

Invoke survey shows Pakatan pips BN in support from 'Malays'

Free Malaysia Today

July 20, 2017

By Nawar Firdaws

However, 1% advantage includes Sabah and Sarawak Bumiputera respondents who were all placed under the 'Malay' category.

KUALA LUMPUR: Pakatan Harapan (PH) has more “Malay” and Chinese support than Barisan Nasional (BN) does, giving rise to the probability of the latter losing the next general election, says PKR vice-president Rafizi Ramli.

At a press conference here today, Rafizi said this statistic was based on results of a nationwide survey recently conducted by PKR-linked Invoke, a body for which he is the coordinator.

Of the 17,107 registered voters polled, 11,769 (69%) were Malays, 3,377 (20%) were Chinese, 1,046 (6%) were Sabah and Sarawak Bumiputera, while the remaining 915 (5%) were Indians.

The survey found that 36% of the “Malay” respondents had either directly or indirectly expressed support for PH, just 1% higher than the number of those who supported BN.

Only 14% appeared to be supporting PAS, while another 15% are still on the fence.

It is important to note, however, that the answers provided by Sabah and Sarawak Bumiputera respondents were lumped under the “Malay” category.

According to Rafizi, if they were to have their own category, they would have to be divided into different ethnicities which would make the numbers “so small and insignificant”.

Rafizi said the survey also found that 53% of the Chinese respondents directly or indirectly stated their support for PH, more than double the support expressed for BN, which is 22%.

Another 23% are undecided, and only 1% expressed support for PAS.

For the Indian respondents, majority of them, 44%, said their support lies with BN. PH was not far behind, with 42%, 10% are still on the fence, while 3% support PAS.

“With this level of support, there is a reasonable probability that BN will be defeated in the 14th general election.

“However, this is also subject to PH successfully offering solutions to three issues that are most important to voters,” Rafizi said, before naming the three issues as the rising cost of living, stagnant salaries that do not match inflation, and the influx of foreign workers.

The statistics were also based on a question about which party they supported, which were then adjusted according to the answers they gave to six other survey questions.

The questions, Rafizi said, were purposely biased against BN or PAS to differentiate between supporters of the two parties and PH.

“So they may say they are on the fence, but when we study their answers (to the other six questions), we found that they are actually a supporter of PH,” he said.

The survey was conducted through random phone calls, made by Invoke between June 5 to July 14 this year. Over 2.67 million registered voters were contacted, but only 17,071 provided answers to all the questions asked.

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Source: <http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2017/07/20/invoke-survey-shows-pakatan-pips-bn-in-support-from-malays/>