



SOLUTIONS TO THE CONFLICT

MILITARY CAPACITY

HUMAN RIGHTS

MEDIA FREEDOM

COST OF LIVING

ASSESSMENT OF THE PRESIDENT

PEACE CONFIDENCE INDEX

NOVEMBER 2007



CENTRE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES
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Making Social Research Count

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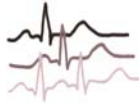
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INTRODUCTION

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this study is two-fold. One is to develop a numerical indicator of the level of public confidence in the peace process using a set of standardized questions, which remain unchanged with each wave. The other is to use a set of questions related to recent social, economic and political developments in order to gauge public opinion on the situation of peace and conflict, which by definition will change from one wave to another.

Such information, collected over a period of time, will provide civil society and policy makers a useful barometer of the Sri Lankan public's opinions, and ensure that such collective opinions are given due importance and incorporated into the policy debate.

SCOPE & METHODOLOGY

The survey is carried out using a structured questionnaire administered through face-to-face interviews amongst a randomly selected sample of 1600. This survey was conducted in 20 administrative districts, excluding the North due to the security situation prevailing in that region. Data is weighted to reflect the actual ethnographic composition of the districts in which the sample was surveyed.

This is the twenty seventh wave of the PCI study, which was first conducted in May 2001. This publication presents only the top-line results of the November 2007 survey.

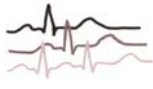
The results of these twenty seven waves offer us data for a comparative study on changing public opinion regarding key issues, ranging from perceptions on war and peace to current political developments. The results are subject to a 3% margin of error.

** This particular wave of the PCI used a snowball sampling technique to select the sample in the Eastern province and the Tamil community that participated in the survey were selected using the same sampling technique. The Tamil community were chosen from the Eastern districts of Ampara, Batticaloa and Trincomalee as well as from the city of Colombo.

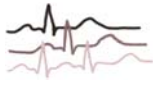


KEY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS JUNE 2007 – NOVEMBER 2007

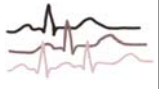
- Releasing its first public statement since its establishment in February, the International Independent Group of Eminent Persons (IIGEP) on June 11 observed that the Presidential Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights had made little noticeable headway in investigations since its inception in November last year.-Daily Mirror, June 12, 2007
- The Armed Forces destroyed a number of satellite camps of the LTTE around Thoppigala in retaliatory attacks, Army Commander Lt.Gen Sarath Fonseka told *The Island* on June 11.-The Island, June 12, 2007
- The UK on June 12 called for an early resumption of direct negotiations with the LTTE. Dr. Howells expressed serious concern over the deteriorating human rights situation while reiterating that the ban on the LTTE would not be lifted as long as it engaged in terrorism.-The Island, June 13, 2007
- The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) has launched a series awareness programmes for Police officers.-The Island, June 14, 2007
- Just a day after Defence Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapaksa justified the eviction of Tamil lodgers from Colombo Minister Jeyaraj Fernandopulle on June 13 added more controversy to the issue by countering the statement made by Prime Minister Ratnasiri Wickremanayake over the weekend on the eviction stating that there was no need to express regret over the move and insisted that all 300 Tamils were sent to Vavuniya after getting their 'verbal consent' in Colombo and subsequently written consent in Vavuniya. -Daily Mirror, June 14, 2007
- The independence of Sri Lanka's judicial institutions has been a subject of scrutiny at the fifth session of the UN Human Rights Council which began proceedings on Monday, according to reports received from Geneva. -Daily Mirror, June 14, 2007
- The UN office in Colombo on June 13 expressed its concern regarding what it termed as groundless accusations made against its staff in the international media by Defence Ministry Secretary Gatabhaya Rajapaksa-Daily Mirror, June 14, 2007
- Cabinet spokesman Anura Priyadharsana Yapa on June 14 announced that Prime Minister Ratnasiri Wickremanayaka's expression of regret over the incident was the official government position. -Daily Mirror, June 15, 2007
- For the first time in the history of the war, it has been disclosed that the Sri Lankan military has been ordered to kill Velupillai Prabhakaran and finish off the LTTE once and for all.This statement was made by Defence Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapakse.-The Island, June 15, 2007
- Amnesty International Secretary General Irene Khan has urged President Mahinda Rajapakse to use his executive power to invite the United Nations to set up a strong human rights field operation in Sri Lanka, to investigate and verify serious human rights abuses committed countrywide. -The Island, June 16, 2007
- After the last Presidential election in November 2005 the Scandinavian truce monitoring mission has recorded over 100 percent increase in CFA violations by government security forces and police. -The Island, June 17, 2007
- A briefing by a government delegation at the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) saw a heated exchange of words between the Ministerial team and NGOs who raised concerns of human rights violations in Sri Lanka. -Daily Mirror, June 18, 2007
- Sacked UPFA Ministers Mangala Samaraweera and Sripathy Sooriyaarachchi shocked the House on June 19 by crossing over to the Opposition benches, shortly before noon, after making brief statements. -The Island, June 20, 2007
- India has once again reiterated the need for political dialogue in Sri Lanka as a solution to the ongoing conflict while ruling out any support for the LTTE. -Daily Mirror, June 22, 2007
- A special unit of the Criminal Investigation Department arrested former Air Force Squadron Leader Nishantha Gajanayaka on June 21, allegedly in connection with the ongoing probe into the recent spate of abductions, extortions and killings. -Daily Mirror, June 22, 2007



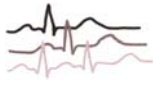
- President Mahinda Rajapaksa warned senior party members last night he would be forced to dissolve parliament if the present crisis created by the crossovers was aggravated with more dissidents joining the SLFP (Mahajana Wing). –Daily Mirror, June 23, 2007
- A deeply concerned Sri Lankan government is likely to draw China's attention to a clandestine arms pipeline to the LTTE amidst growing evidence that the group has acquired a sizeable quantity of Chinese manufactured equipment. –The Island, June 24, 2007
- An all out effort by the LTTE to boost its fighting strength in the Wanni has triggered a flight of civilians. –The Island, June 25, 2007
- A powerful claymore mine, weighing 20 kilos, was found by the Borella Police on June 26 in Skanda Devale Road, Obeysekerapura. –The Island, June 27, 2007
- The Army is conducting the final stage of the humanitarian operation, to completely liberate the East. –The Island, June 27, 2007
- Peace broker Norway said today it was ready to help revive talks to end two decades of war in Sri Lanka if the warring parties sought its help. –Daily Mirror, July 2, 2007
- Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger rebels and a breakaway faction seen allied to the government, are both still recruiting children as soldiers, despite pledges to the contrary, UNICEF said on July 2. –Daily Mirror, July 3, 2007
- The Government on July 4 claimed to have made a major breakthrough in the abduction and killing saga with the arrest of at least 10 new suspects apart from the former Air Force officer Nishantha Gajanayake, another airman and four police officers. –Daily Mirror, July 5, 2007
- The Government on July 5 said that Norwegian Special Envoy Jon Hanssen-Bauer has not been invited to visit LTTE controlled Killinochchi. –The Island, July 6, 2007
- The Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission (SLMM) and the LTTE were holding crucial discussions in Kilinochchi on July 4 and today even as there seemed to be no let up in the escalating violence between Government troops and the rebels in the North and East. –Daily Mirror, July 5, 2007
- The Karuna faction has been listed in a new report on child recruitment, to be handed over to UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon next month. –Daily Mirror, July 9, 2007
- The Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission (SLMM) has received complaints of harassment and extortion by suspected *Thamil Makkal Viduthalai Pullikal* (TMVP) or Karuna faction members in the east, an SLMM report said –Daily Mirror, July 10, 2007
- The Government has decided to grant a monthly kerosene subsidy of 75 rupees to 1,439,000 Samurdhi families shortly. –The Island, July 10, 2007
- The recent clashes between the EPDP and the Karuna faction also known as the *Thamil Makkal Viduthalai Puligal* (TMVP) came to an end on July 11 as both leaders agreed to 'work, avoiding confrontations in future. –Daily Mirror, July 11, 2007
- President Mahinda Rajapaksa in a special message on July 11 congratulated the troops on capturing Thoppigala from Tiger clutches. –Daily Mirror, July 12, 2007
- Chief Secretary of the Eastern Provincial Council and senior government servant H.M. Herath Abeyweera was shot dead by an unidentified gunman at his office in Trincomalee last evening. –Daily Mirror, July 17, 2007
- An Urgent Bill calling for fresh Local Government elections in the Eastern Province will be presented to Parliament tomorrow as the government prepares to hold local polls in the region before the end of the year. –Daily Mirror, July 18, 2007
- The much anticipated MoU between the UNP and the SLFP (Mahajana Wing) was sealed at the Parliamentary Complex on July 19 with both parties vowing to usher in a new era with the support of other political forces. –Daily Mirror, July 20, 2007
- A depleted Parliament on July 19 approved the holding of fresh Local Government elections in the Batticaloa district as President Mahinda Rajapaksa vowed to complete Provincial Council and Local Government elections in the East by the end of the year. –Daily Mirror, July 20, 2007
- There will be no premature dissolution of parliament President Mahinda Rajapakse yesterday told a public meeting at Nawalapitiya. –The Island, July 22, 2007
- Twenty nine Sri Lankan Tamil nationals are on hunger strike at a controversial detention centre in London opposing moves by the British authorities to deport them back to Sri Lanka tomorrow, sources from London told the Daily Mirror. –Daily Mirror, July 23, 2007



- All local and international NGOs engaged in development projects in the newly captured areas in the Eastern Province have been told by the Government that their work in these areas would be restricted, a top Government official said.. —Daily Mirror, July 27, 2007
- A JVP politician representing Tissamaharama PS has been arrested on a charge of child molestation. —The Island, July 26, 2007
- The Supreme Court on July 26 granted leave to proceed with three fundamental rights violation petitions on the eviction of Tamil lodgers from Colombo by police, in June, and fixed the next hearing for November 28. —Daily Mirror, July 27, 2007
- New charge sheets have been served by the UNP on its reformist MPs who joined the government.. —Daily Mirror, July 30, 2007
- A young Tamil trainee journalist was shot dead in Jaffna on August 1 just a month before he was to complete his media diploma course. —Daily Mirror, August 2, 2007
- The CWC on August 2 decided to resign from the government and occupy opposition benches in Parliament from next week. —Daily Mirror, August 3, 2007
- The Government on August 6 said there was no room for inviting a UN human rights monitoring mission to Sri Lanka as such a move would be an infringement on the sovereignty of the country.—Daily Mirror, August 7, 2007
- The LTTE is said to be pressurizing International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) operating in rebel controlled areas of the Wanni to channel funds to be used for development purposes in the area through the Tamil Rehabilitation Organisation (TRO) —Daily Mirror, August 9, 2007
- The TMVP (Karuna faction) on August 8 assured it would give its fullest support and cooperation for the holding of a free election and fair poll at the local government in the East, scheduled for mid-November. —Daily Mirror, August 9, 2007
- Sri Lankan Tamil asylum seekers in the UK are at risk of torture if returned to Sri Lanka, according to a landmark ruling by a British tribunal.. —Daily Mirror, August 10, 2007
- Human Rights and Disaster Management Minister Mahinda Samarasinghe on August 9 warned against foreign agencies indulging in 'quiet diplomacy' and said in future all those agencies should keep the government informed about the abductions and disappearances of those working for them. —The Island, August 10, 2007
- The EPDP, a party in the ruling coalition, said on August 12 that it would not contest future Provincial Council elections in the East unless the government put forward a power devolution package for the resolution of the national question. —Daily Mirror, August 13, 2007
- The Navy and LTTE Sea Tigers were involved in a fierce battle off the eastern seas on Sunday night resulting in the death of at least 12 Tigers and injuries to 3 sailors, a navy spokesman said. —Daily Mirror, August 14, 2007
- Youth fleeing the LTTE and surrendering to the Human Rights Commission (HRC) in Jaffna have to languish in the Jaffna prison instead of undergoing proper rehabilitation as the government has no mechanism for such a purpose, Human Rights sources in the North revealed.. —Daily Mirror, August 15, 2007
- Chief Government Whip and senior minister Jeyaraj Fernandopulle hit out at Mr. John Holmes, UN Under Secretary of Humanitarian Affairs, who visited Sri Lanka last week accusing him of being bribed by the LTTE to carry out a mudslinging campaign worldwide against the Government. —Daily Mirror, August 16, 2007
- The Sea Tiger leader, Thillaiyampalan Sivanesan alias Soosai, is believed to have been replaced by his Deputy Cheliyan consequent to a long running dispute between him and LTTE Intelligence Wing leader, Pottu Amman—The Island, August 19, 2007
- The government over the weekend stated a mass recruitment drive of Tamils and Muslims to the police force in the Batticaloa district with more than 500 applications being received and the *Thamil Makkal Viduthalai Pullikal* (Karuna faction) confirming that in the future its cadres may also be recruited. —Daily Mirror, August 20, 2007
- Transparency International (TI) has expressed surprise at moves by Parliament to appoint another committee to look into the COPE report which triggered serious discussion on public sector corruption in Sri Lanka.. —Daily Mirror, August 21, 2007



- The LTTE and the military were involved in a barrage of artillery exchanges in Jaffna on August 21 forcing Army Commander Sarath Fonseka to suspend a scheduled visit to Palaly —Daily Mirror, August 22, 2007
- The Parliamentary Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE) is planning to refer cases of financial irregularities and corruption at 15 state institutions to the Bribery Commission to conduct further investigations and take appropriate action against those found guilty. —Daily Mirror, August 23, 2007
- COPE on August 24 issued an even more shocking second report disclosing financial malpractices to the tune of a staggering six billion rupees in another 20 state institutions. —Daily Mirror, August 25, 2007
- The government on September 4 admitted that certain clauses of the Ceasefire Agreement (CFA) were defunct as a result of the latest developments on the ground but stopped short of saying if there were any moves to seek amendments or annul the 2002 peace agreement. —Daily Mirror, September 4, 2007
- The Commission to investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption [CIABOC] continued to hold up a probe on damning COPE (Committee on Public Enterprises) findings claiming that the cases had not so far been referred to the Commission. —The Island, September 5, 2007
- Amnesty International (AI) on September 5 called on members of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) to seek opportunities during its upcoming sixth session to take action to address the rapidly deteriorating situation in Sri Lanka. —Daily Mirror, September 6, 2007
- Amidst much speculation, Parliament on September 6 passed five Financial Bills after they were put to a crucial vote —Daily Mirror, September 7, 2007
- Bribery Commission officials are due to fly to several countries including Ukraine shortly to carry out investigations into the controversial MiG-27 deal, an official said.—Daily Mirror, September 8, 2007
- The European Union (EU) parliament in Brussels will debate the human rights situation in Sri Lanka this afternoon with a controversial report released recently by the New York based Human Rights Watch (HRW) set to be used as the basis for the debate. —Daily Mirror, September 11, 2007
- The New York based Human Rights Watch (HRW) at the ongoing UN Human Rights Council session in Geneva on September 11 told the EU Parliament to pass a strong resolution on Sri Lanka which would condemn violations both by the government and the LTTE and support a resolution calling for a UN human rights monitoring mission in the island. —Daily Mirror, September 12, 2007
- Thailand on September 11 denied claims that a senior Tamil Tiger rebel leader, who allegedly led the group's international arms procurement network in its two-decade fight against Sri Lankan forces was arrested in Bangkok, *Associated Press* reported on September 11. —Daily Mirror, September 12, 2007
- Indian politician P. Nedumaran on September 12 launched a hunger strike after the Indian Navy prevented him from embarking on his journey to Jaffna by sea, the Indian media reported.—Daily Mirror, September 13, 2007
- Sri Lanka will present a roadmap to counter terrorism at the 62nd UN General Assembly which begins in New York today, said Foreign Minister Rohitha Bogollagama —Daily Mirror, September 18, 2007
- A petition has been filed in the Australian House of Representatives calling for a resolution over the Sri Lankan conflict that satisfies the aspirations of all communities without compromising the unity and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka. —Daily Mirror, September 19, 2007
- An internal power struggle has surfaced in the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) because of the terror outfit's ailing supremacy. —The Island, September 20, 2007
- The European Union has decided to defer a resolution against Sri Lanka, an EU diplomat in Geneva told the *Daily Mirror* even as human rights groups on Monday asserted that the situation in Sri Lanka had deteriorated to serious levels.—Daily Mirror, September 26, 2007
- UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) members have listed Sri Lanka as among the countries that need special attention while expressing serious concerns over human rights violations committed by the Government, the LTTE and the Karuna faction.—Daily Mirror, September 27, 2007
- Changing its earlier stance the UNP said it would pursue a military solution if necessary once they come to power MP Ravi Karunanayaka said recently. UNP Colombo District MP Ravi Karunanayake told a press conference there would be a change of party policy although it had not deviated from wide devolution of power accepted by all communities.—Daily Mirror, September 27, 2007



- Norway has started fresh initiatives to resume peace talks between the government and the LTTE while discussing the efforts at a meeting with President Mahinda Rajapaksa in New York on September 26. – Daily Mirror, September 28, 2007
- The price of a loaf of bread is to go up by five rupees from today. The All Ceylon Bakery Owners' Association attributed the price hike to the increase in the price of wheat flour by Rs. 13 per kilo. –Daily Mirror, September 29, 2007
- The government said on October 2 it would be forced to increase the price of milk powder from December once the existing agreements with local companies expire.–Daily Mirror, October 03, 2007
- In a significant development, the Parliamentary Select Committee, which deliberated on breaking the deadlock on the appointment of the Constitutional Council (CC), has reached consensus on recommending wide-ranging amendments to the 17th Amendment to rejuvenate this crucial apex constitutional body, political sources said. –The Island, October 05, 2007
- The Sri Lanka Navy on October 7 detected and destroyed yet another LTTE arms shipment in the international waters off Dondra Head. –Daily Mirror, October 08, 2007
- The government presented the Appropriation Bill in Parliament on October 10 ahead of the budget, projecting Rs. 166 billion in Defence expenditure for next year. –Daily Mirror, October 11, 2007
- The Ceylon Workers Congress (CWC) on October 11 rejoined the government by accepting the portfolios held by them before they quit. CWC Spokesman R. Yogarajan said the party would also support the forthcoming budget.–Daily Mirror, October 12, 2007
- COPE Chairman Wijedasa Rajapakse on October 11 walked out of a committee meeting held in the parliamentary complex after UPFA National List MP Basil Rajapaksa allegedly attempted to interfere with the proceedings as its newest member.. –Daily Mirror, October 12, 2007
- Sri Lankan Defence authorities are disturbed as to how two suspected LTTE boats laden with two modern remote controlled air craft had managed to slip into Sri Lankan waters from the South Indian seas despite heightened sea patrolling by Indian authorities. –Daily Mirror, October 12, 2007
- Aid agencies operating in the Eachchilampattai DS division of Trincomalee threatened to pull out following continued extortion and TMVP insistence that building material for reconstruction purposes should be purchased through the TMVP at higher than market rates. –Daily Mirror, October 13, 2007
- Just as the UN Human Rights Commissioner Louise Arbour concluded her fact-finding mission to Sri Lanka, four of the 10 civil society members - part of an advisory committee set up by Human Rights Minister, Mahinda Samarasinghe to address human rights concerns resigned from the panel citing differences with the government. –Daily Mirror, October 15, 2007
- UN Human Rights Commissioner, Louise Arbour has promised redress to inmates in Boossa, Magazine and Welikada prisons after her visit to Welikada on October 13. –Daily Mirror, October 15, 2007
- UN Human Rights High Commissioner Louise Arbour, told journalists last week it would be highly desirable for the government to consider an early ratification of the new International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances. –Daily Mirror, October 16, 2007
- Norway's special envoy Jon Hanssen Bauer, is to visit India soon to explore how to take ahead the fractured peace process in conflict-ridden Sri Lanka. –Daily Mirror, October 16, 2007
- Sri Lanka has been ranked a poor 156 out of 169 countries in the World Press Freedom Index released by Reporters Without Borders (RSF) on October 16.. –Daily Mirror, October 17, 2007
- The controversial US \$ 500 million foreign bond offer by the Government has attracted US \$ 1.25 billion of orders, according to an e-mail sent to investors, agency reports said. –Daily Mirror, October 18, 2007
- After extensive talks with the LTTE and the security forces separately the ICRC agreed to be present as observers at the Omanthai entry/exit point and it was reopened on October 19 for public to cross over from either side. –The Island, October 20, 2007
- Crews of LTTE ships hunted down by the Sri Lanka navy on the high seas in the recent past are believed to have used Indonesia as their 'home base.'–The Island, October 21, 2007
- A group of LTTE cadres, including suicide bombers in civilian clothing, infiltrated the Anuradhapura Airforce base around 3.20 a.m. on October 22 and launched a ground attack using small arms. Later, two LTTE light aircraft, which arrived from the Wannai bombed the airbase killing two Air Force officers and four airmen. –The Island, October 23, 2007
- The much-anticipated no-confidence motion against Tourism Minister Milinda Moragoda will not be taken up for debate in Parliament today. –Daily Mirror, October 24, 2007
- The Government on October 26 granted permission to companies dealing in milk foods to increase prices.–The Island, October 27, 2007



