

*Summary and Analysis of Survey on
Living Conditions of Citizens in Taiwan
For the Year of 1998, R.O.C.
Period of Survey: March to May, 1998*

The Department of Statistics, the Ministry of the Interior (the Ministry) entrusted the Poll Association of R.O.C. to organize the "Survey on People's Living Conditions in Taiwan" from March to May in 1998. The survey was aimed at people over the age of 20 in each household and able to represent the opinion of said household about people's living conditions. 2,475 people were chosen by means of random sampling for interviews. The methods of survey were mainly by mail and by telephone or sending personnel for interviews as the assistance. The reliability of the survey is over 95% and the error less than 2%.

The purpose of survey was to study Taiwanese people's satisfaction on the lives in 1998, their expectations on lives in future, the works they think the government should reinforce, and their understanding of information about historical remains. These data will be provided to the relevant authorities of the Ministry and the government as the reference for administrative decision-making. The significant results of the survey are summarized as follows:

- I. People's satisfaction on current living conditions, rating higher on marriage life and parent-child relationship, both close to 90%
 1. As indicated by the survey, for people's satisfaction on current living conditions, it rates higher on marriage life (87.1%) and parent-child relationship (87.0%), but lower on traffic conditions (20.1%) and public security (10.2%).
 2. The satisfaction on current lives rates 57.9% and that on the lives three years ago rated 58.6%. People are less satisfied with current lives mainly because of the influence of problems regarding traffic and public security.

- II. The social welfare that people think urgently in need of reinforcement currently are elderly welfare and social aids
 1. The first four items of social welfare works the interviewees think urgently in need of reinforcement currently are: elderly welfare 46.6%, social aids (including aids for low-income families and emergency aids) 34.6%, medical care 25.7% and national health insurance 22.8%.
 2. For the increased parts in the social welfare works urgently in need of reinforcement as compared to that in 1997, elderly welfare has the largest increase, 9.3%. Next is the welfare for the impaired, an increase of 3.7%; then social aids 3.1%, and children welfare also slightly increased 0.6%. These figures indicate that people are very concerned about the demands on elderly welfare, welfare for the impaired, social aids and children welfare. For the decreased parts, medical care has the largest decrease, 9.8%. Next is assistance for

employment, a decrease of 2.6% and public housing decreased 2.1%. These figures indicate that these social welfare works are largely improved than before.

3. The aforesaid indicates that elderly welfare, what concerns people most is social aids (including aids for low-income families and emergency aids), welfare for the impaired and children welfare.

III. 40% of the interviewees ever participated in social and charity activities in last year, most donated money

1. The rate of the interviewee's ever-participated in social and voluntary activities in the last one year stands at 42.8%. The activities most participated is money donation, 47.8%. Next is blood donation, 30.7%; voluntary charity and service of religious groups, 21.7%; and community service (including cleaning lanes and alleys), 20.7%. The activities less participated are volunteer police, volunteer fire squad, civil defense squad, 3.7%; health and care service, 3.6%; counseling and assistance service (such Teacher Chang, Life Line etc.), 3.2%.

IV. People's expectations on the lives in future, expectation on peaceful lives at old age rating highest

1. As indicated in the results of survey on the expectations on the lives in future, the expectation on peaceful lives at old age rates highest, 28.9%. Next is to live in one's own house, 24.2%; and certain amount of saving for living, 24.1%. The lower includes frequent participation in voluntary or obligatory social service works, 6.9%; frequent participation in religious activities, 2.8%; and having social status or fame, 2.4%.
2. For the increased parts in people's expectation on the lives in future compared to those in 1997, the expectation on peaceful lives at old age has the largest increase, 2.4%. Next is certain amount saving for living, 1.8%. These figures indicate that people's requirements for lives and secure economy at old age are increasing. For the decreased parts, the expectation on living in one's own house has the largest decrease, 4.1%. And living in a natural environment which is good for physical and mental health has also decreased 2.3%.

V. The works people think the government must reinforce quickly to solve traffic problems rating highest at 40%, the works to stop bribery and corruption rating second highest at 29%.

1. The works that the interviewees think the government must quickly to solve is traffic problem, which is rate highest at 40%. Next is the work to stop bribery and corruption, 29.2%; and then protection for safety of women and children, protection of rights of women and children, 25.1%.
2. To compare with the results three years ago (1995), what has seen prominent improvement is the works to stop bribery and corruption, an increase of 7.6%. What is better improved is the works to solve traffic problems, decreased 14.4%; and construction of public housing (to solve the problem of insufficient housing) decreased 9.6%.

- VI. The first five most visited historical remains, in sequence by the number of visitors, the Red Hair City in Tamsui, Chiao-Tien Temple in Peikang, Lung-Shan Temple in Wanhua, Taichung Train Station, Chi-Kan Tower in Tainan
1. The First Ten Historical Remains that the interviewees mainly visit, in sequence by the number of visitors, are the Red Hair City in Tamsui, Chiao-Tien Temple in Peikang, Lung-Shan Temple in Wanhua, Taichung Train Station, Chi-Kan Tower in Tainan, Confucius Temple in Tainan, Tien-Ho Temple in Lukang, the Remains of Taiwan City (An-Ping Old Castle), Dai-Tien Temple in Nankunshen.
 2. For the interviewees' overall opinions of these major historical remains for tourists, satisfaction on the opening hours rates highest, 43.0%. Next is satisfaction on the overall environment and landscape of remains, 40.8%. However, dissatisfaction on parking facilities of remains rates 40.3%, the highest among all questions. This indicates the urgent demand for parking facilities of remains.