![IHP — Institute for Health Policy logo]

72, Park Street, Colombo 2, Sri Lanka

Tel: +94 11 231 4041/2/3/5   Fax: +94 11 231 4040

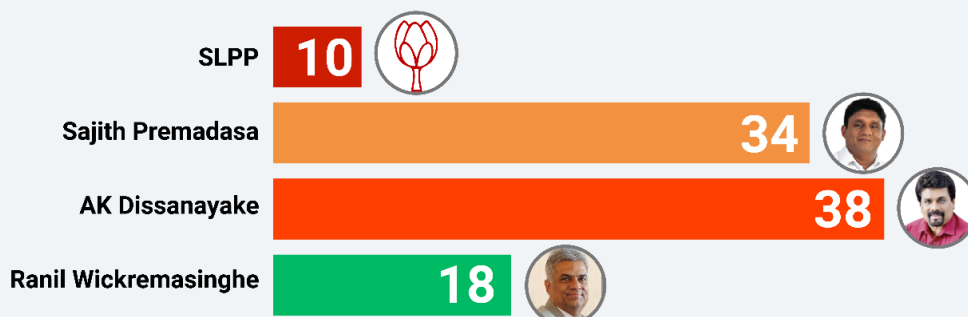e-mail: info@ihp.lk   web: www.ihp.lk   twitter: @ihplk

PRESS RELEASE

Pres. Ranil Wickremesinghe & SLPP continue to gain support in May
IHP Presidential Election Voting Intentions Update May 2023

In May polling for IHP's Sri Lanka Opinion Tracker Survey (SLOTS) MRP tracking of Presidential Election voting intent, support for NPP/JVP leader AK Dissanayake and SJB leader Sajith Premadasa fell to 38% and 34%, respectively amongst likely voters. Support went to President Ranil Wickremesinghe and the generic SLPP candidate, increasing to 18% and 10% respectively. Estimates are associated with a margin of error of 1–4%.

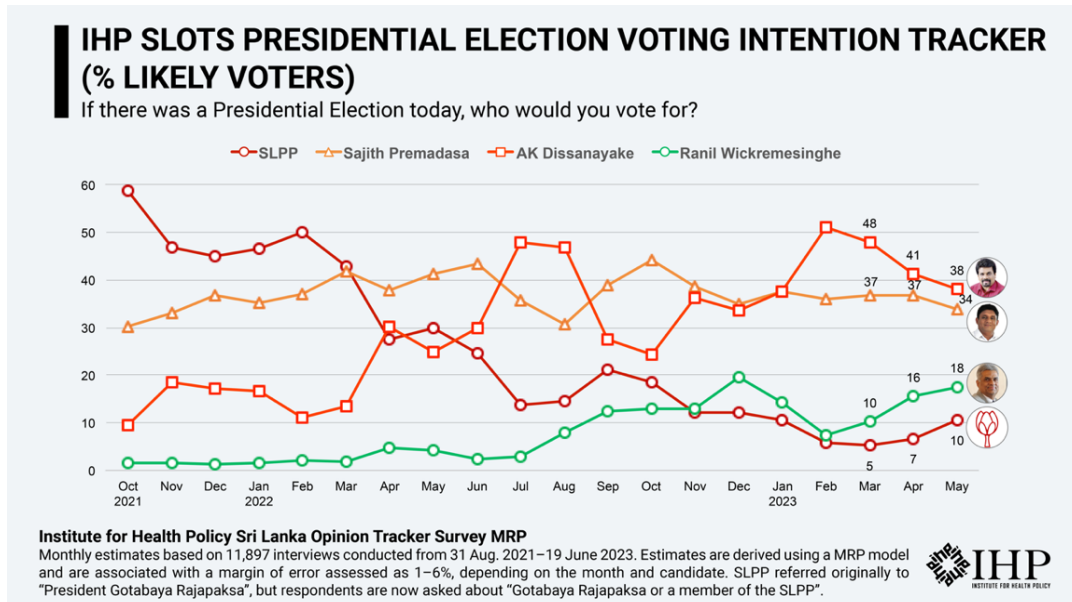**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION VOTING INTENTION, May 2023 (% LIKELY VOTERS)**
If there was a Presidential Election today, who would you vote for?

Candidate	%
SLPP	10
Sajith Premadasa	34
AK Dissanayake	38
Ranil Wickremasinghe	18

Institute for Health Policy Sri Lanka Opinion Tracker Survey MRP
Estimates based on 630 interviews conducted in May. 2023, and 11,897 interviews conducted overall from 31 Aug. 2021–19 June. 2023. Estimates are derived from a MRP model and are associated with a margin of error assessed as 1–4%. SLPP referred originally to "President Gotabaya Rajapaksa" but respondents are now asked about a generic SLPP candidate.

The changes in May maintain the pattern seen since mid-2022, when support for President Gotabaya Rajapaksa collapsed largely to the benefit of NPP/JVP leader AK Dissanayake. Support for Sajith Premadasa continues to fluctuate in the 30–40% range, whilst support swings between AK Dissanayake on one side, and President Ranil Wickremesinghe and the generic SLPP candidate on the other.

IHP SLOTS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION VOTING INTENTION TRACKER (% LIKELY VOTERS)
If there was a Presidential Election today, who would you vote for?

Institute for Health Policy Sri Lanka Opinion Tracker Survey MRP
Monthly estimates based on 11,897 interviews conducted from 31 Aug. 2021–19 June 2023. Estimates are derived using a MRP model and are associated with a margin of error assessed as 1–6%, depending on the month and candidate. SLPP referred originally to "President Gotabaya Rajapaksa", but respondents are now asked about "Gotabaya Rajapaksa or a member of the SLPP".

Related Reports

Institute for Health Policy, February 2023, "IHP MRP Voting Intentions Update February 2023: Voters consolidate around the NPP/JVP, SJB and ITAK, with NPP/JVP taking a clear lead", SLOTS Report #2023-06
Available at: *https://www.ihp.lk/publications/docs/SLOTSReport202306.pdf*

Institute for Health Policy, April 2023, "IHP Presidential Election Voting Intentions Update March 2023: AK Dissanayake (48%) leads Sajith Premadasa (37%) in Presidential Election voter preferences".
Available at: *https://www.ihp.lk/publications/docs/SLOTSReport202309.pdf*

Institute for Health Policy, May 2023, "Support for AK Dissanayake slips to 45%, but still leads Sajith Premadasa (37%). IHP MRP Presidential Election voting intentions update April 2023", IHP Press Release #2023-16.
Available at: https://ihp.lk/news/pres_doc/IHPPressRelease20230526.pdf

About IHP

IHP is an independent, non-partisan research centre based in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The SLOTS lead investigator is Dr Ravi Rannan-Eliya of IHP, who has trained in public opinion polling at Harvard University and has conducted numerous surveys over three decades.

Methodology

SLOTS combines interviews from 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. IHP estimates voting intent using an adaptation of Multilevel Regression and Post-Stratification (MRP), with multiple imputation to account for uncertainties in its modelling, exploiting data from all SLOTS interviews to estimate voting in a particular month.

The May 2023 MRP estimates are based on 630 interviews conducted in May 2023, and 11,897 interviews conducted overall from 31 August 2021–19 June 2023, with a margin of error assessed as 2–4% for AK Dissanayake and Sajith Premadasa, and 1–3% for the other two potential candidates. All estimates are adjusted to ensure the sample matches the national population with respect to age, sex, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, education, geographical location, and voting in the 2019 Presidential and 2020 General Elections.

Funding