- Controversy surrounds the disappearance of over Rs. 30 million granted to the Tamil Rehabilitation Organization (TRO) by the Save the Children to carry out various projects in the northern and eastern provinces. –Daily Mirror, October 29, 2007
- The Asia Broadcasting Corporation (Pvt) Limited has petitioned the Court of Appeal that the Minister of Mass Communication and Information, Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, on October 25, 2007, withdrew the licence and the frequencies of ABC Network Pvt. Limited in violation of the principle of Natural Justice. –The Island, October 29, 2007
- The Sri Lanka Air Force on October 29 bombed the Punkudurippu headquarters of LTTE intelligence wing Chief Pottu Amman in Mulaitivu. –The Island, October 30, 2007
- SAARC Foreign Ministers have agreed to a Sri Lanka proposal to prohibit Sri Lankan terrorists from seeking political asylum in countries in the region, Foreign Minister Rohitha Bogollagama announced at a media conference on October 30. –The Island, October 31, 2007
- The government today evening said that it was withdrawing the controversial Gazette notification issued on Monday to impose a censorship on the reportage of military matters and particularly on military procurements. –Daily Mirror, October 31, 2007
- Manfred Nowak - the UN Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, has charged that despite the government claiming otherwise, torture is widely practised in Sri Lanka. –Daily Mirror, October 31, 2007
- Contrary to denial by the Media Centre for National Security (MCNS) and the Military Spokesman, a tri-services board headed by Navy Chief Vice Admiral has been appointed to investigate the recent LTTE raid on Anuradhapura SLAF base. –The Island, November 1, 2007
- LTTE political wing leader S. P. Thamilselvan was killed when the Air Force bombed the venue of an LTTE leaders meeting place at Thiruvaiaru, South of Kilinochchi, the Tamilnet website announced on November 2. –The Island, November 3, 2007
- The US-based Human Rights Watch has urged the UK to explore the possibility of trying Karuna Amman, now detained on immigration charges, for war crimes. –The Island, November 5, 2007
- The Combined Unemployed Graduates Association on November 5 complained to the Sri Lanka Human Rights Commission that the November 1 police attack on graduates in Colombo was a flagrant violation of human rights. –The Island, November 6, 2007
- Presenting his third Budget in Parliament on October 7, President and Finance Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa proposed to strengthen local production, strengthen the distribution of goods through the Cooperative Sector by infusing capital and giving it tax exemption and write off debts in the ailing sector as the private trade has not given the consumer relief provided for a number of essential consumer goods. –The Island, November 8, 2007
- Security forces are stepping up offensive action in the northern theatre of operations. –The Island, November 9, 2007
- The Supreme Court on November 9 issued an interim order curbing sound pollution. –The Island, November 10, 2007
- Last week's repatriation of a group of Sri Lankan soldiers deployed in Haiti under UN Command for buying sexual services from sex workers including some who might be underage has taken a new turn with some of the soldiers alleging a conspiracy to tarnish the image of the country. –The Island, November 11, 2007
- The Tamil Rehabilitation Organization (TRO) has insisted that there had not been any "disappearance" of funds donated by Save the Children for a pre-school project as alleged by the Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC).. –Daily Mirror, November 12, 2007
- The chief magistrate of Colombo Ms. Sarojini Kusala Weerawardena on November 11 detained a suspect Hiniduma Gamage Sujeewa Chandraratna alias Ratne of Hiniduma over alleged involvements with the LTTE. –Daily Mirror, November 12, 2007



FINDINGS AT A GLANCE OF THE POLL CONDUCTED FROM 12TH NOVEMBER TO 26TH OF NOVEMBER 2007

The following are the significant trends observed in the PCI November 2007 survey. It is important to note that this particular wave of the PCI only covers the Sinhala, Muslim and Up-Country Tamil and Tamil communities in the areas outside the North. The Eastern province was surveyed using a snowball sampling technique, and the entire Tamil sample was surveyed using this same method. The Tamil sample was chosen from the Eastern districts of Ampara, Trincomalee and Batticaloa as well as from the city of Colombo.

- **Important Issues:** When asked to rank five national issues according to their order of importance, the Sinhala (35.1%), Up Country (34.6%) and Muslim (35.5%) give high priority to the economy. While 24.6% of the Tamil community chose the economy as a very important issue the majority in that community (27.7%) gave their highest priority to the peace process. 23.1% of the Sinhala community also give precedence to the war against terrorism. ([page 15](#))
- **Solutions:** A majority of the Sinhala community (48.5%) feel that the war can be ended and peace restored in Sri Lanka only by the government defeating the LTTE. In the other three communities, (Tamil- 62.3%, Up Country Tamil- 96.7%, Muslim- 85.2%) the option chosen was to stop the war and conduct peace negotiations. However, when asked if they feel that a political settlement is essential to end the conflict, majorities in all four groups (Sinhala- 35.6%, Tamil- 67.1%, Up Country Tamil- 40.3%, Muslim- 71.0%) state that a political settlement is essential. ([pages 16 and 17](#))
- **Commitment to peace talks:** A majority in the Sinhala (62.2%) and Muslim (42.1%) Communities agree that the government is committed to find peace through talks. As for the Up Country Tamil community, 49.7% disagree with this while 31.8% say that they do not know or are not sure. A significant 67.9% of the Tamil community does not feel that the government is committed to peace talks. ([page 18](#)) With regards to the LTTE's commitment to finding peace through talks, majorities in the Sinhala (77.5%), Muslim (42.7%) and Tamil (47.3%) disagree that this is the case. The response from the Up Country Tamil community is mixed: 28.7% feel that the LTTE does have this commitment, while 34.0% disagree and 37.3% do not know or are not sure of the LTTE's position. ([page 19](#))
- **An end to the conflict:** A majority of the Sinhala community (42.6%) feel that the country is somewhat close to approaching a permanent settlement to the ethnic conflict. The same question, when posed to the other three communities elicited a different response. A majority of persons in all three minority communities (Tamil -63.9%, Up Country Tamil- 65.8% and Muslim – 49.6%) feel that the country is not close at all to reaching any kind of permanent settlement. 21.5% of the Up Country Tamil community and 23.6% of the Muslim community feel that the situation regarding the conflict has remained the same. ([page 20](#))
- **Peace Negotiations:** When asked who should be involved in peace negotiations, the response received was varied. In the Sinhala community, the majority (26.8%) felt that only the Government and the LTTE should be involved in peace talks, as did a majority of the Up Country Tamil community, 44.3%. The Tamil community (35.9%) supported the idea that peace talks should involve the Government, LTTE and an international third party, although 23.1% of this same group opted for negotiations between the Government, Opposition, LTTE, Tamil and Muslim parties and an international third party. This latter option was most favoured by 59.8% of the Muslim community. ([page 20](#))



International Involvement

- A majority of persons in the Sinhala (62.1%) and Muslim (42.7%) communities approve of international assistance to the Government in its war against the LTTE, while 73.2% of the Tamil community and 49.4% of the Up Country Tamils disapprove. The communities were also asked which countries should provide this assistance. While most of the Sinhala and Muslim community could give no answer, 50% of the Tamils chose European countries and 66.7% of the Up Country Tamils chose Asian countries. [\(page 21\)](#)
- All four communities* (Sinhala- 51.1%, Tamil- 61.0%, Up Country Tamil- 46.9%, Muslim- 59.1%), however, are in agreement that there should be international assistance in the form of facilitation of future peace negotiations. Disapproval for the same is given by 27.7% of the Sinhala community and 24.4% of the Tamil community. Majorities in all four communities were unable to give a response regarding which country would be best suited to donate this aid. However, 30% of the Tamil community chose European nations while 28.4% of the Up Country Tamils chose Asian nations. [\(page 22\)](#)
- When asked for their approval for international assistance for the government's development projects, all four groups agree that such aid is needed and necessary. The breakdown is as follows: Sinhala- 73.7%, Tamil- 44.6%, Up Country Tamil- 51.9%, and Muslim- 69.7%. Yet again, most persons in all four communities were unable to give a response regarding which countries should donate this aid. Nonetheless, 20.5% of the Sinhalese, 18.9% of the Tamils, 36.1% of the Up Country Tamils and 16.9% of the Muslims indicated that Asian countries would be preferred. [\(page 23\)](#)
- **Current Security Situation:** With regards to the security situation in the country, 46.1% of the Sinhalese feel that there has been some improvement. This sentiment is shared by 30.8% of the Muslim sample. However, significant sections among all the minority communities feel that the situation has got worse: Tamils 39.0%, Up Country Tamils (50%) and Muslims 30.4%. [\(page 24\)](#)
- A majority of persons in the Sinhala (62.8%) and Muslim (40.3%) Communities feel that the present situation is best described as a war against terrorism. There are, however, 32.8% of the Muslims who feel that this is an ethnic conflict. This opinion is also shared by 48.2% of the Tamils and 44% of the Up Country Tamils. [\(page 25\)](#)

Human Rights

- When asked whether Sri Lanka continues to have a serious human rights problem, majorities in the Tamil (94.0%), Up Country Tamil (73.8%) and Muslim (79.8%) agree that such a situation does exist in the country. The response elicited from the Sinhala community was mixed. While 38.9% agree, a further 28% disagree and 31.7% do not know or are not sure. [\(page 26\)](#)
- Of those who felt that the country does have a human rights problem, majorities in all four communities (Sinhala – 59.7%, Tamil 54.1%, Up Country Tamil- 75.5% and Muslim- 58%) feel that the best way to deal with the situation is the arrest and prosecution of alleged perpetrators. Also, 30.7% of the Sinhalese, 37.7% of the Tamil community and 24.4% of the Muslims feel that effective human rights monitoring is also needed. [\(page 27\)](#)

* The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamils cannot be generalized to the entire community.



- The survey also asked the respondents to rate their level of satisfaction with regards to the action taken by various institutions to protect human rights. Taken as a whole, 61.7% of the Sinhala community expressed satisfaction with the way the **government** has protected their rights. While 30.4% of the Muslim community was somewhat satisfied with the Government, 45.1% expressed dissatisfaction. A majority of the Tamil (62.7%) and Up Country Tamil (60%) were very dissatisfied with the **government**. [\(page 29\)](#)
- A majority of persons in the Sinhala (35.8%), Tamil (37.3%), and Muslim 32.4% communities state that they are somewhat satisfied with the measures taken by **local human rights organizations** to protect their human rights. While 42.8% of the Up Country Tamils gave no response to this question, 38.4% stated that they were very dissatisfied with **local human rights organizations**. [\(page 30\)](#)
- *With regards to **international human rights organizations** and the protection of human rights, 43.9% of the Sinhala community did not give a response; however, an overall 34.5% expressed satisfaction. Fifty percent of the Up Country Tamils did not respond to this, although 25% stated that they were very dissatisfied. Majorities of the Tamil (overall 59%) and Muslim (overall 46.4%) expressed satisfaction with **international human rights organizations** and the steps they have taken to protect human rights. [\(page 31\)](#)
- An assessment of **the international community** and their work on the protection of human rights elicits the following response. Most of the Sinhala (44.7%) and Up Country Tamil (48.4%) respondents did not give a response. However, 31.7% of the Sinhalese, 48.8% of the Tamils and 44.2% of the Muslims expressed satisfaction with the work done by **the international community**. [\(page 32\)](#)
- **Political parties** and their protection of human rights draw out a dissatisfied response from most of the sample surveyed. While 50.6% of the Tamil community and 43.8% of the Up Country Tamils are state that they are very dissatisfied, an overall figure of 35.1% of the Sinhala community and 50% of the Muslims are not satisfied with the actions taken by **political parties** to protect human rights. A 'somewhat satisfied' is expressed however, by 28.7% of the Sinhalese and 23.2% of the Muslims. [\(page 33\)](#)
- Majorities within the Sinhala (40.3%), Tamil (39.8%) and Muslim (35%) state that they are somewhat satisfied with the action taken by the **media** to protect their human rights. Thirty percent of the Up Country Tamil community state that they are very dissatisfied, while 38.1% gave no response. [\(page 34\)](#)
- Satisfaction levels regarding **religious leaders** and their work to protect human rights was mixed. While 35.9% of the Sinhalese, 25.6% of the Tamils and 39.9% of the Muslims stated that they were somewhat satisfied with the work done by their **religious leaders**, 29.3% of the Tamil community and 33.3% of the Up Country Tamil community stated that they were very dissatisfied. [\(page 35\)](#)
- The Tamil community is divided on the question of whether the National Human Rights Commission has been effective in the protection of human rights; 35% state that it has been somewhat effective, while 32.5% state that it has not been effective at all. Majorities in the other three communities (Sinhala- 53%, Up Country Tamil-

* The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamils cannot be generalized to the entire community.
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74.2%, Muslim-56.5%) did not know or were not sure how effective the Commission was. (page 37)

- The Sinhala community gave a very mixed response on the question of who would be best to monitor human rights in Sri Lanka. While 31.7% chose a human rights body affiliated to the government, 27.1% favored a body that was comprised of both local and international actors. A further 30.8% did not know or were not sure, as were 55.7% of the Up Country Tamil community and 53.1% of the Muslim sample. A majority of 40.2% of the Tamil community state that an international human rights body would be the best agency to monitor human rights in Sri Lanka. (page 38)
- When asked about the effectiveness of the Commission of Inquiry, majorities among the Sinhala (74.6%), Up Country Tamil (78%) and Muslim (68.5%) stated that they did not know or were not sure. At the same time, 37.3% of the Tamil community stated that the Commission had not been effective at all. (page 39)
- A majority of the Sinhala community (37.5%) state that instances of killings and abductions within the last three months have decreased. The same is not true for the Tamil and Up Country Tamil communities where 44.3% and 53.5% respectively state that these incidents have increased. The Muslim community splits on this question with 41.5% stating that killings and abductions have increased while 41.1% state that they have decreased. (page 36)
- **Cost of Living:** Almost all the persons surveyed (Sinhala- 98%, Tamil- 98.8%, Muslim-98.8%) stated that, compared to the situation a year ago, the cost of living in the country has increased. Answers regarding the primary reason for the increased cost of living drew out the same response from 53.5% of the Sinhala community, 49.3% of the Up Country Tamil community and 37.1% of the Muslim community where all three cited the escalation of the conflict between the Government and the LTTE. Within the Tamil community, 38.7% stated that bad economic management by the present government was the main reason for the increased cost of living. (page 40)
- A majority of the Sinhala community (60.5%) agree to bear the rising cost of living for the sake of the government's war against the LTTE. At the same time, majorities in the other three communities (Tamil-90.7%, Up Country Tamil- 90.4%, Muslim- 71.1%) disagree. (page 41)
- A majority in all of the ethnic communities 58.8% of the Sinhala community, 86.3% of the Tamil community, 78.4% of the Up Country Tamil community and 67.1% of the Muslim community disagree with the notion of bearing the cost of living because the government says that prices in the world market have increased. However, 33% of the Sinhalese and 24.9% of the Muslims agree. (page 42)
- In all four communities, the majority (Sinhalese – 55.4%, Tamil- 53.1%, Up Country Tamil- 85.7%, Muslim- 76.2%) express dissatisfaction with the action taken by the politicians of the party they support to combat the rising cost of living. A 29% of the Sinhala sample, however, expresses satisfaction with their politicians. (page 43)
- While a majority of 67% of the Sinhalese approve of the government increasing their defence spending, majorities in the other three communities (Tamil-72%, Up country Tamil-77.2%, Muslim-50.4%) disapprove of such an action. Within the Muslim community, however, 38.5% do approve of this increase. (page 45)

* The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamils cannot be generalized to the entire community.
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- With regards to the US\$500 m bond taken by the government, 37.5% of the Tamil community states that it will have a negative impact, as do 24.4% of the Sinhalese and 31.9% of the Muslims. At the same time, majorities in the Sinhalese (48%), Up Country Tamil (68.6%) and Muslim (49.2%) communities do not know or are not sure what the impact of the bond will be. [\(page 46\)](#)
- **Media Freedom:** A majority of the Sinhala (38.2%) and Muslim (39.3%) agree that the government places some restrictions on the media's reporting of defense related issues. Amongst the Tamil* sample, 51.2% feel that the government places strict restriction on these news items while 62% of the Up Country Tamils state that they do not know or are not sure. [\(page 48\)](#)
- Majorities among the Tamil (61.1%) and Muslim (43.9%) communities state that media reports critical of the government are an expression of democracy. Amongst the Sinhala community, individuals are divided between those who state that it is an expression of democracy (28.8%) and those who state that they do not know or are not sure (33.4%). Within the Up Country Tamil community 62.1% claim that they do not know or are not sure. [\(page 50\)](#)
- Respondents were asked who they felt benefited most from media freedom. The response given by the Sinhala community is mixed, with 22% naming the journalists as the actors profiting most from media freedom, 22.4% stating that it is the citizens, and a further 31.3% stating that they do not know or are not sure. Amongst the Tamil (76.3%) and Muslim (75.7%) communities, majorities feel that it was the citizens who benefit most. While 34.3% of the Up Country Tamils also agreed with this, a majority of 43.6% does not know or are not sure. [\(page 51\)](#)
- **Corruption:** A majority of persons in the Sinhala (32.7%) and Tamil (48.7%) feel that perpetrators of crimes who have governmental connections are rarely prosecuted for their misdeeds. The majority of the Up Country Tamils (35%) state that these persons are never prosecuted. The Muslim community gives a response where 30.3% state that these persons are never prosecuted while an identical percentage state that they are rarely prosecuted. [\(page 54\)](#)
- When asked whether they were aware of the report published by the Committee on Public Enterprise, majorities in all four communities (Sinhala- 60.4%, Tamil- 61.4%, Up Country Tamil- 87.9%, and Muslim- 67.2%) stated that they were not aware of this report. [\(page 52\)](#)
- Respondents were asked whether they believed in the opposition's allegations that there has been corruption in the acquisition of MiG 27 fighter jets. While majorities in all communities stated that they were not sure, 21.3% of the Sinhalese, 43.2% of the Tamils, 36.8% of the Up Country Tamils and 43.8% of the Muslims stated that they do believe in these allegations. At the same time, 23.1% of the Sinhalese state that they do not believe these accusations. [\(page 53\)](#)
- The majority of the Sinhala community (37.4%) state that in its efforts to tackle corruption, the government is taking some initiatives to prevent corruption. The majority of the Tamil sample surveyed (44.9%) state that the government is trying to obstruct efforts to investigate corruption. Majorities in the Up country Tamil (63.9%) and Muslim (47.7%) said that they do not know or are not sure. [\(page 55\)](#)



