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PRE-ELECTION NATIONAL SURVEY KEY FINDINGS, INDONESIA



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Pre-Election National Survey – Key Findings
Indonesia, December 2013

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Pre-Election National Survey – Key Findings Indonesia, December 2013

In December 2013, Lembaga Survey Indonesia (LSI), with support from the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), fielded a national survey focused on electoral process issues in Indonesia. Key findings reveal that most Indonesians say they are likely to vote in the 2014 elections, and are aware of and have confidence in electoral authorities – particularly in the election commission, the [Komisi Pemilihan Umum](#) (KPU). They also say they need more information about a number of issues related to voting, political parties, candidates and their platforms as well as other aspects of the electoral process. Most citizens who are eligible to vote also believe they are registered but lack information on the process to check their registration status and, if necessary, add their name to the voter list.

Methodology

LSI's fieldwork took place from December 17-30, 2013. The base national sample for the survey consisted of 1,890 interviews in 33 provinces of Indonesia. Additional over-sample interviews were also conducted in select provinces (Aceh, Maluku, Papua and West Papua). This report is based on weighted data that is representative of the national population of Indonesia. The margin of error is +/- 2.3%. Some findings in this document reference data from previous IFES surveys conducted in Indonesia in 2008, 2009 and 2010. IFES has worked with Indonesian partners such as LSI to conduct several surveys focused on the electoral process since 1999. These surveys provide a valuable source of trend data on elections in Indonesia, and provide important context for the findings from this year's survey.

Key Findings

More than two-thirds of Indonesians are aware of the KPU, while there is lower awareness of other electoral bodies. Among those aware of these electoral bodies, there is a high level of trust in the institutions. A majority of those aware of the KPU are also satisfied with its handling of various electoral issues and its success in maintaining independence from political pressures.

- Respondents were asked a series of questions as to whether or not they are aware of various electoral institutions in Indonesia. Those that are aware of a particular institution were then asked how much confidence they had in each institution. More than half of Indonesians are aware of the KPU (67%), the election oversight body (*Badan Pengawas Pemilihan Umum*, Bawaslu) (52%), the Regional Election Commission (Provincial KPU) (51%) and the District Election Commission (District KPU) (52%). Less than half of Indonesians are aware of the District Election Oversight Committee (District Panwas) (48%), the Provincial Election Oversight Committee (Provincial Bawaslu) (43%) and the Honorary Council of Election Management Bodies (*Dewan Kehormatan Penyelenggara Pemilu*, DKPP) (25%).
- Among Indonesians who are aware of these electoral institutions, a majority exhibits trust in the electoral institutions.

- KPU – 76% (an increase from 2008 – 71%)
 - Bawaslu – 75%
 - Provincial KPU – 77%
 - District KPU – 79%
 - Provincial Bawaslu – 77%
 - District Panwas – 78%
 - DKPP – 80%
- Respondents were given a series of statements about the work of the KPU and were asked if they were satisfied with the KPU's work in that area. Forty-four percent says they are satisfied with the KPU's use of social media to reach out to voters in Indonesia. Additionally, 63% of Indonesians are satisfied with the KPU's performance in compiling and establishing the voter list for Election Day; 61% are satisfied with how the KPU ensures election results are accurate; and 60% are satisfied with their work in informing and educating the public about the election process. Finally, 56% say they are satisfied with how the KPU maintains independence from political pressures in its administration of elections.

At the same time that the vast majority of Indonesians profess a likelihood to vote in the upcoming legislative elections, the majority of Indonesians also say they do not have much or any information about the 2014 legislative and presidential elections. Only 22% say they have a great deal or fair amount of information. The majority of Indonesians report needing more information on key election issues such as voter registration, where and when to vote, and how to mark a ballot. Survey data indicates that while television is used for election information by all segments of the population, local officials are also a primary source of information particularly among rural and older residents. These findings suggest that a comprehensive voter education effort should use media, local officials and informal sources of information to provide vitally-needed information to the Indonesian electorate.

- Ninety percent of Indonesians say they are very likely to vote in the April 9, 2014, legislative elections with another 9% indicating they are somewhat likely to vote in the election. The vast majority of respondents in all major population subgroups say they are very likely to participate. When considering the percentage of Indonesians who say they are very likely to vote, it should be noted that the general pattern in pre-election surveys is that the percentage of respondents professing a likelihood to vote is higher than the actual turnout for an election. Still, data from the survey does indicate that turnout for the 2014 legislative elections will be close to or higher than turnout levels observed during the 2009 legislative elections.
- While the majority of Indonesians say they are likely to vote, the vast majority also does not believe that they have received much information about the legislative and presidential elections. Fifty-two percent of Indonesians say they do not have very much information about the elections, while a further 21% say they do not have any information on the elections. Only 22% say they either have a great deal (2%) or a fair amount (20%) of information on the upcoming elections. Among those who said they have no information at all, education seems to have a big impact, with 31% of those having completed elementary school saying they have no information at all, compared to 7% of those with college or university degrees. This data is similar to data from the March 2009 national survey, when a few said they either had a great deal (1%) or a fair amount (20%) of information about the upcoming elections.

