

PRESS RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL

Date: 26 September 2023
Time: 12:00 PM Sri Lanka Time

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Dalreen Barthelot
Email: dalreen 'at' ihp.lk

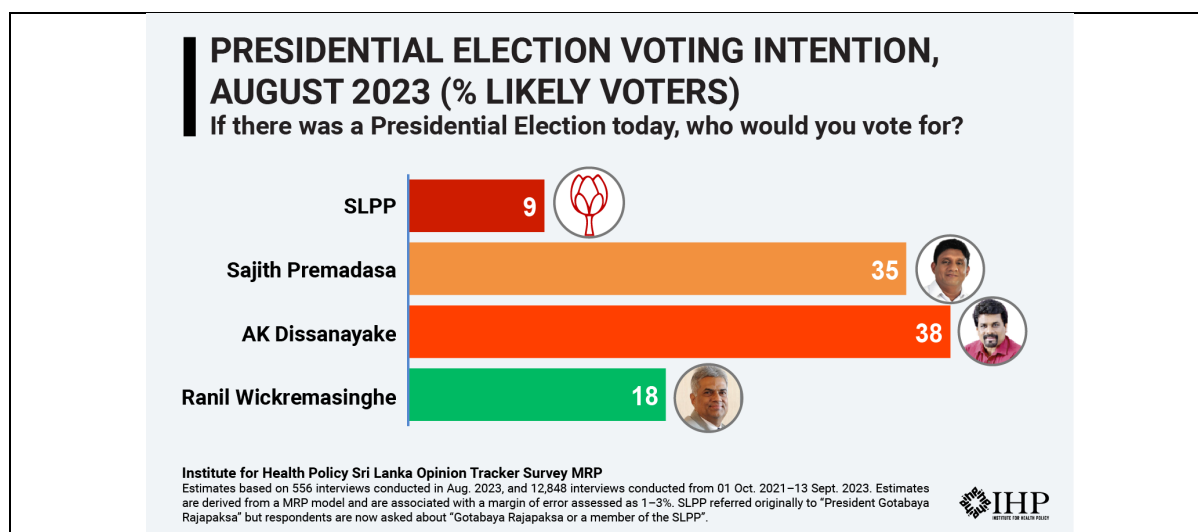
TO CONTACT LEAD INVESTIGATOR

Dr. Ravi Rannan-Eliya
Email: ravi 'at' ihp.lk Twitter: @ravirannaneliya

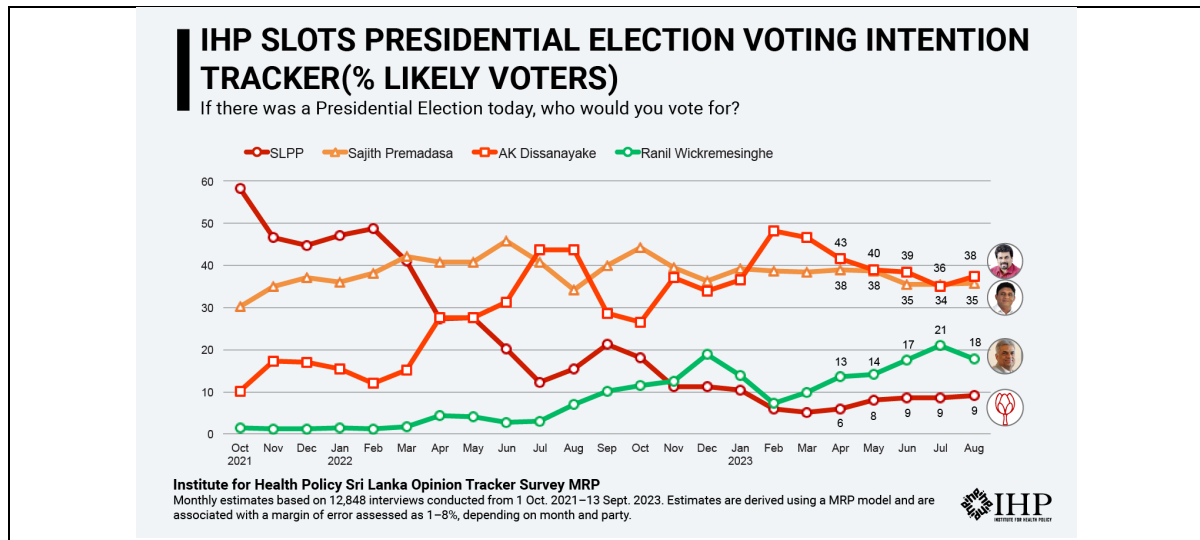
AK Dissanayake (38) and Sajith Premadasa (35) continue to lead in Presidential Election voting preferences

IHP Presidential Election Voting Intentions Update August 2023

IHP's Sri Lanka Opinion Tracker Survey (SLOTS) MRP estimates of Presidential Election voting intent in August 2023 show little change in likely voters' support. NPP/JVP leader AK Dissanayake and SJB leader Sajith Premadasa continue to lead with just over a third of adults preferring each, and one in five voters preferring Pres. Ranil Wickremesinghe on 18%. A generic SLPP candidate continues to maintain support of one in ten likely voters (9%).



The past four months have seen a small uptick in support for President Wickremesinghe, with the NPP/JVP leader retaining a small advantage over the SJB leader.



Related Reports

Institute for Health Policy, March 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, “AK Dissanayake (48%) leads Sajith Premadasa (37%) in a potential Presidential Election. IHP Presidential Election Voting Intentions Update March 2023”, SLOTS Report #2023-12

Available at: https://ihp.lk/news/pres_doc/IHPPressRelease20230420.pdf

Institute for Health Policy, May 2023, “Support for AK Dissanayake slips to 45%, but still leads Sajith Premadasa (37%). IHP Presidential Election Voting Intentions Update April 2023”, IHP Press Release #2023-16.

Available at: https://ihp.lk/news/pres_doc/IHPPressRelease20230526.pdf

Institute for Health Policy, June 2023, “Pres.Ranil Wickremesinghe & SLPP continue to gain support in May. IHP Presidential Election Voting Intentions Update May 2023”, IHP Press Release #2023-19.

Available at: https://ihp.lk/news/pres_doc/IHPPressRelease202306302.pdf

Institute for Health Policy, July 2023, “Little change in Presidential voting intention in June 2023: AKD 40%, Sajith 35%, Ranil 15%. IHP/SLOTS MRP Presidential Election Voting Intention Update June 2023”, IHP Press Release #2023-23.

Available at: https://ihp.lk/news/pres_doc/IHPPressRelease20230728.pdf

Institute for Health Policy, August 2023, “Pres. Ranil Wickremesinghe continues to gain support in a potential Presidential poll. IHP/SLOTS MRP Presidential Election Voting Intention Update July 2023”, IHP Press Release #2023-27.

Available at: https://ihp.lk/news/pres_doc/IHPPressRelease20230822.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 August 2023 MRP estimates are based on 556 interviews conducted in August 2023, and 12,848 interviews conducted overall from 1 October 2021–13 September 2023, with a margin of error assessed as 3–4% for AK Dissanayake, Sajith Premadasa and Ranil Wickremesinghe, and 1–2% for the other potential candidate. 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

The SLOTS has been funded by the Neelan Tiruchelvam Trust, the UK National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), The Asia Foundation in Sri Lanka, and others, but the sponsors play no role in the study design, analysis, or interpretation of findings. Interested parties can contact IHP for more detailed data and results.