MAHINDA RAJAPAKSE (pages 56-62)

- A majority of 84.4% of the Sinhalese expressed satisfaction the President's handling of law and order. Amongst the Tamil (66.6%) and Up country Tamil (75%) communities dissatisfaction is expressed. The Muslim community gives a divided response with 41.9% stating that they are satisfied and 45.1% stating that they are dissatisfied.
 - Majorities amongst the Sinhala (35.9%), Tamil* (67.5%) and Up Country Tamil (84.3%) stated that they were very dissatisfied with the Presidents management of the cost of living. Within the Muslim community, 40.9% said that they were somewhat dissatisfied.
 - The majority of the Sinhala (80.1%) sample expressed satisfaction with the President's preservation of social values. However, in the other three communities, 46.9%, of the Tamils, 46.9% of the Up Country Tamils and 42.5% of the Muslims expressed dissatisfaction. 34.9% of the Muslims did express that they were somewhat satisfied.
 - Asked about the President's management of his own party, 65.3% of the Sinhalese and 40.7% of the Muslims surveyed stated that they were satisfied. A total of 32.1% of the Tamil community and 41.1% of the Up Country Tamils expressed dissatisfaction.
 - With regards to the President's maintenance of international relations, 42% of Sinhalese and 36.1% of Muslims stated that they were somewhat satisfied while in 34.6% of the Tamil community and 33.3% of the Up Country Tamil community expressed dissatisfaction.
 - A majority of the Sinhala community (57.1%) stated that they are very satisfied with the President's handling of the war. Within the Muslim community, 42.3% said that they are somewhat satisfied with the way the President was conducting the war. Majorities in the Tamil (43.8%) and Up Country Tamil (71.3%) stated that they are very dissatisfied.
 - With regards the President's conduct relating to peace negotiations, 37.5% of the Sinhalese and 37.1% of the Muslims stated that they were somewhat satisfied. However, 65.4% of the Tamil community and 70.4% of the Up Country Tamil community said that they were very dissatisfied.
-
- **Military Capacity:** When asked to assess the LTTE's military capacity, 49.3% of the Sinhalese and 30.4% of the Muslims stated that it was weak while 53.3% of the Tamils surveyed stated that their capacity was strong. The majority of the Up Country Tamils (50.3%) stated that they did not know or were not sure. (page 63)
 - While majorities in the Sinhala (88.1%) and Muslim (76.9%) communities feel that the government's military capacity is strong, the majority of the Tamil and Up Country Tamils surveyed state that they do not know. It is worth noting however, that, 32.9% of the Tamils and 22.6% of the Up Country Tamils agree that the government's military capacity is strong. (page 64)
 - Within the Sinhala community, 39.7% of the sample surveyed state that the government has neutralized the LTTE's air capability somewhat effectively, a sentiment that is shared by 31.2% of the Muslim community. The Tamil community (33.7%) and Up Country Tamil (56.6%) community mostly state that they do not know or are not sure about this. (page 65)

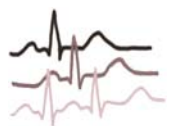
* The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamils cannot be generalized to the entire community.



- **APRC:** Asked if they were aware of the All Party Representative Committee, 48.1% of the Sinhala community and 50% of the Tamil* community answered in the affirmative. Amongst the Up Country Tamils, 49.1% said that they did not know or were not sure while 45.6% of the Muslim community stated that they were not aware of the APRC. (page 68)
- Of those who are aware of the APRC, 40.1% of the Sinhalese feel that the committee took a two month recess due to a lack of consensus by the parties involved. This sentiment is shared by 48.3% of the Tamils and 75% of the Up Country Tamils who claim awareness of the APRC. A majority of the Muslim community (50.7%) state that the reason for the delay is a lack of governmental support for the APRC. (page 69)
- **Thamilchelvan:** Assessing the impact of the assassination of LTTE leader Thamilchelvan, 42.1% of the Tamil community, 71.2% of the Up Country Tamils and 26.6% of the Muslim community feel that it would have a detrimental effect on the government's war against the LTTE. However, 63.1% of the Sinhala community disagrees, stating that the assassination will have a beneficial effect. At the same time, 50.7% of the Tamils, 41.3% of the Up Country Tamils and 26.5% of the Muslims agree that the assassination will have a detrimental effect on the peace process, while 45.3% of the Sinhalese feel that the peace process will be affected favorably. (pages 70 and 71)
- **Snap poll:** While a majority of the Sinhala community (44.5%) state that they do not want any snap poll, 35.4% of the Tamils and 46.3% of the Up Country Tamils surveyed feel that snap polls are desirable. Within the Muslim community, a majority of 50.8% state that snap polls are essential. (page 72)

BUDGET 2008

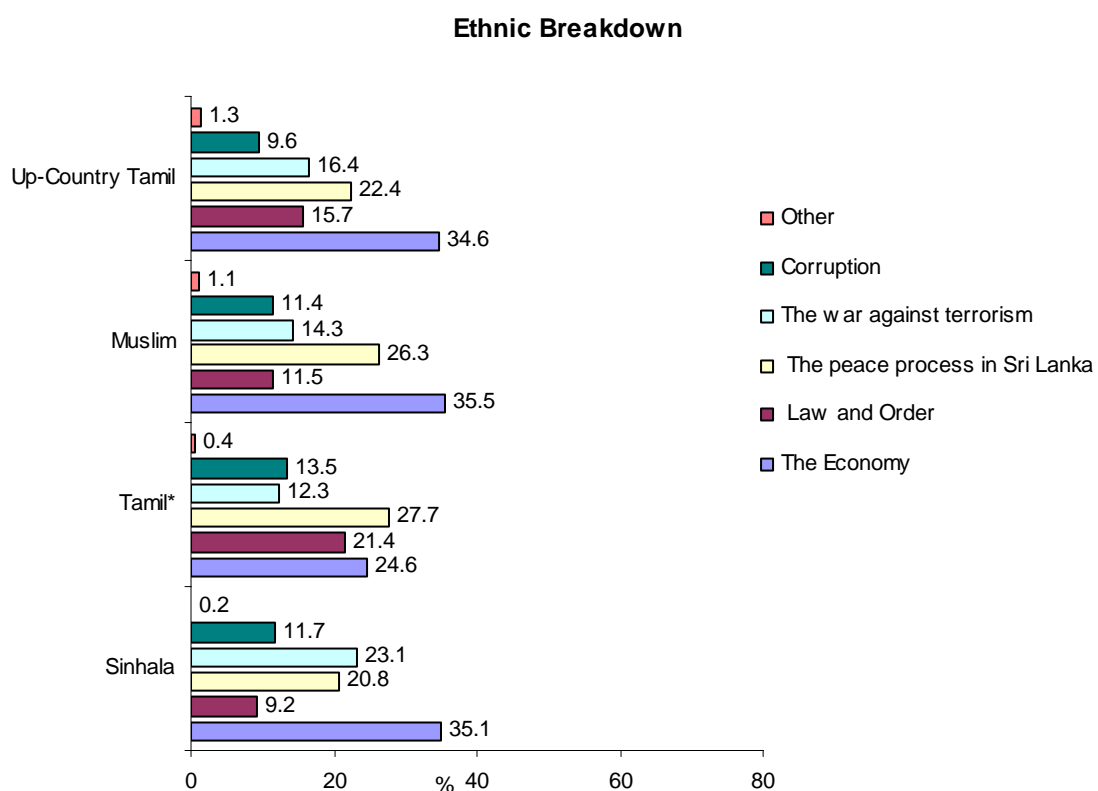
- While the majority of the Tamil (75.6%) sample surveyed stated that the budget was very important to them, 38.2% of the Sinhalese and 26.1% of the Up Country Tamils say that the budget is only somewhat important to them personally. The Muslim community presents a divided response, with 32.9% stating that the budget is very important to them and an identical percentage stating that the budget is of no importance to them. (page 73)
- Majorities among the Sinhala (41%), Tamil (47.2%) and Muslim (41%) state that the 2008 budget can best be described as a bankrupt budget. The majority of the Up country Tamil community (58.3%) state that it is a war budget, a view that is popular amongst 35.8% of the Tamil community and 37.8% of the Muslim community. (page 74)
- When asked to select who could influence what goes into the budget, majorities in the Tamil (45.9%) and Up Country Tamil (60.9%) state that it is the President. The response from the Muslim and Sinhala communities is mixed. In the former, 36.6% say that it is the citizens while 32% say that it is the President. Amongst the Sinhala community, 28.8% say that it is the President, 25.3% say that is the cabinet while 25.2% say that it is the citizens. (page 75)
- Majorities in the Sinhala (59%), Tamil (96.2%) and Muslim (85.7%) believe that the 2008 budget will increase the cost of living. While 49.4% of the Up Country Tamils agree with this, an identical percentage (49.4%) state that they do not know or are not sure. (page 76)



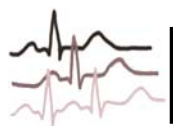
Peace Confidence Index (PCI) May 2001 – November 2007

Important Issues

Rating the degree of importance of five national issues.



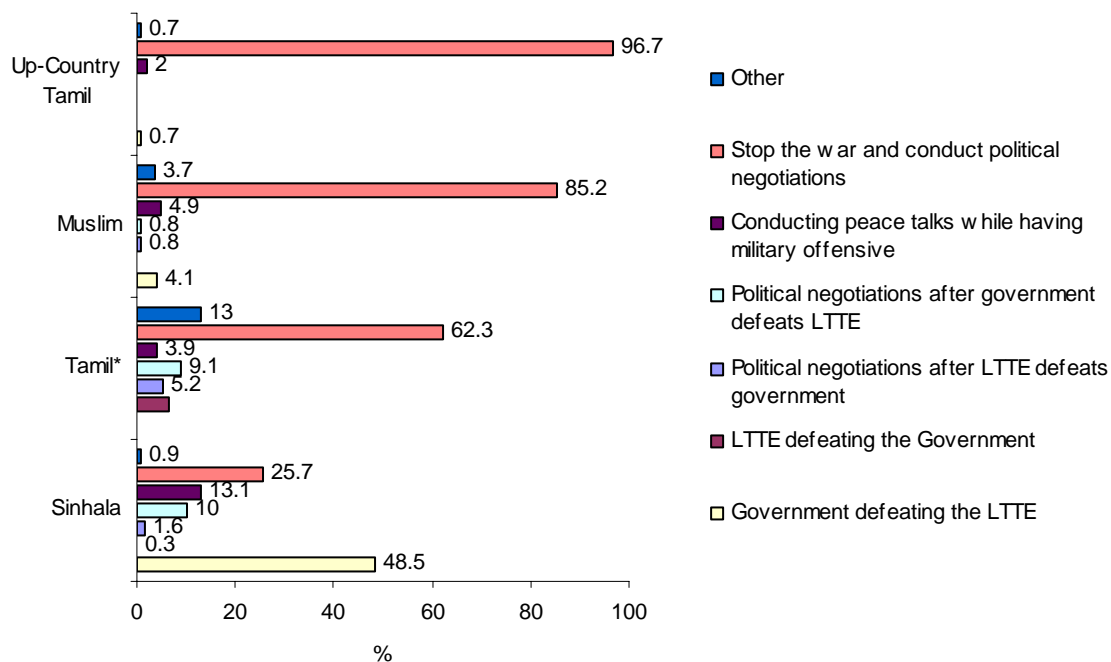
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Solutions

How do you think we can end the war and have peace in Sri Lanka?

Ethnic Breakdown

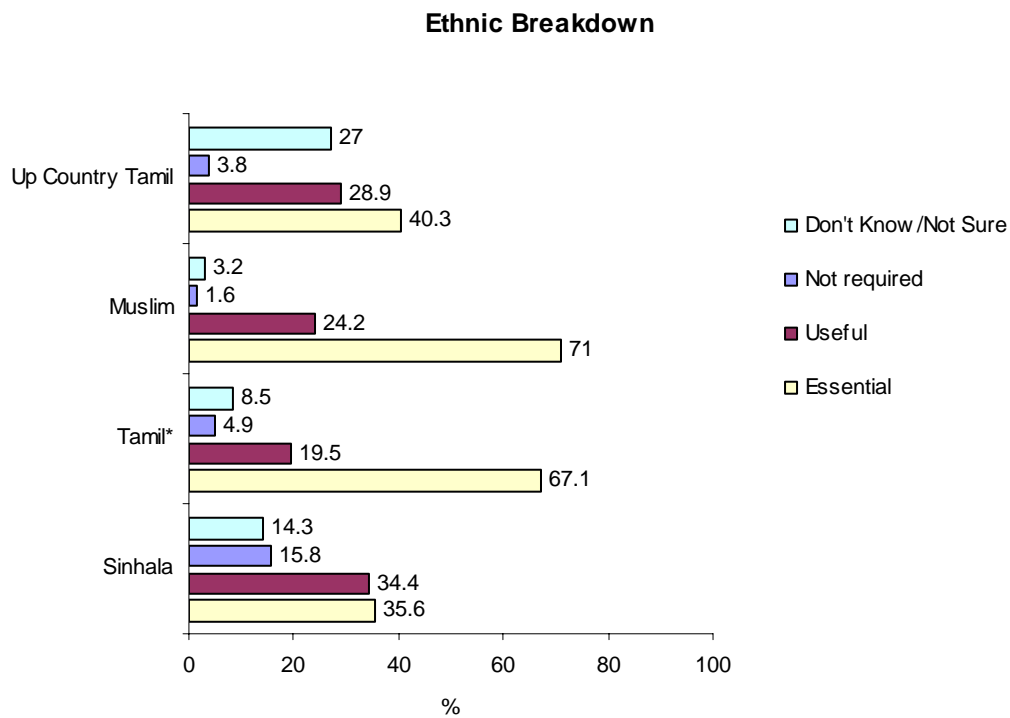


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Some say that, irrespective of how the war ends, a political settlement is still necessary to resolve the present conflict. What do you think?

I think that a political settlement is:



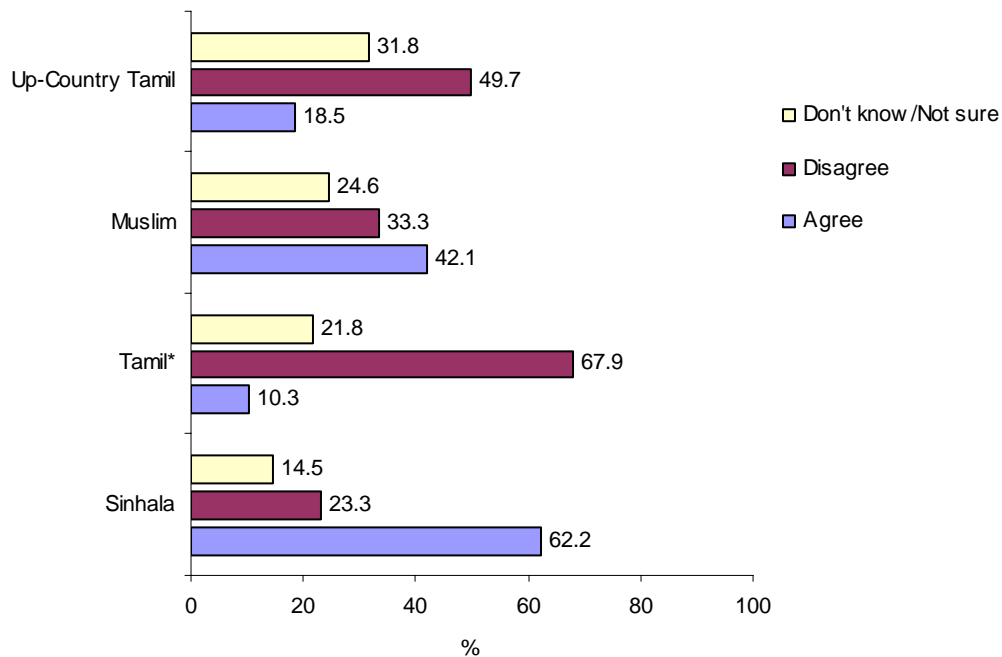
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



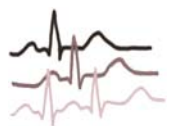
Confidence

I think the Government is committed to find peace through talks.

Ethnic Breakdown

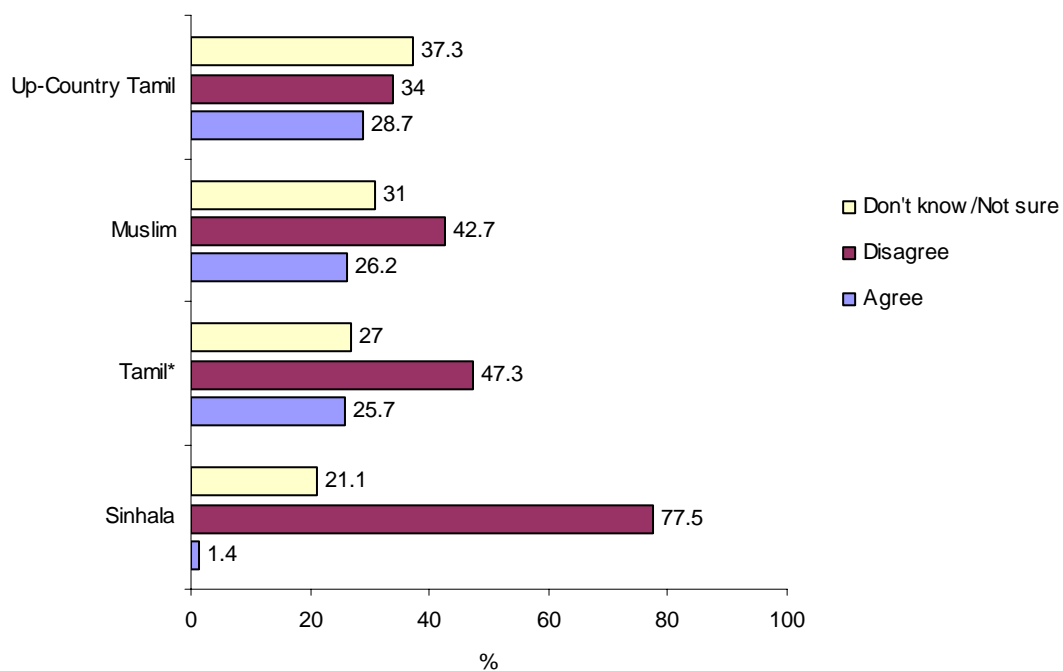


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

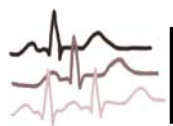


I think the LTTE is committed to find peace through talks.