- Respondents were also asked a series of questions on whether they have enough information on certain aspects of the electoral process or whether they need more information. Fifty percent of respondents say they need more information on all of the electoral processes, while 13% say they have sufficient information about all of the electoral processes.
 - 67% need more information about voter registration.
 - 73% need more information on participating political parties.
 - 78% need more information about legislative candidates.
 - 79% need more information of party visions, missions and programs.
 - 71% need more information on where and when to vote.
 - 69% need more information on voting procedures and how to mark the ballot.
 - 72% need more information on seat allocation.
 - 72% need more information on how candidates are elected.
- When asked to name the documents that can be used to prove their identity at the polling station. Forty-six percent say that voters can use a voting invitation card, 35% mention a voter card and 24% say that the national ID card (*Kartu Tanda Penduduk*, KTP) can be used to prove identity at the polls. It should be noted that the KPU does not plan to issue voter cards for this election.
- Respondents were also asked to select the appropriate way to mark the ballot for the legislative elections. Sixty-eight percent correctly mention that the voter should punch the ballot. A significant percentage, however, mention some variant of checking the ballot as being valid (11% checking the ballot, 9% punching or checking the ballot, 2% punching and checking the ballot). The KPU has ruled that only punching the ballot will be considered a valid vote, and survey data indicates that this information should be made widely available before the election.
- Indonesians use a variety of sources to obtain information about elections. The majority of Indonesians use television (65%) as their source of information. However, other Indonesians turn to the head of the neighborhood (*rukun tetangga*, RT) (16%); family and friends (17%); the head of the village (12%); newspapers and magazines (10%); and posters, billboards and pamphlets (10%) among other sources of information about elections. The usage of television is highest in Aceh, where 78% use this source, as opposed to a low of 41% in Bali, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) and West Nusa Tenggara (NTB). Similarly, urban voters rely more heavily on television (68%) as opposed to those in rural areas (52%). Television is used more among voters under 25 (70%) and those from 25-39 (70%), as opposed to those over 54 (53%). Those over 54 are more likely to rely on the head of the RT (24%) than those under 25 (8%). The number of Indonesians that use different mediums for information about the election mirrors the trust in these different areas. Fifty-six percent of Indonesians say that they trust the television most as a source of information about elections, followed by the head of the RT (13%), the head of the village (10%), and family and friends (8%). Trust of television as a source of information is highest in Aceh (79%) and Kalimantan (69%), which contrasts with a low level of trust in Bali, NTT and NTB (31%). Overall, television is more trusted in urban areas (63%) than it is in rural areas (49%).
- Indonesians were asked what they thought was the most effective way to encourage people to get out and vote on Election Day. Thirty-six percent said that advertising campaigns on television would be the most effective method for encouraging people to vote. Others say that the best way would be debates

or dialogues among the candidates (8%), informal meetings (8%), talk-show programs on television or radio (8%), and debates or dialogues among the candidates (8%). Support for television advertising campaigns was highest in Aceh (49%), whereas only 13% of respondents in Bali, NTT and NTB mention this option.

The survey data shows that while most Indonesians believe they are registered to vote, a significant percentage report that their household has not been visited by someone in their community to check on their registration status. The vast majority of Indonesians also say they have not seen any information on how to check their registration status, and a similar percentage report they have not checked their voter registration status.

- Eighty-six percent of Indonesians say they are definitely or probably registered to vote. A slightly higher amount of men (72%) compared to women (69%) say they are “definitely registered” and approximately 15% of men and women say they are “probably registered.” Residents of Bali, NTT and NTB are least likely to say they are definitely registered to vote (62%), while residents of Kalimantan are most likely to voice this opinion (81%).
- Slightly over half of Indonesians (53%) report that someone from their community had come to check their household’s voter registration status. In Bali, NTT and NTB, only 40% say this is the case, the lowest among all regions in the country.
- Over two-thirds of Indonesians say they have not heard or seen any information on how they can check the voter register for the 2014 elections. Only 29% say they have heard or seen information on how they can check the voter register. Indonesians who have heard about the ability to check the voter register have mostly received this information from the television (53%), and RT heads and election officials (40%).
- Consistent with the findings about information on checking voter registration status, the survey finds that only 33% of Indonesians have checked to see if their name is on the voter list. Information on how to check one’s status is an important factor in Indonesians checking their status. Among those who have seen information on how to check their status, 50% have checked; whereas, only 25% of those who have not seen this information checked their status.
- The survey finds that while most Indonesians have a KTP (national ID card), among those 17-25, 15% do not have a KTP. Eighty percent of Indonesians overall report having the new electronic KTP (e-KTP). Data from the e-KTP is the basis for the population data given to the KPU so it can create the voter list. In Bali, NTT and NTB, approximately equal numbers of residents reported having the old KTP (42%) as the new e-KTP (48%). Ninety-six percent of Indonesians report living in the place of residence listed on their KTP, with roughly equal proportions of men (96%) and women (95%) reporting this.

For those interested in further information on this LSI-IFES survey, please visit www.rumahpemilu.org to access this document as well as data charts on several important issues covered in this survey.

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