinking. (Please circle only one number.)

- 0 Liberal
- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - 6
 - 7
 - 8
 - 9
- 10 Conservative

Q26: Do you support or not support the Abe administration? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Support a lot
2. Support a little
3. Not support so much
4. Almost no support

Q27: What is your expectation for the Abe administration's future performance? (Please circle only one choice for each item.)

Q27-1: Fiscal policy

Q27-2: Economic stimulus policy

Q27-3: Diplomacy

Q27-4: Political leadership

Q27-5: Overall future performance of the Abe administration

1. Pretty high
2. A little high
3. Neither
4. No so high
5. Almost no expectations

Q28-1: The following are two major points of view about the Japanese Diet. Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

A: We should maintain the bicameral system composed of the House of Representatives and Councilors because it is an effective system to prevent the rampage of political power

B: We should adopt the unicameral system because the bicameral system composed of the House of Representatives and Councilors is likely to induce the disorder of political power and prevent a realization of policies.

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

Q28-2: How about the following opinion? Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

A: In the same way as now, the electorate should select the members of the House of Councilors by vote in election

B: The members of the House of Councilors should be selected and recommended by the representatives of each prefecture, the economic business community, the labor community, and the intellectuals.

1. Close to A

2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

Q28-3: How about the following opinion? Which idea is closer to your view? (Please circle only one choice.)

A: We should prudently manage the discussion in the Diet, so the both of the House of Representatives and Councilors should approve even the same issue

B: We should effectively manage the discussion in the Diet, so each of the House of Representatives and Councilors should deal with different matters (for example, the budget-related issues are for the former and the diplomacy and national security are for the latter)

1. Close to A
2. A little close to A
3. A little close to B
4. Close to B

Q29: At present, do you think or not think that the Japanese politics is going well? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Going well
2. Going well to some extent
3. Not going so well
4. Not going well

Q30: At present, do you think or not think that the Japanese economy is going well? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Going well
2. Going well to some extent
3. Not going so well
4. Not going well

Q31: Please recall the one before the last House of Councilors election held in 2007 (the prime minister of the time was Shinzo Abe). Did you vote in the election? Or did you abstain or did not

have the voting rights? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Voted
2. Abstained
3. Did not have the voting rights

[To those who chose 1. Voted in Q31]

SQ1: Which party's candidate did you vote for in the single-seat constituency? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)
2. Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ)
3. Clean Government Party (Komeito/CGP)
4. Social Democratic Party (SDP)
5. Japan Communist Party (JCP)
6. People's New Party
7. New Party Nippon
8. Other
9. Independent

SQ2: Which party's candidate did you vote for in in the proportional-representation constituency in which you vote for an individual or political party? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)
2. Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ)
3. Clean Government Party (Komeito/CGP)
4. Social Democratic Party (SDP)
5. Japan Communist Party (JCP)
6. People's New Party
7. New Party Nippon
8. Other

[To all]

Q32: In the House of Councilors elections, how many councilors are elected from the proportional representation constituency and the single-seat constituency, respectively? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. 50 in the proportional representation constituency, 72 in the single-seat constituency
2. 41 in the proportional representation constituency, 70 in the single-seat constituency
3. 45 in the proportional representation constituency, 76 in the single-seat constituency
4. 48 in the proportional representation constituency, 73 in the single-seat constituency

Q33: When the decisions on a proposed bill are different between the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors, the proposed bill will be enacted if the House of Representatives pass it again. In such case, how many of yeas do you think are necessary in the House of Representatives to pass a bill? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Majority of the members present
2. Majority of the all members
3. Two-thirds of the members present
4. Two-thirds of the all members

Q34: Which political system do you think is the most desirable for the House of Representatives election?

1. Medium-sized constituency or system based on it
2. Small-sized constituency or system based on it
3. Proportional representation constituency or system based on it

Q35: Which political system do you think is the most desirable for the House of Councilors election?

1. Medium-sized constituency or system based on it
2. Small-sized constituency or system based on it
3. Proportional representation constituency or system based on it

Q36: In this House of Councilors election, which policy did you consider the most? How about the second, and the third?

The Most

The Second

The Third

1. Diplomacy and security
2. Fiscal and monetary
3. Industrial policy
4. Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries
5. Education and child-rearing
6. Pension and medical treatment
7. Employment and finding jobs
8. Public security
9. Environment
10. Political and administrative reform
11. Decentralization of power
12. Constitution (revision or not)
13. Earthquake disaster reconstruction and prevention
14. Social Structure (ex. infrastructure)
15. Nuclear power plant and energy
16. Other

Q37-1: How much do you feel the politics of the prefecture you live in is trustworthy? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. A lot
2. A little
3. No so much
4. Almost no trust

Q37-2: How much do you feel the politics of the municipality you live in is trustworthy? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. A lot
2. A little
3. No so much
4. Almost no trust

Q37-3: How much do you feel the politics of the municipality you live in is trustworthy? (Please circle only one choice.)

1. A lot
2. A little
3. No so much
4. Almost no trust

Q38: Do you like or dislike the following countries? (Please circle only one choice for each item.)

- (1) The United States
- (2) China
- (3) Russia
- (4) EU and European countries
- (5) South Korea
- (6) Taiwan
- (7) Australia
- (8) Turkey
- (9) Brazil
- (10) North Korea

1. Like a lot
2. Like a little
3. Dislike a little
4. Dislike a lot

Q39: Which newspaper is the ones from which you usually gain information about politics? (Please circle as many items as necessary)

1. Yomiuri Shinbun
2. Asahi Shinbun
3. Mainichi Shinbun
4. Sankei Shinbun
5. Nihon Keizai Shinbun
6. Kahoku Shinpo
7. Chunichi Shinbun

8. Kobe Shinbun
9. Chugoku Shinbun
10. Nishi Nihon Shinbun
11. Other newspaper

[Face Sheet]

F1 Gender

1. Male
2. Female

F2 Age

(What is your birthday and how old are you in completed years?)

F3 Residential years: Have you continued to live in this area (within a 30-minute walk around this town, village and apartment block) since your birth? Or did you move here from somewhere else? If you have temporarily moved anywhere else after you were born around here, please choose "Lived here since birth." (Please circle only one choice.)

1. Live here since birth
2. Moved from somewhere else

[Ask those who answered “2. Moved from somewhere else” in F3]

F3-1 How long have you lived in this area (within a 30-minute walk around this town, village and apartment block)? If you have temporarily moved someplace else, please choose the answer that is the closest to the total years of your residence around here.

1. Less than 3
2. 4 to 9
3. 10 to 14
4. More than 15

Thank you for your cooperation.