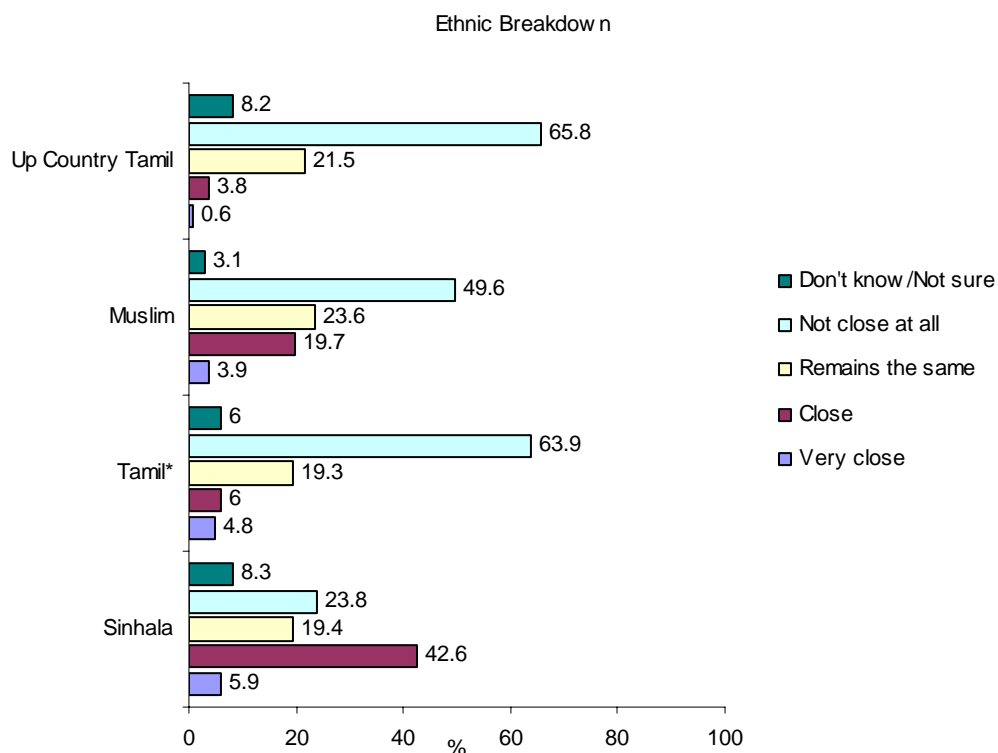
Ethnic Breakdown



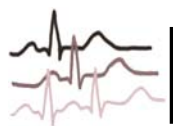
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



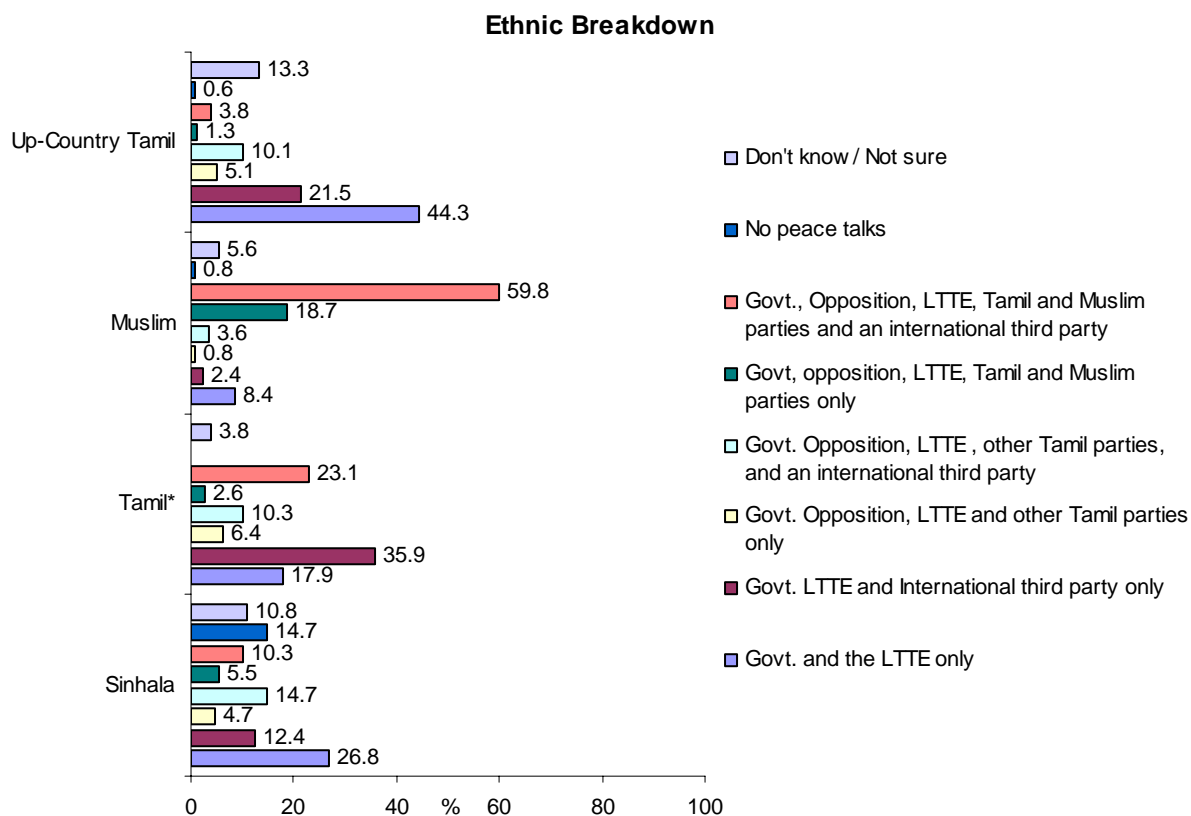
Compared to the situation of the peace process a year ago, how close do you think the country is, at present, in approaching a permanent settlement to the ethnic conflict?



*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



If peace is to be found through negotiations, according to your opinion, who should be involved in negotiations?

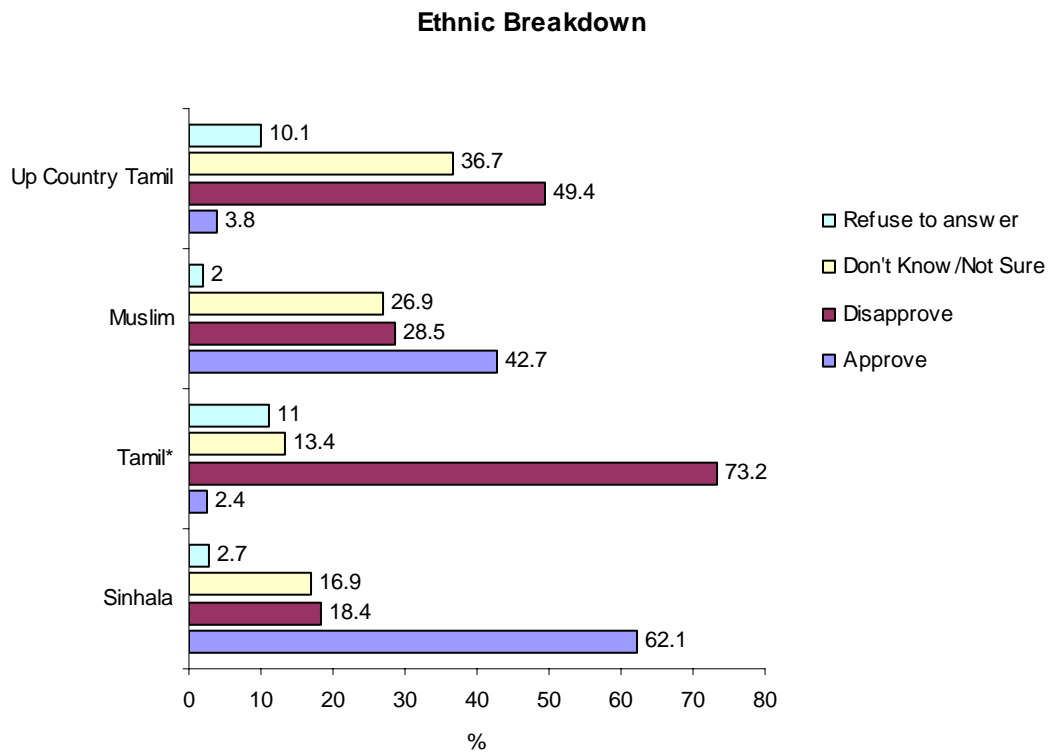


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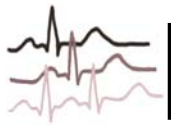


International Involvement

Do you approve of international assistance to the government in its war against the LTTE?

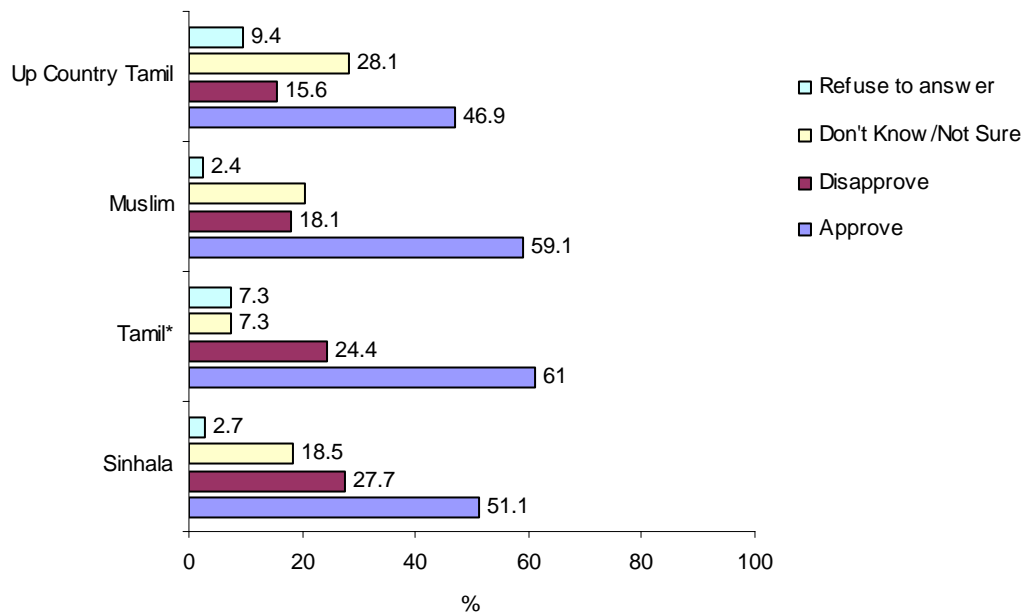


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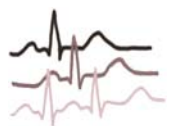


Do you approve of international assistance for the facilitation of future peace negotiations?

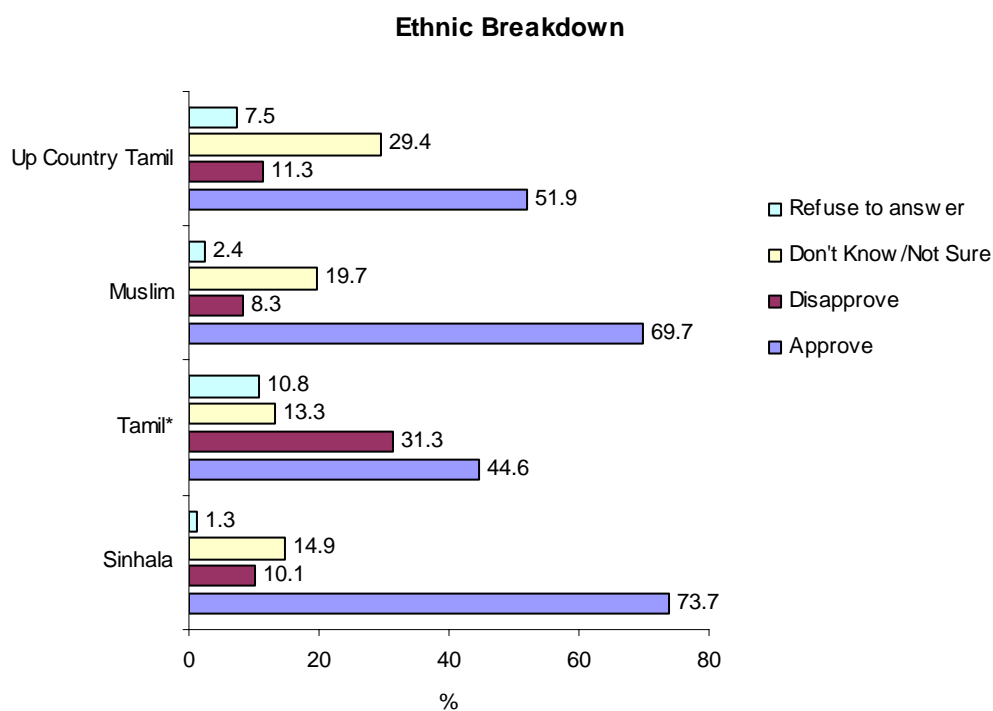
Ethnic Breakdown



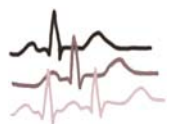
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Do you approve of international assistance for the government's development projects?

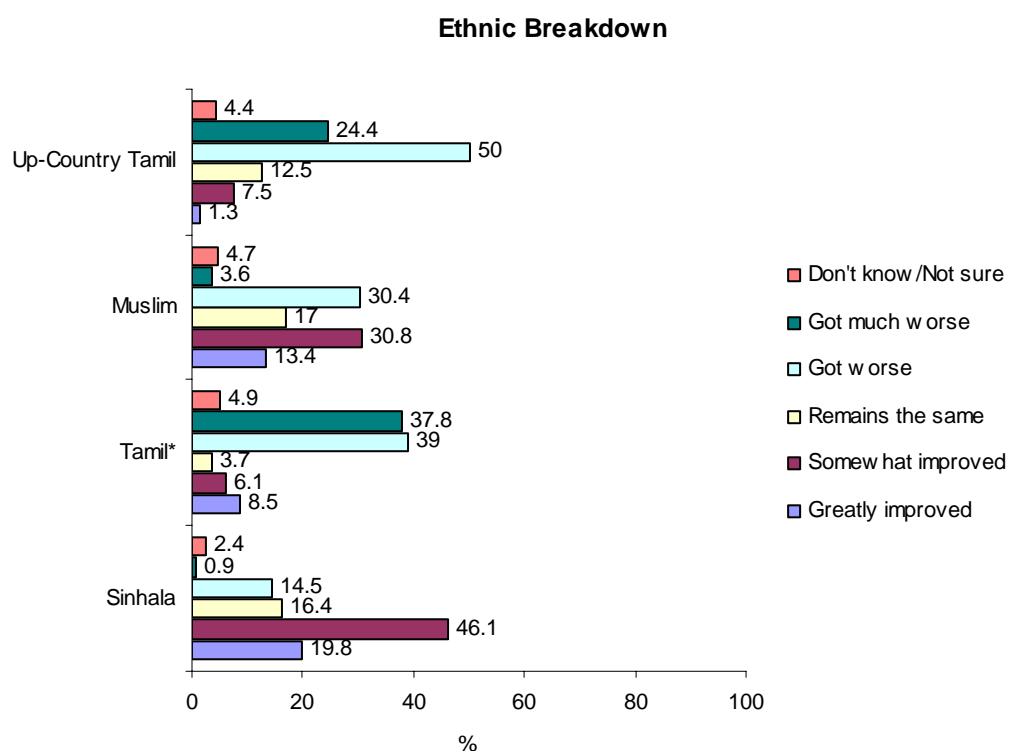


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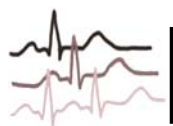


Current Security Conditions

Compared to the situation a year ago, do you think the security situation in the country has improved or worsened?

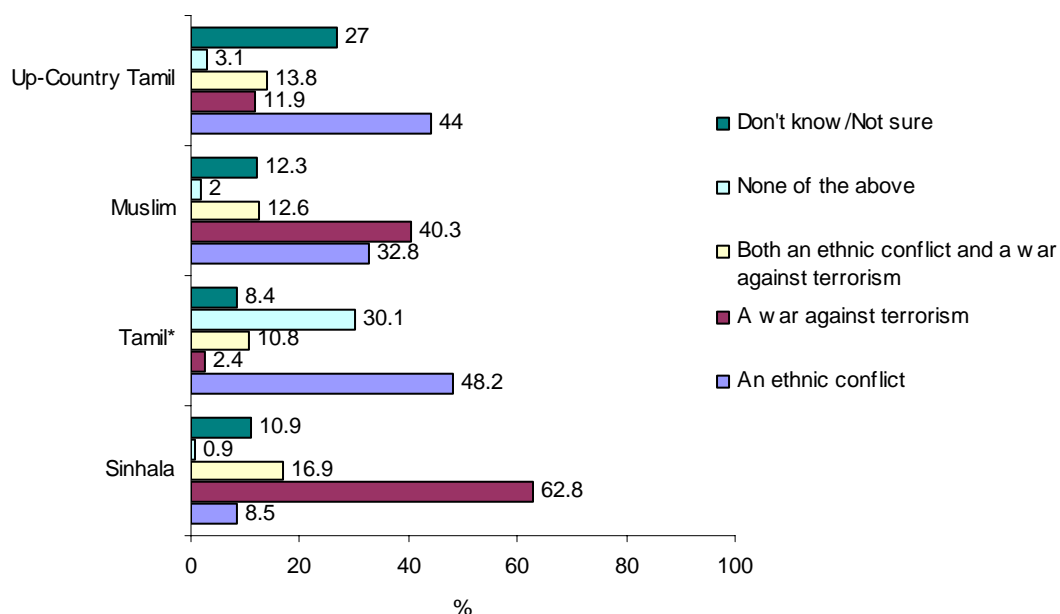


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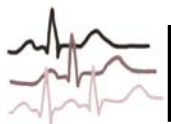


Some say that the country is involved in an ethnic conflict, while others describe the situation as a war against terrorism. How would you describe the situation?

Ethnic Breakdown

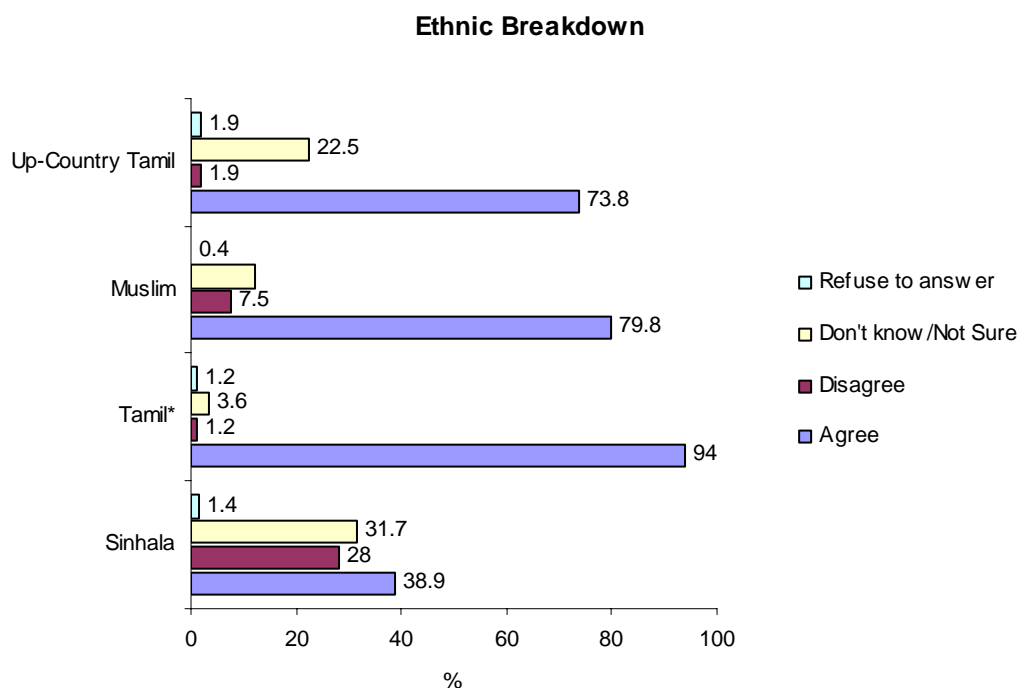


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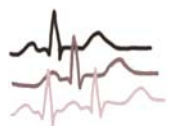


Human Rights

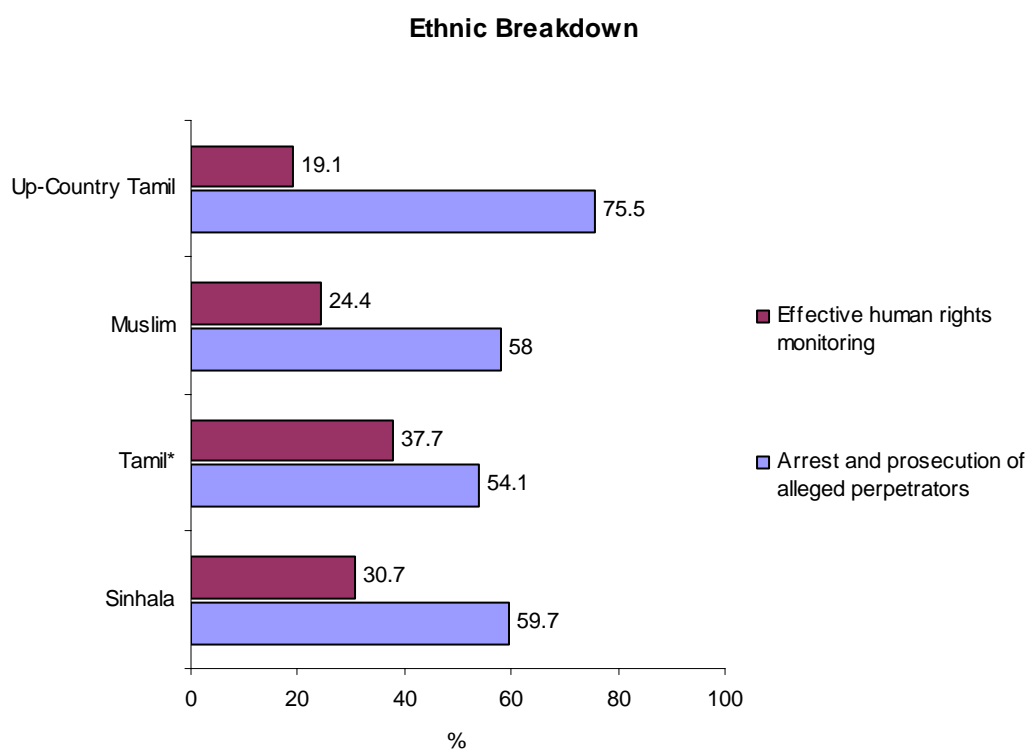
Some say that Sri Lanka continues to have a serious human rights problem. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?



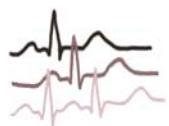
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



What do you feel should be done about this?

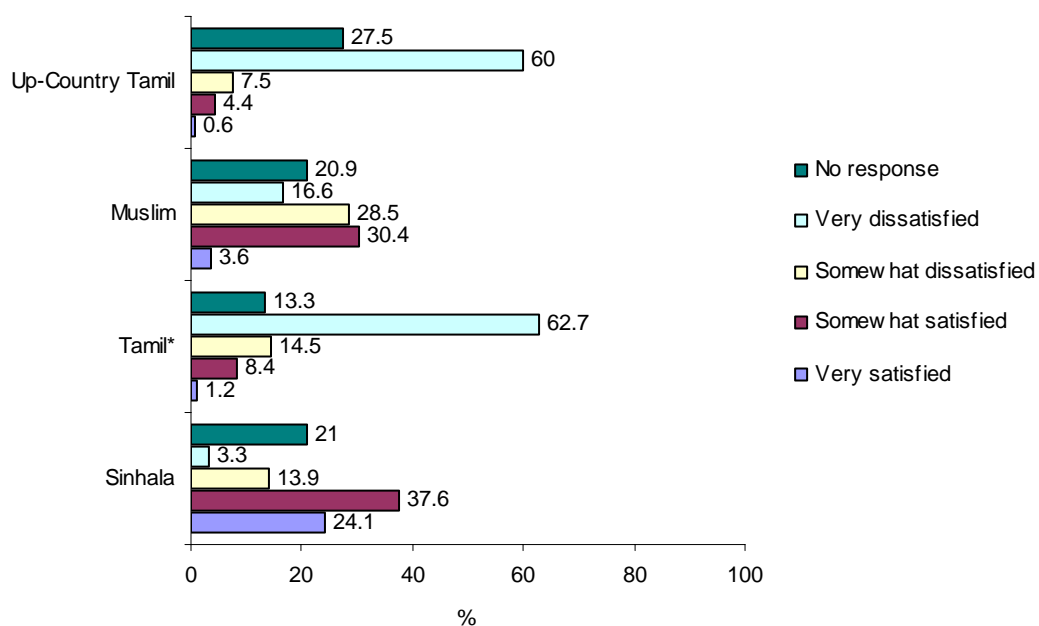


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

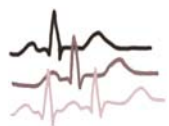


How satisfied are you with the action taken by the government to protect human rights in Sri Lanka?

Ethnic breakdown

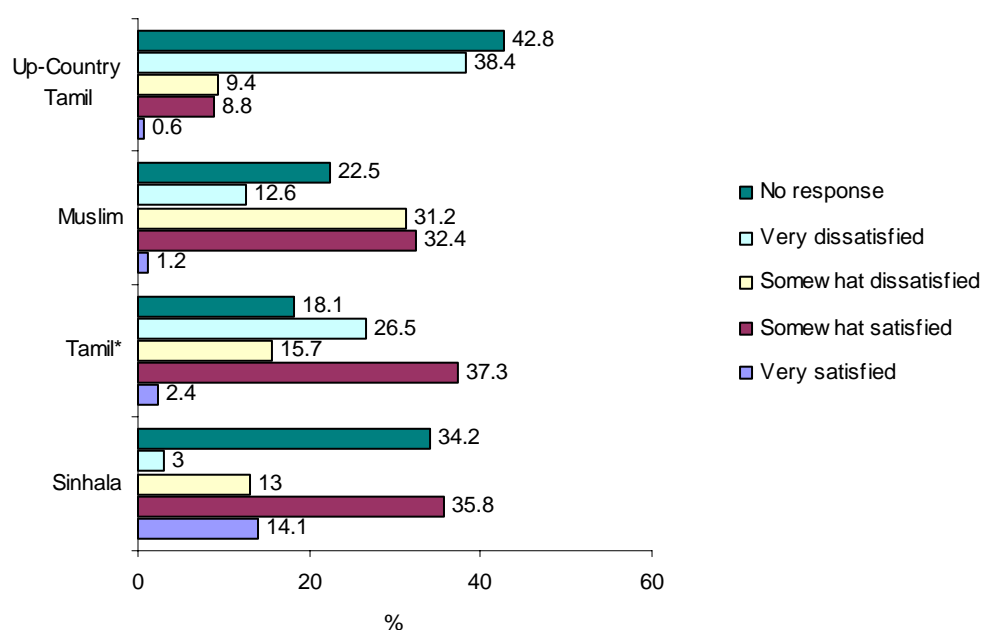


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

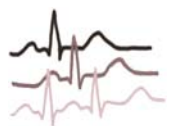


How satisfied are you with the action taken by local human rights organisations to protect human rights in Sri Lanka?

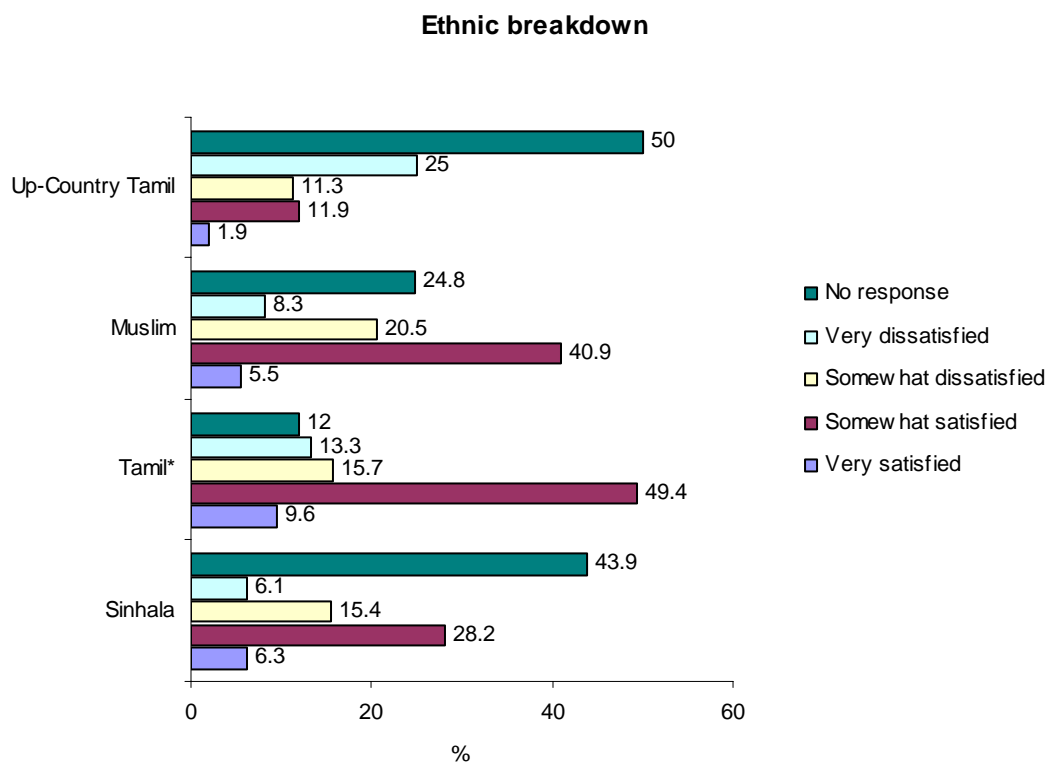
Ethnic breakdown



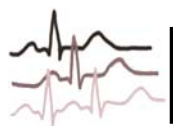
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



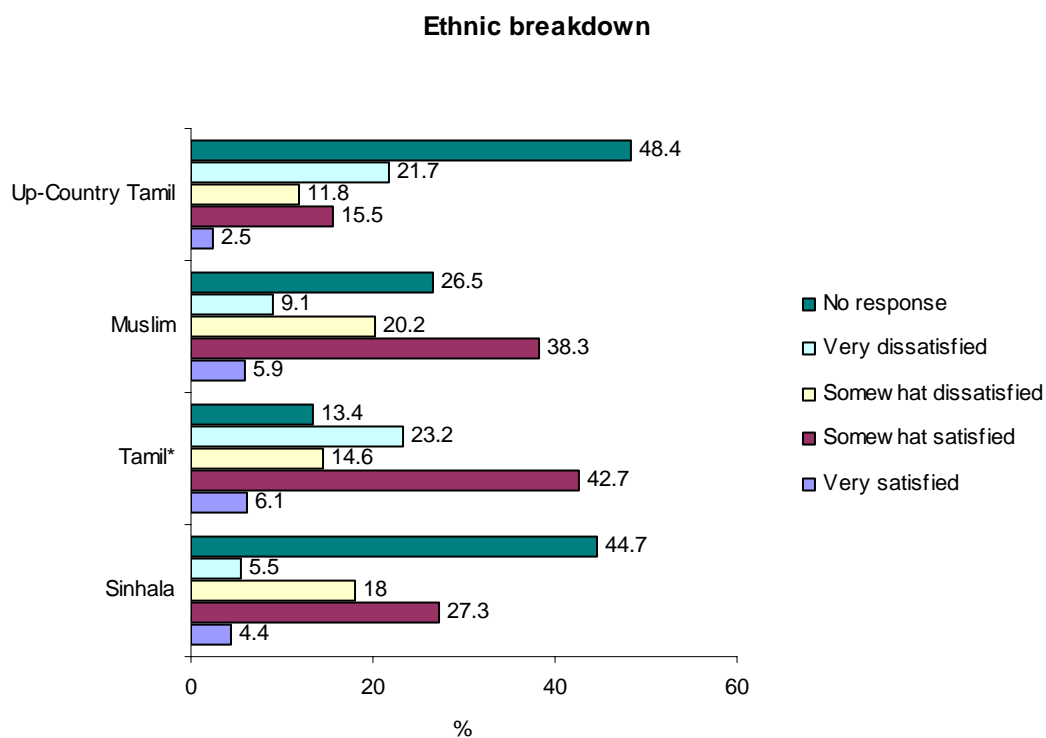
How satisfied are you with the action taken by international human rights organisations to protect human rights in Sri Lanka?



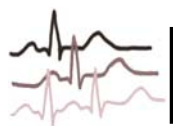
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.
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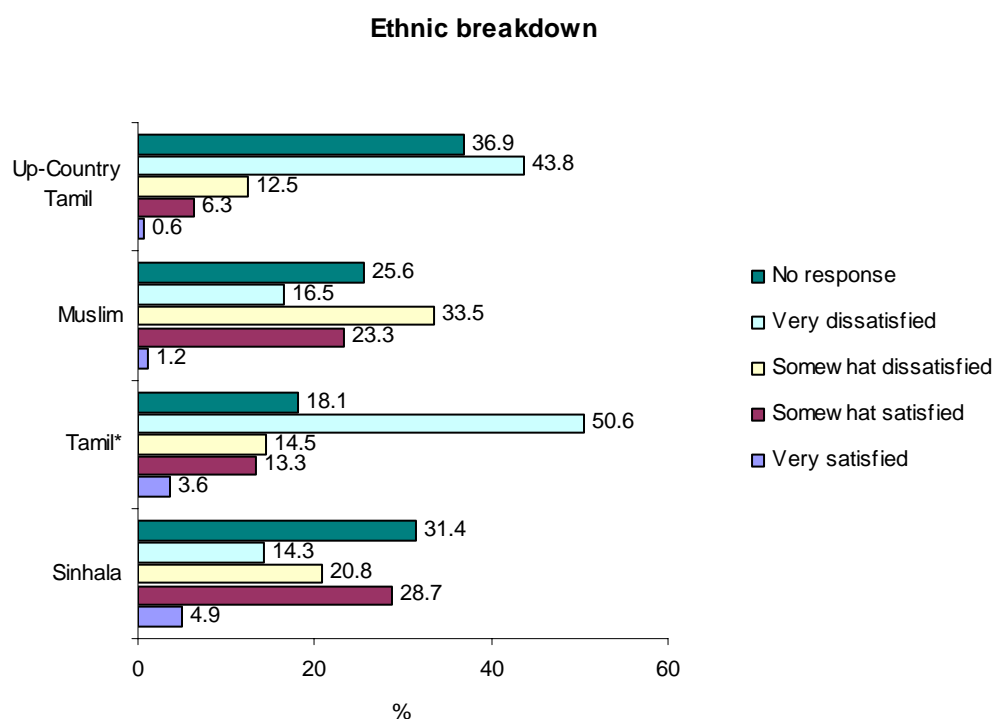
How satisfied are you with the action taken by the international community to protect human rights in Sri Lanka?



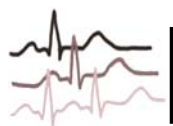
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



How satisfied are you with the action taken by political parties to protect human rights in Sri Lanka?

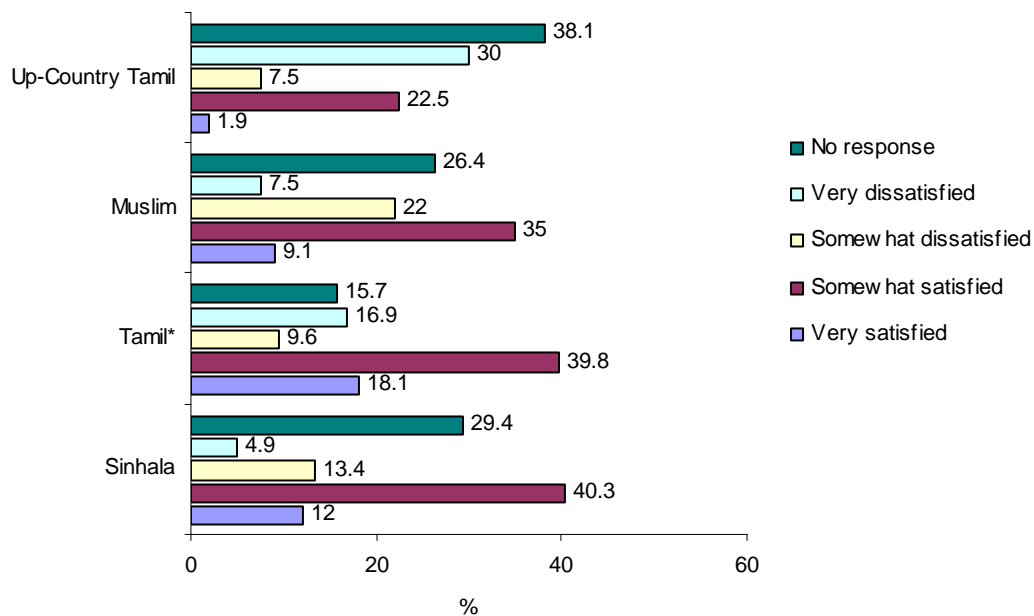


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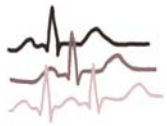


How satisfied are you with the action taken by the media to protect human rights in Sri Lanka?

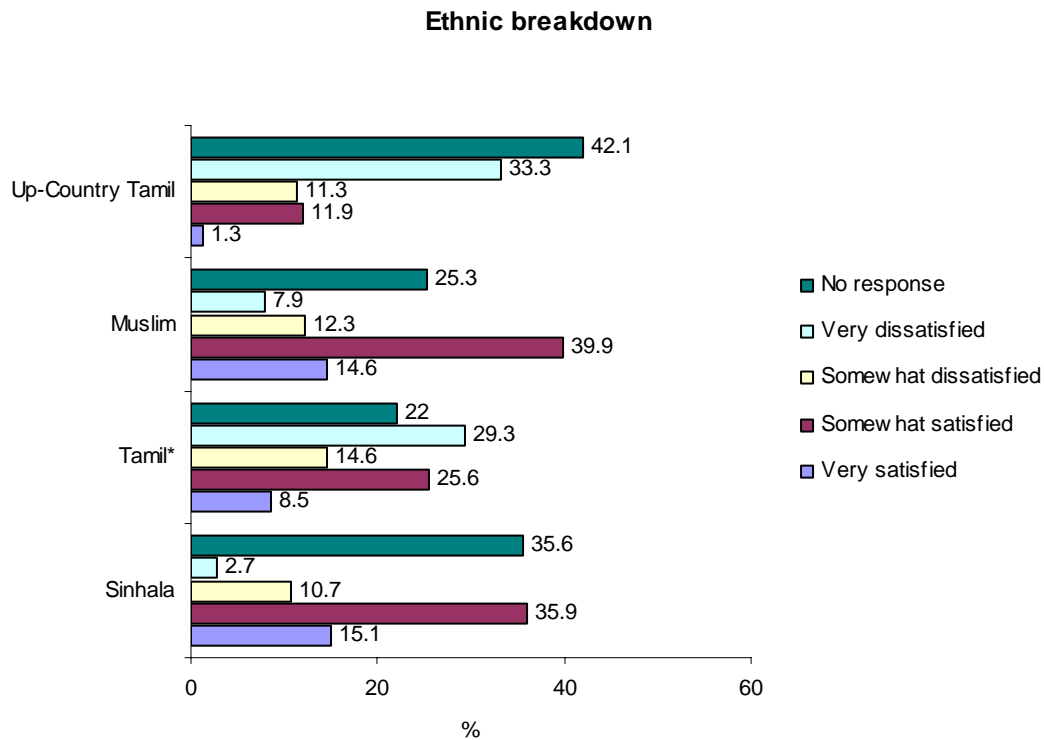
Ethnic breakdown



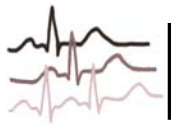
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



How satisfied are you with the action taken by religious leaders to protect human rights in Sri Lanka?

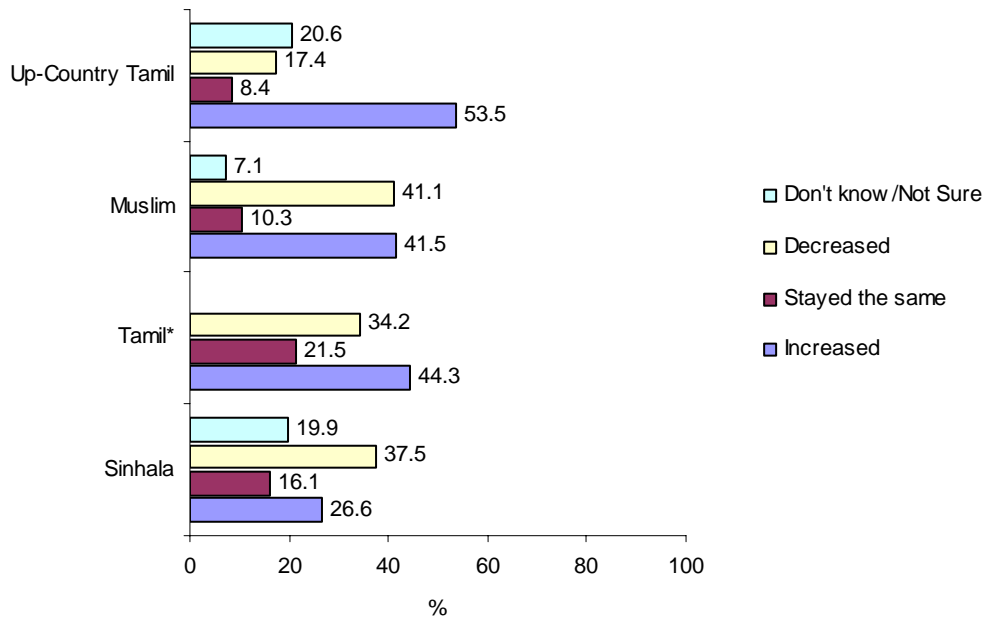


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



With regards to instances of killings and abductions during the last three months, do you think they have increased or decreased when compared to the situation six months ago?

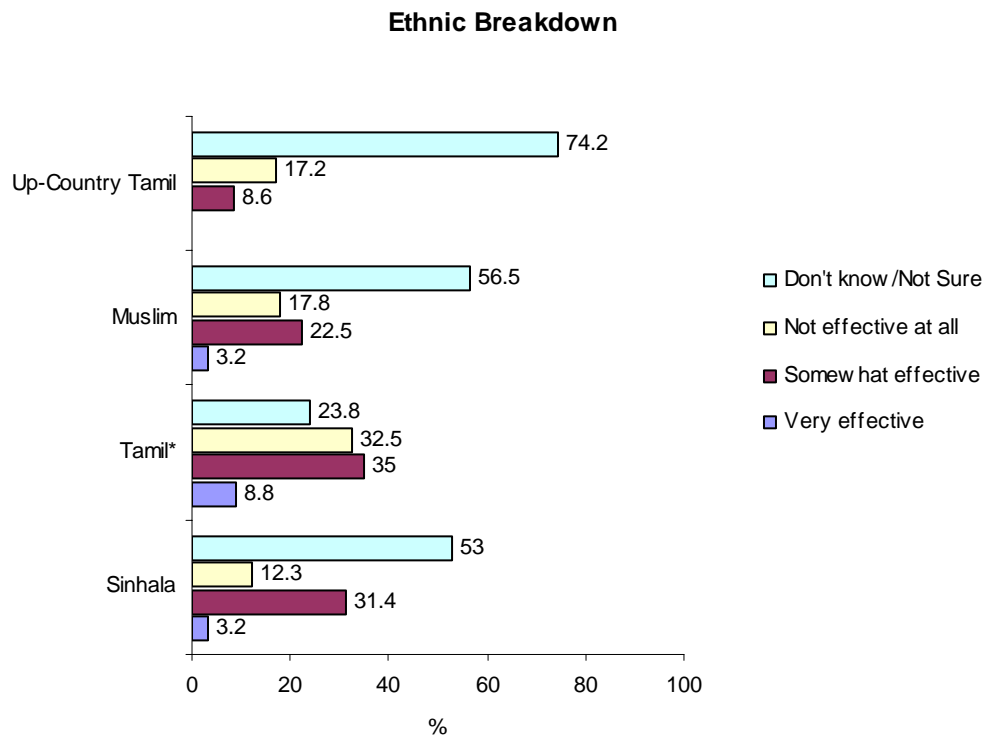
Ethnic Breakdown



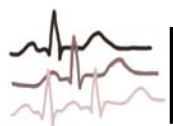
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



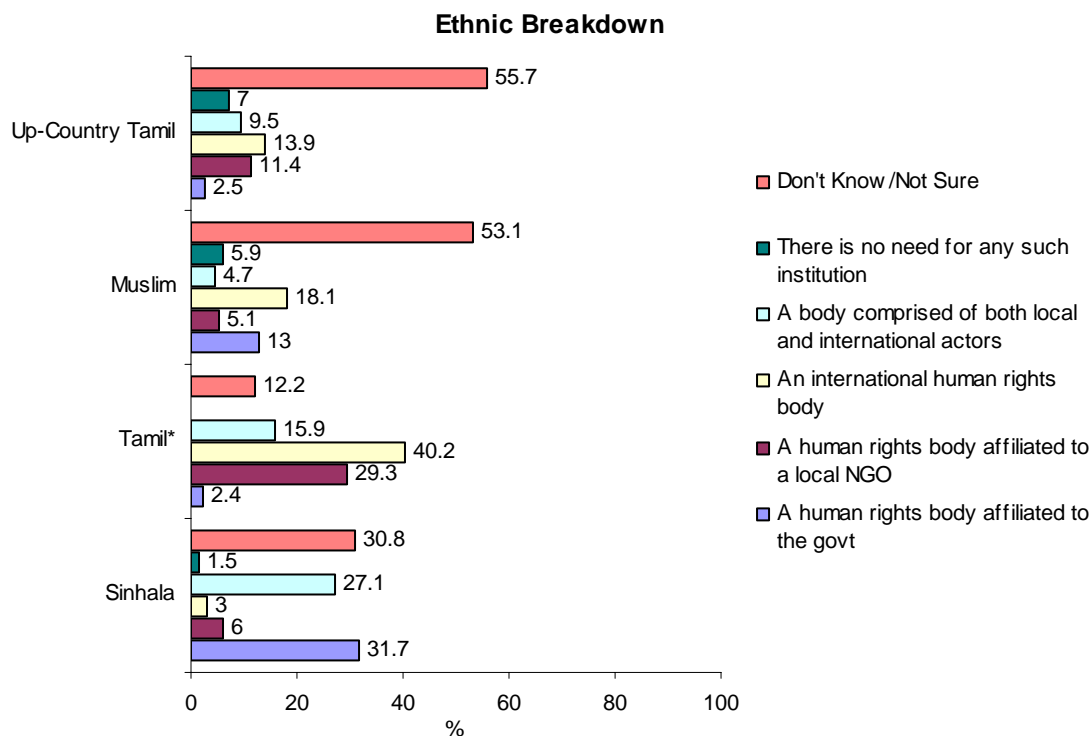
A National Human Rights Commission has been functioning in Sri Lanka for some time now. How effective would you say it has been in the protection of human rights?



*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



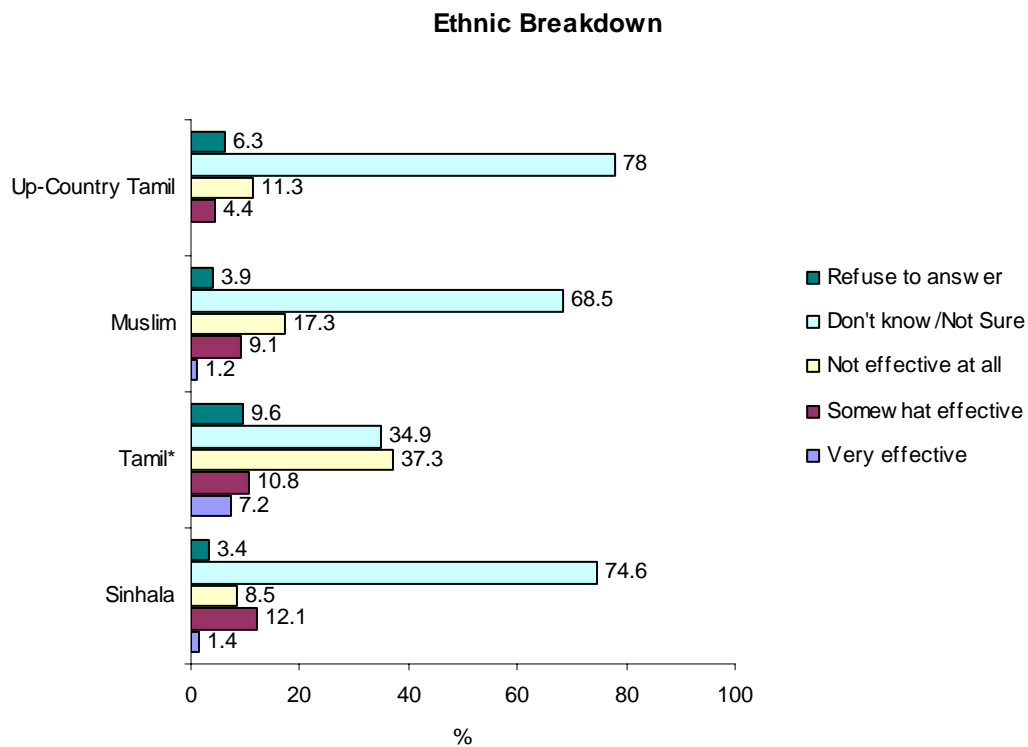
Which would be best to monitor human rights in Sri Lanka?



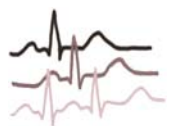
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



In November 2006, a temporary Commission of Inquiry was established with a mandate to investigate, inquire and report to the President on 17 identified incidents of human rights violations occurring since 1st August 2005. During its one year tenure, how effective do you feel the COI has been in the fulfilling of this mandate?



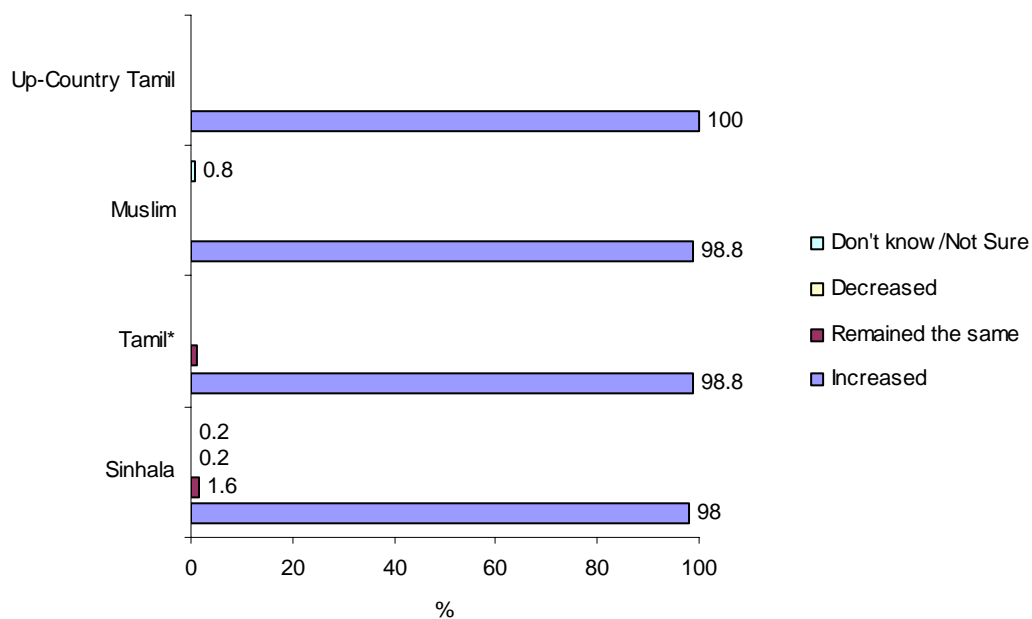
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



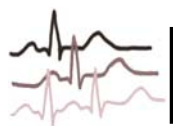
Cost of Living

Compared to the situation a year ago, do you think the cost of living in the country has increased or decreased?

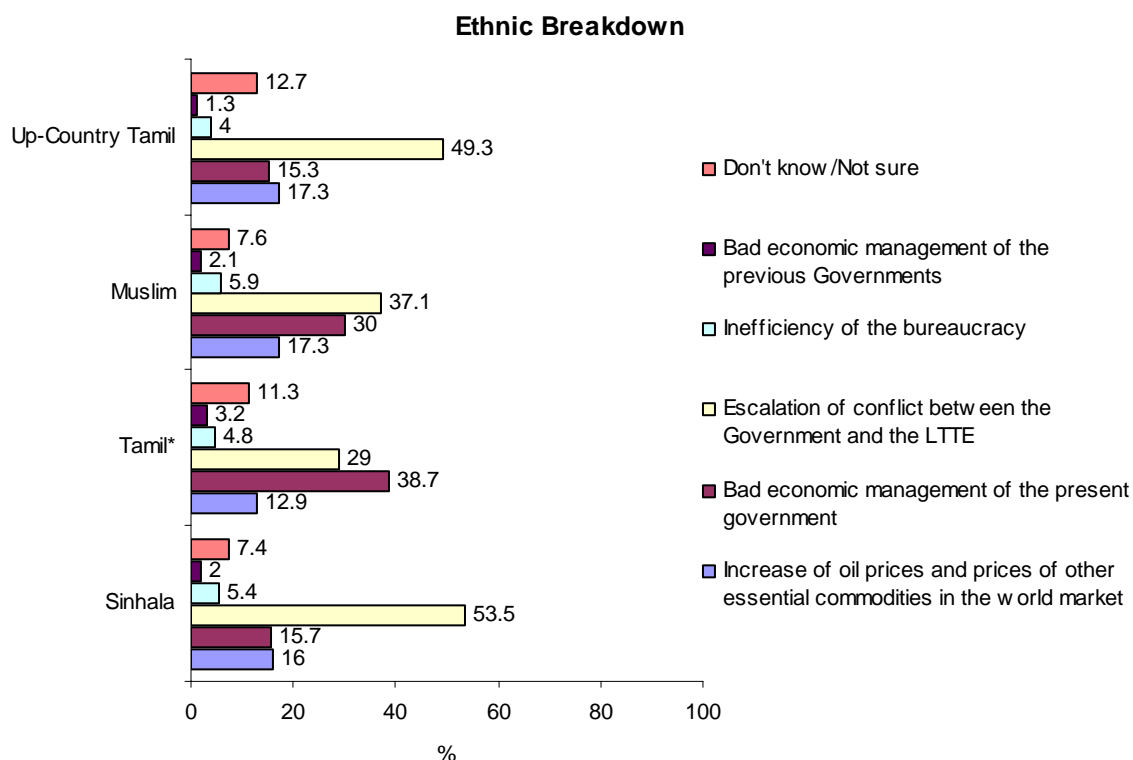
Ethnic Breakdown



*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



What do you think is the main reason for the increase in the cost of living?

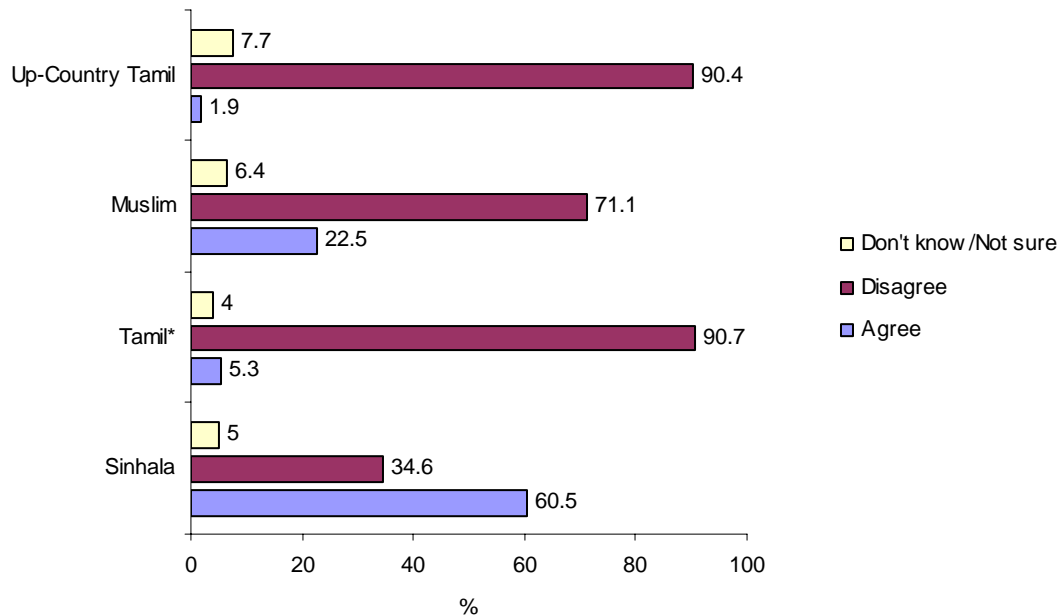


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



I will bear the cost of living for the sake of the government's effort in fighting against the LTTE.

Ethnic Breakdown

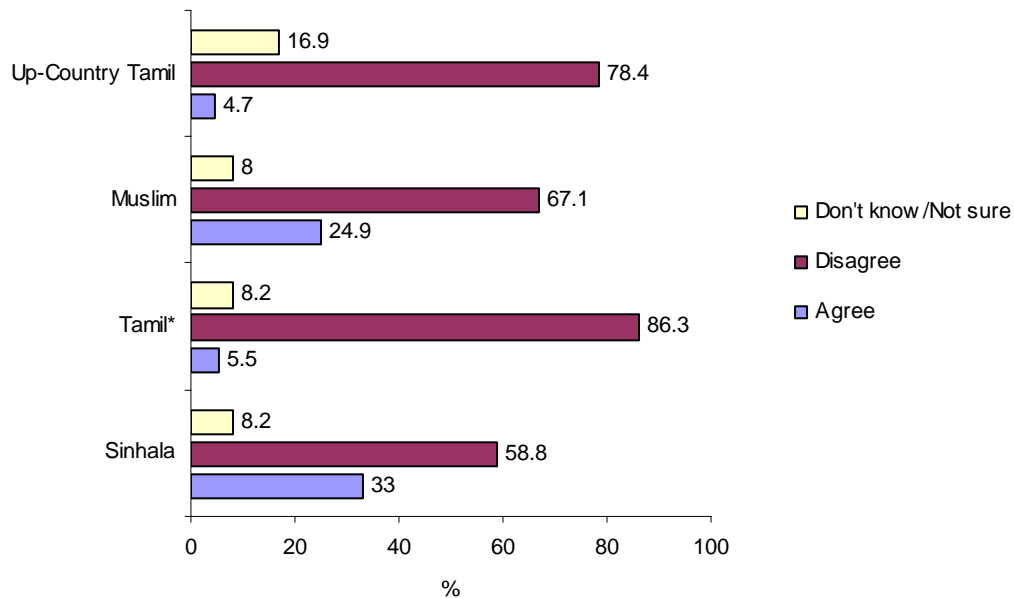


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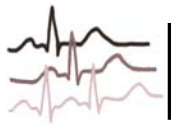


I will bear the present cost of living because the government says prices in the world market have increased.

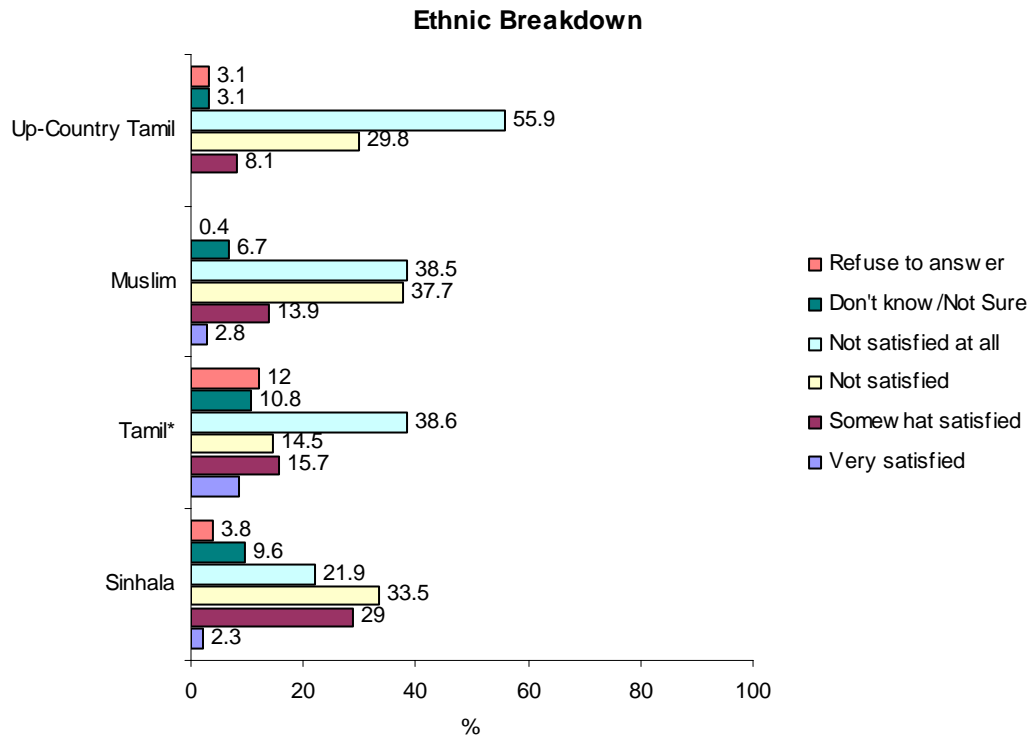
Ethnic Breakdown



*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Are you satisfied with the action taken by politicians of the party you support with regard to the rising cost of living?

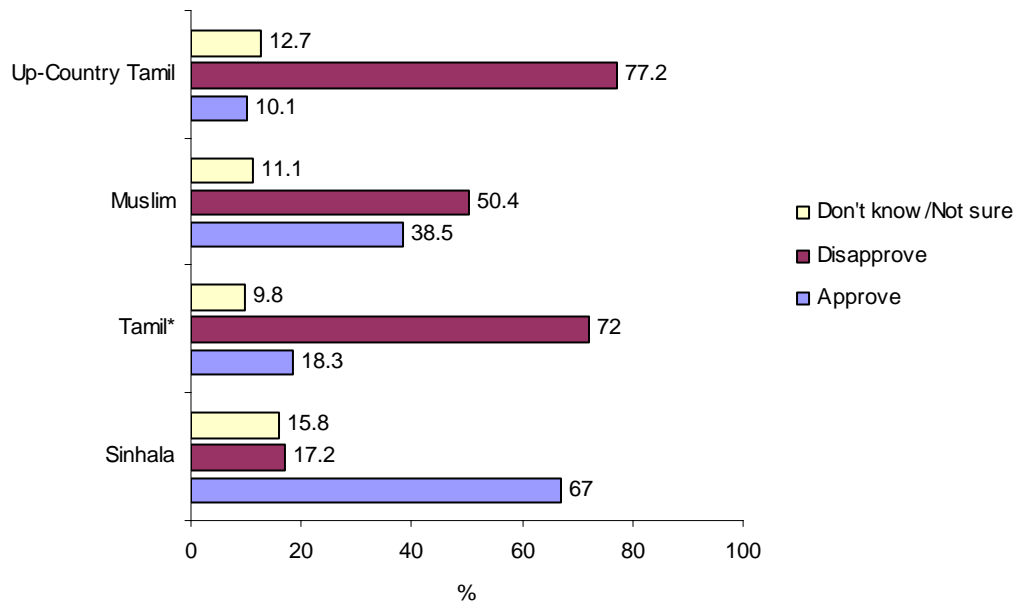


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

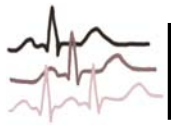


Do you approve or disapprove of the government increasing their defence spending?

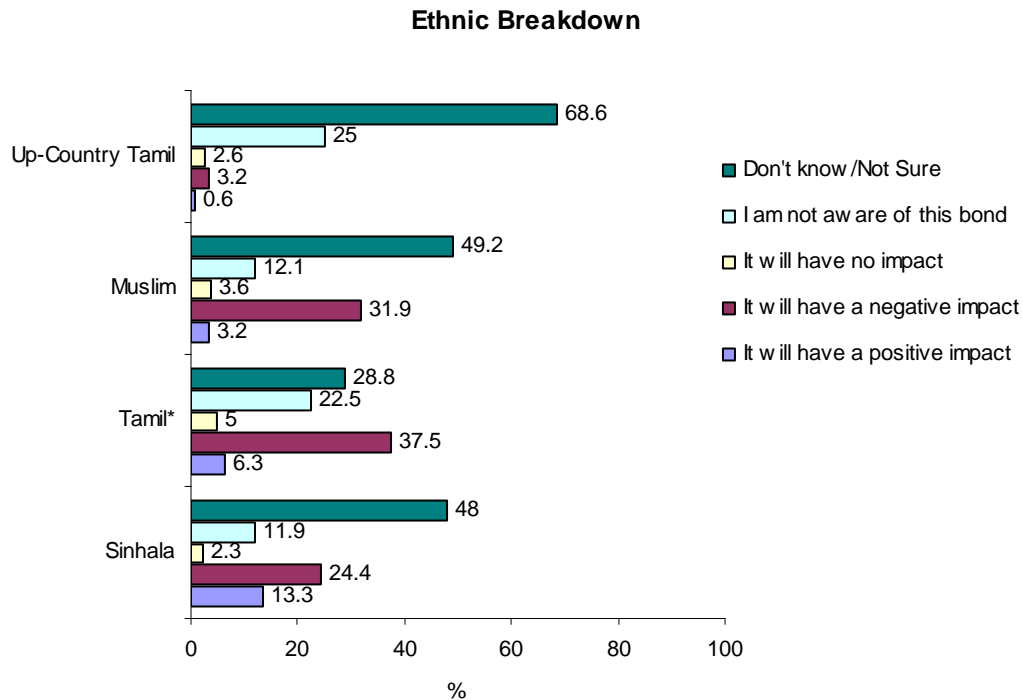
Ethnic Breakdown



*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



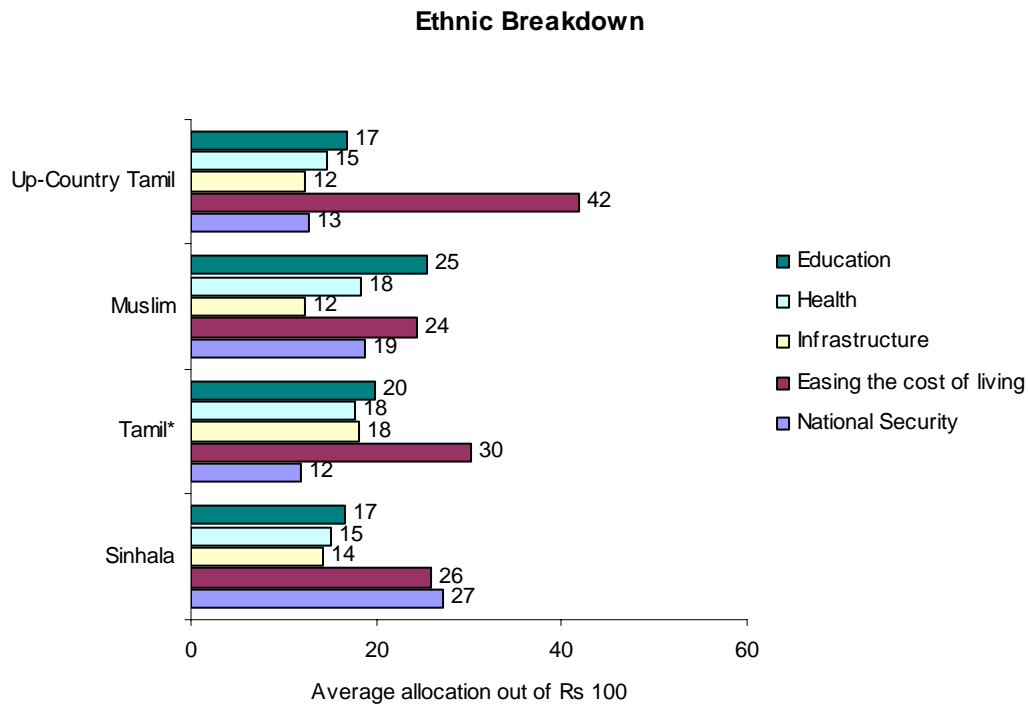
If you are aware of the recent US\$500 m government bond, what effect do you think it will have on the cost of living?



*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Assume that the government has only a hundred rupees which it has to distribute among national security, easing the cost of living, investing in infrastructure building, health and education. How would you distribute it?

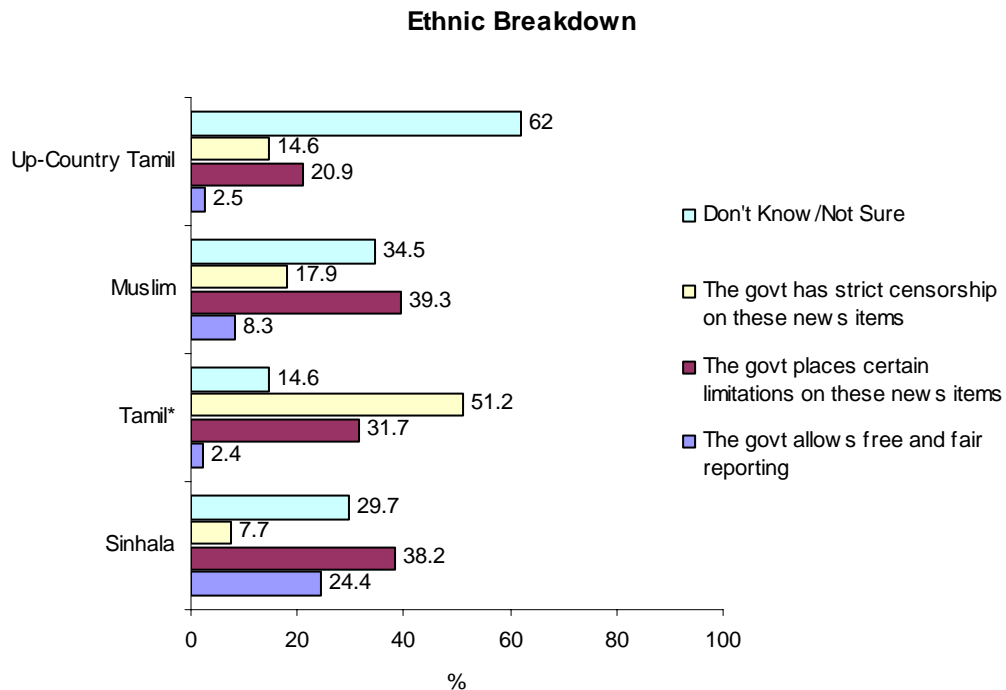


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

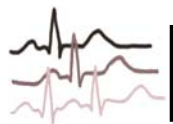


Freedom of Expression and Information

There have been reports that the government is placing certain restrictions on the reporting of defence related issues. Which of the following best reflects your opinion on this?

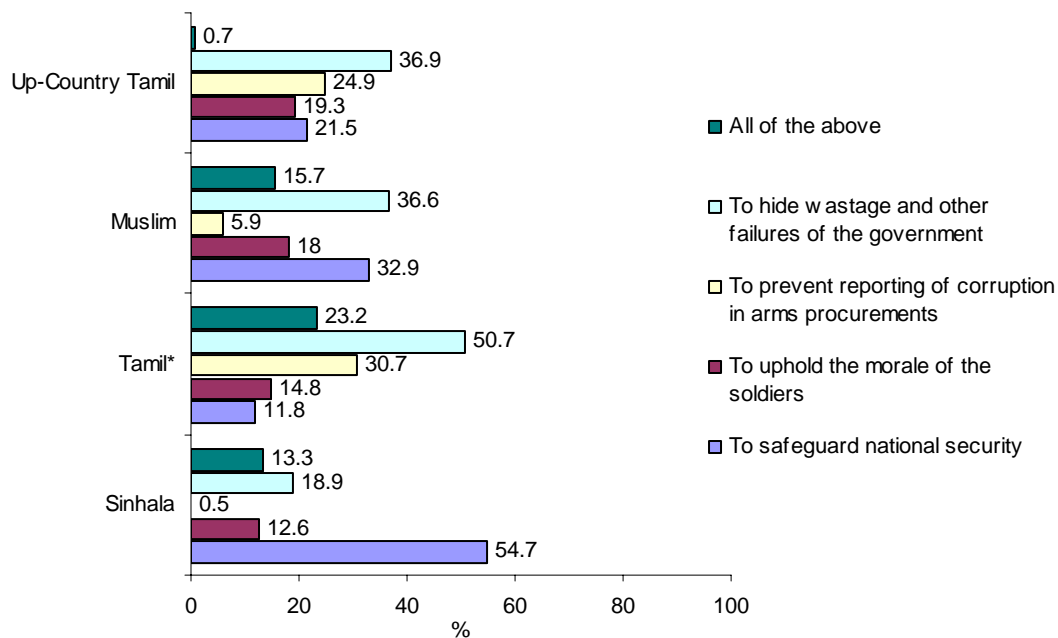


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community

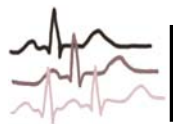


Why do you feel that the government places such restrictions on the media?

Ethnic Breakdown

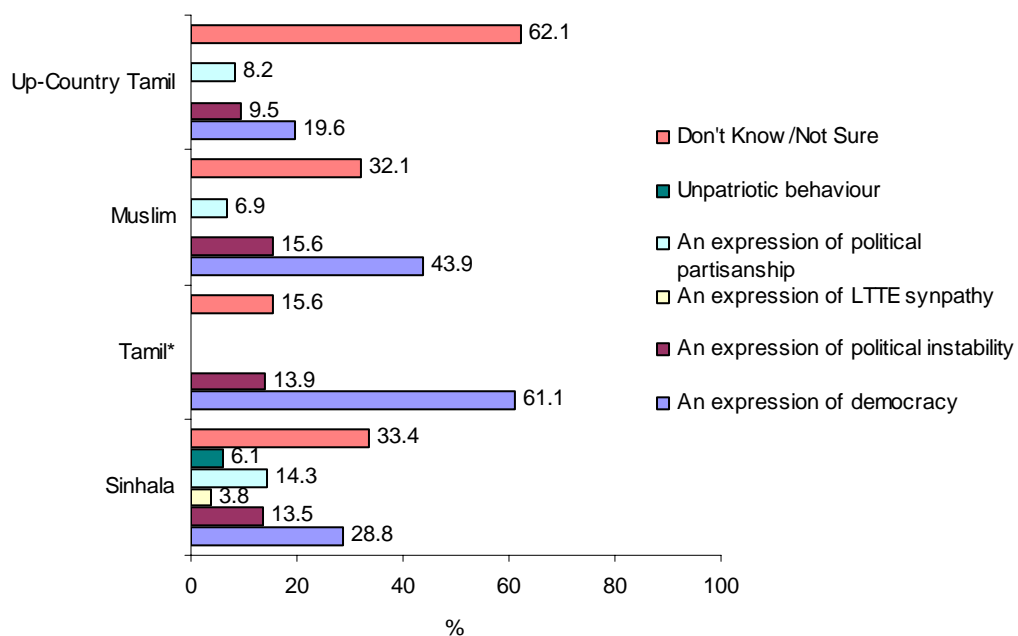


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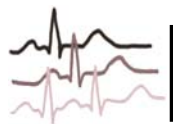


Do you feel that media reports critical of the government reflect:

Ethnic Breakdown

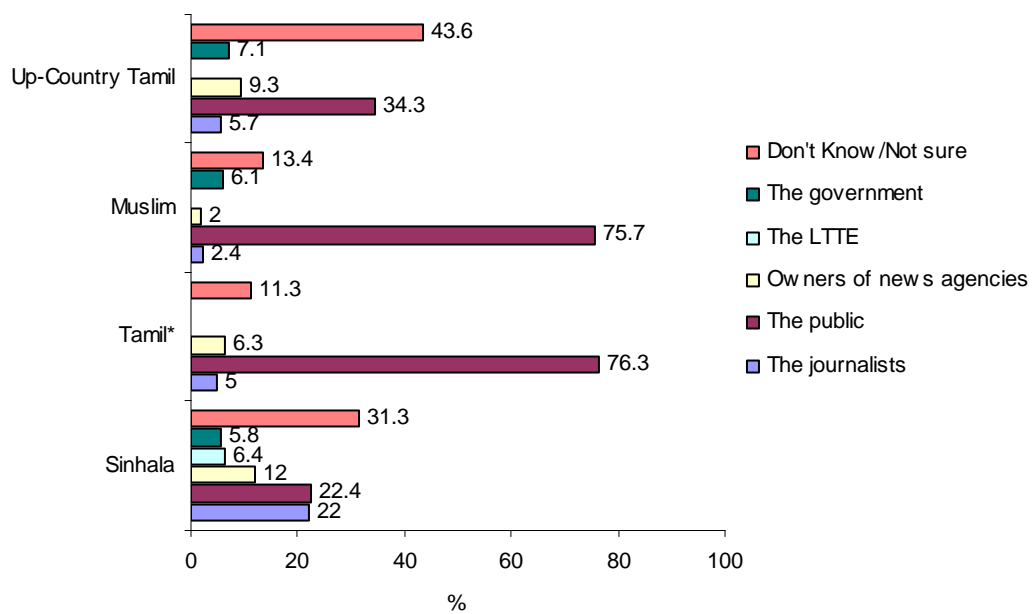


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

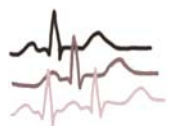


Who benefits most from media freedom?

Ethnic Breakdown



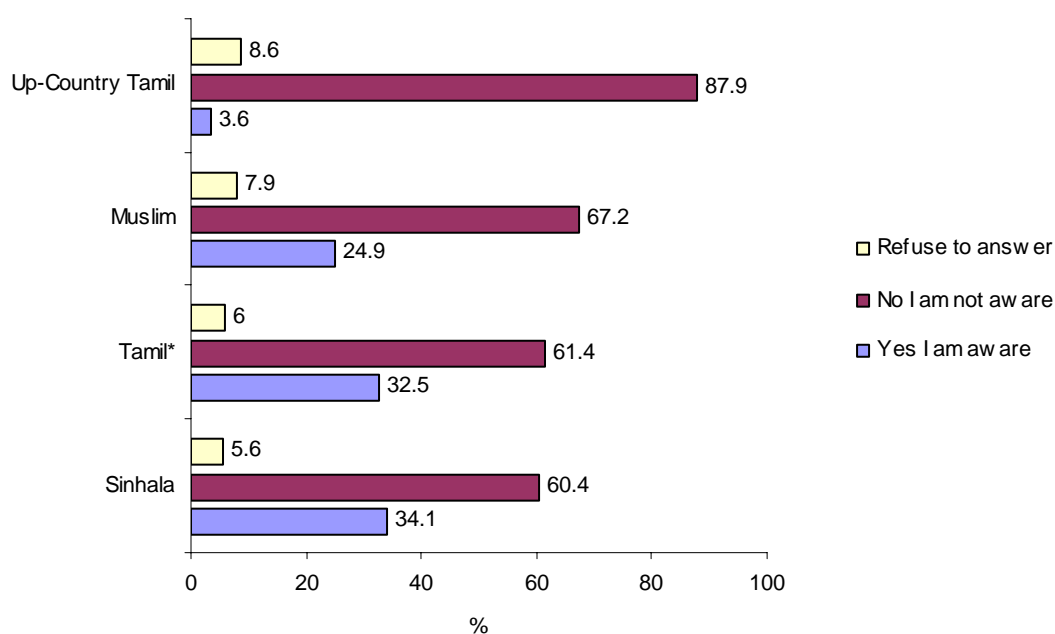
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



The State and Corruption

The Committee on Public Enterprise recently presented its report on corruption and fraudulent activity in 26 government institutions in Sri Lanka. Are you aware of this report?

Ethnic Breakdown

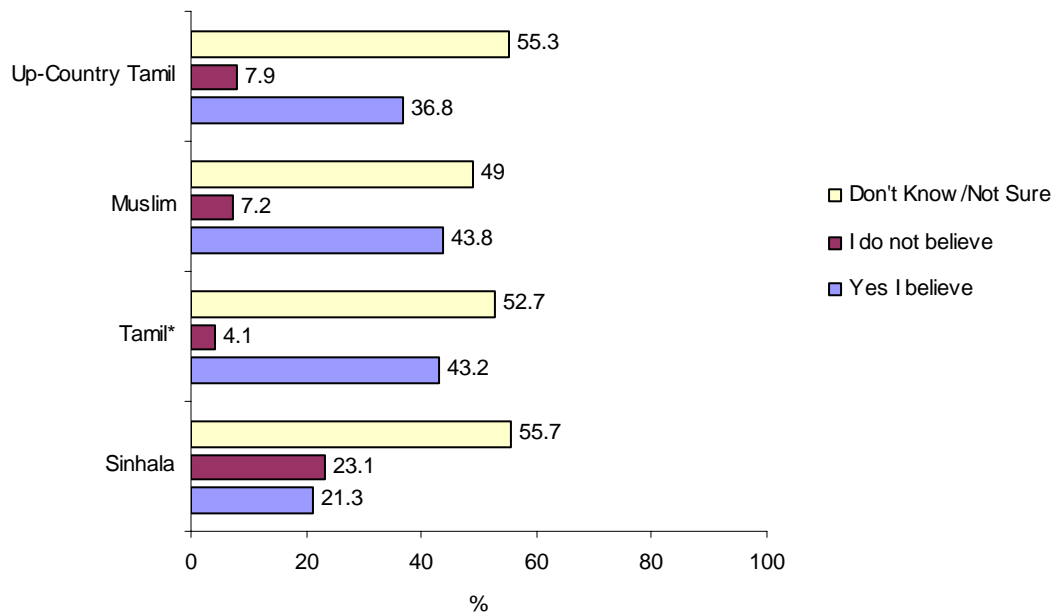


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



The opposition has alleged that there has been corruption in the recent acquisition of MIG 27 fighter jets. Do you believe in these accusations or not?

Ethnic Breakdown

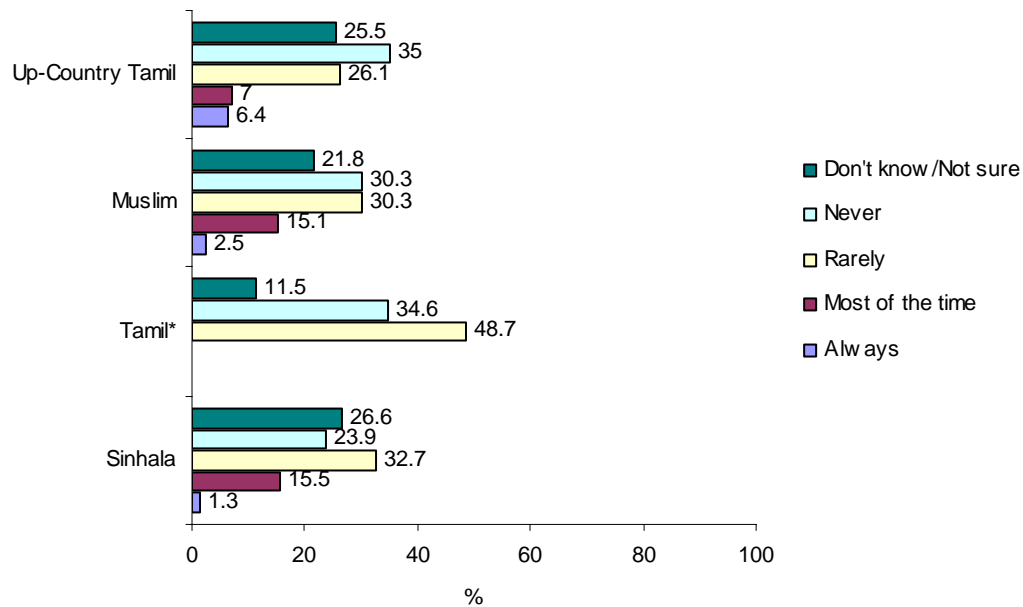


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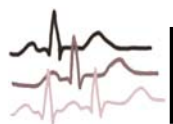


How often do you think perpetrators of crimes who have governmental connections are prosecuted for their misdeeds?

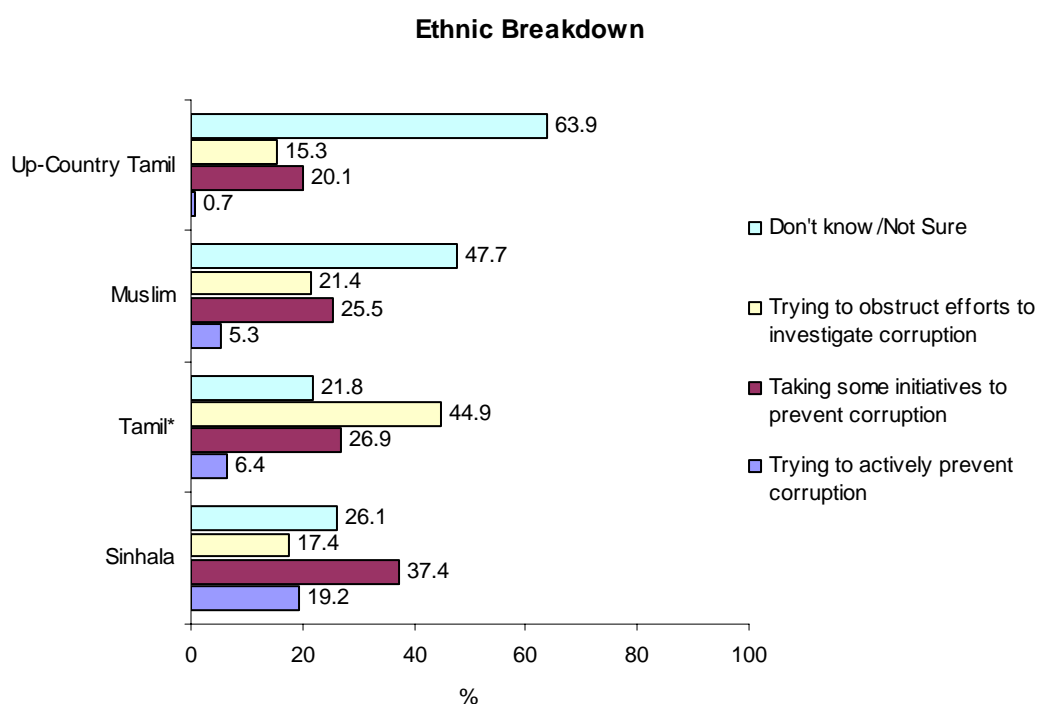
Ethnic Breakdown



*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



In its efforts to tackle corruption, do you think the government is:

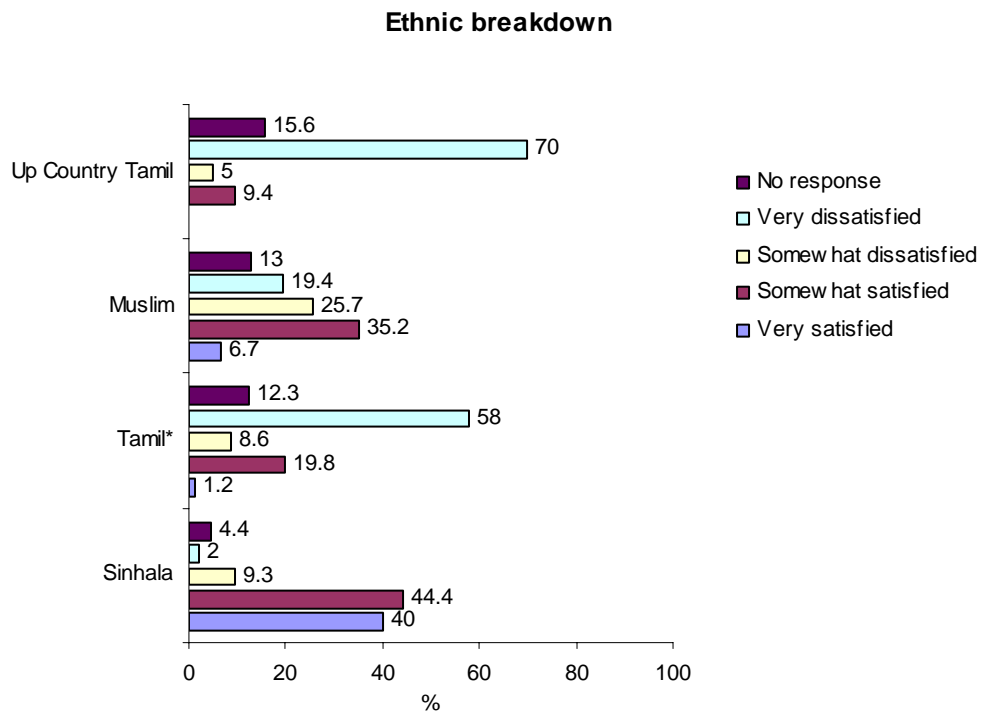


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

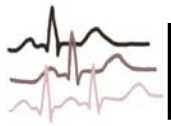


Mahinda Rajapakse

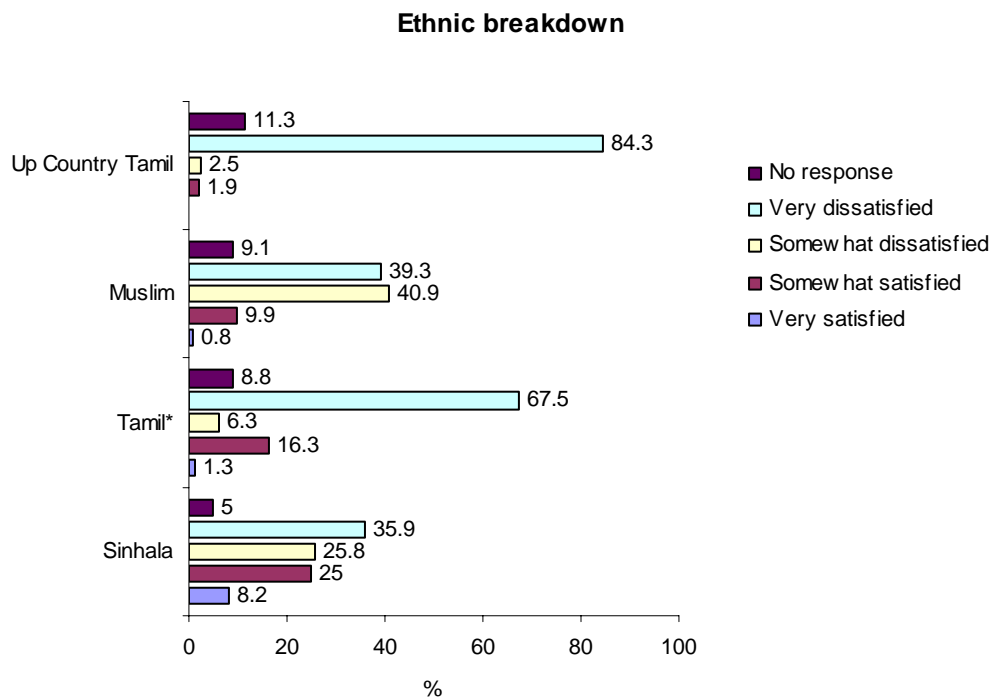
Please indicate your level of satisfaction with President Rajapakse's performance with regards to the preservation of law and order



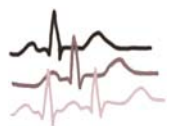
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



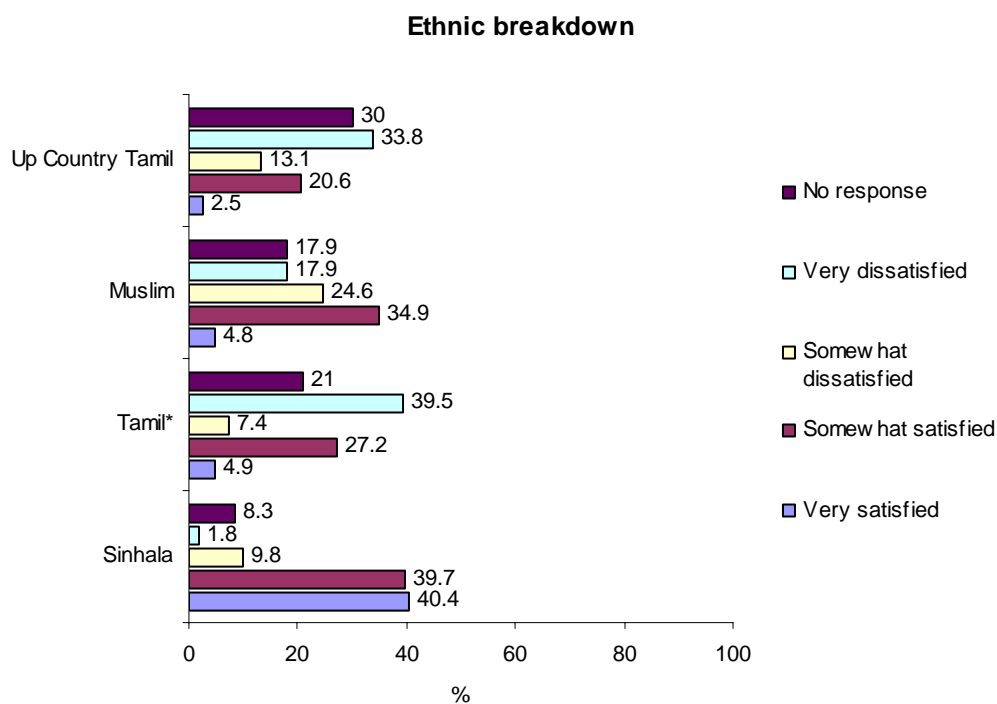
Please indicate your level of satisfaction with President Rajapakse's performance with regards to managing the cost of living



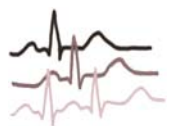
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



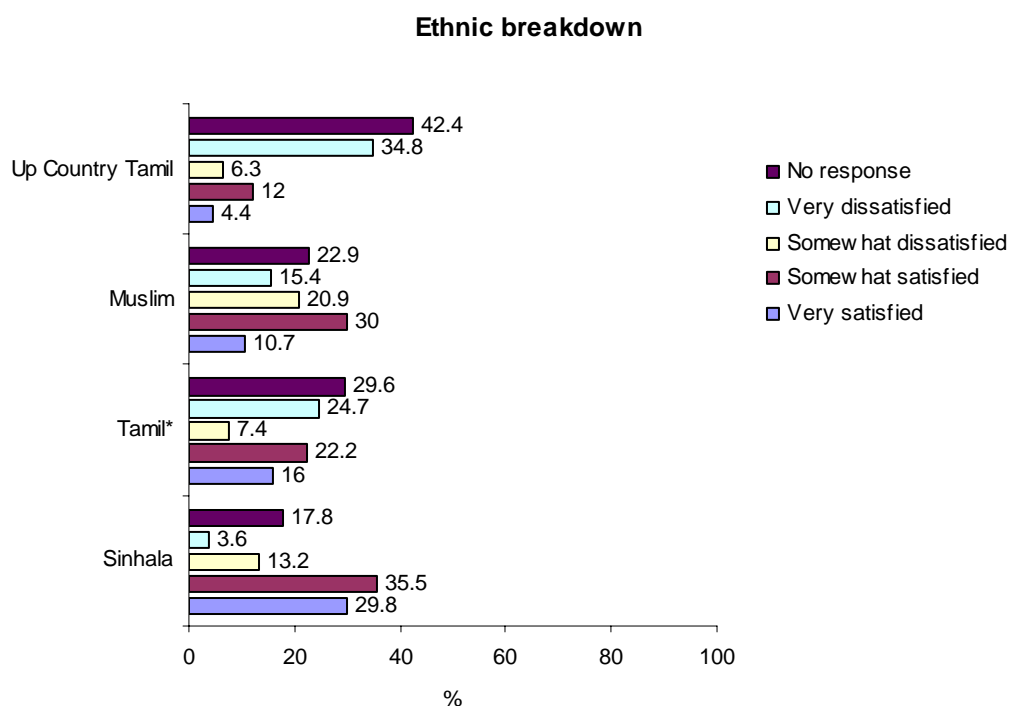
Please indicate your level of satisfaction with President Rajapakse's performance with regards to preserving social values



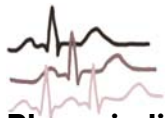
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



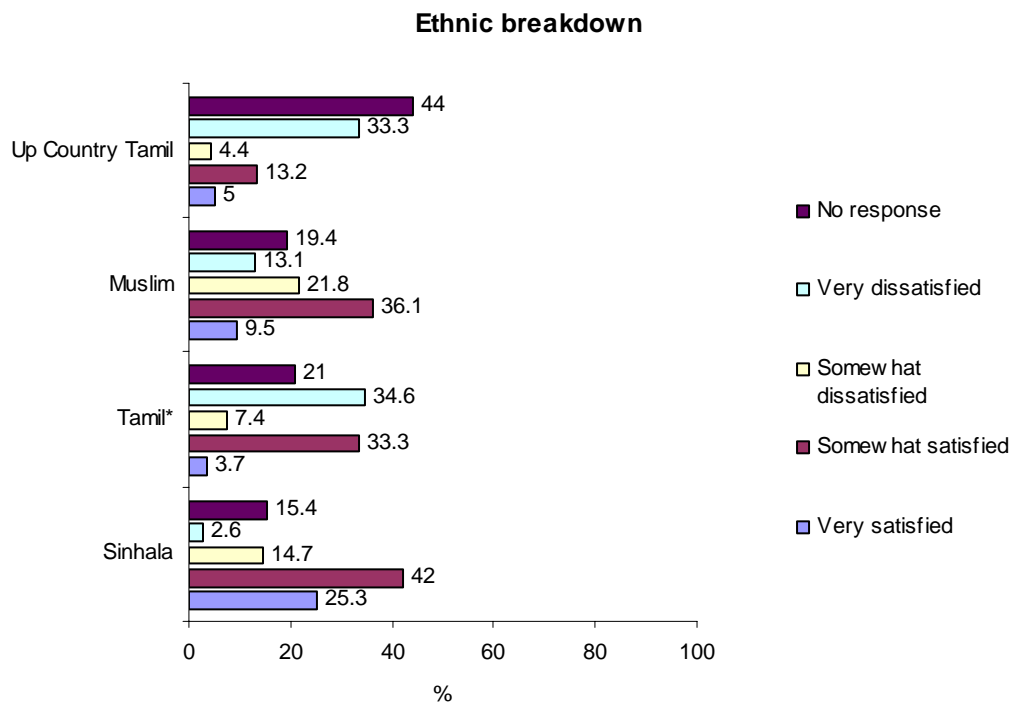
Please indicate your level of satisfaction with President Rajapakse's performance with regards to the management of his own party



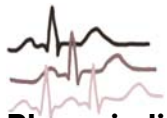
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Please indicate your level of satisfaction with President Rajapakse's performance with regards to the maintenance of international relations

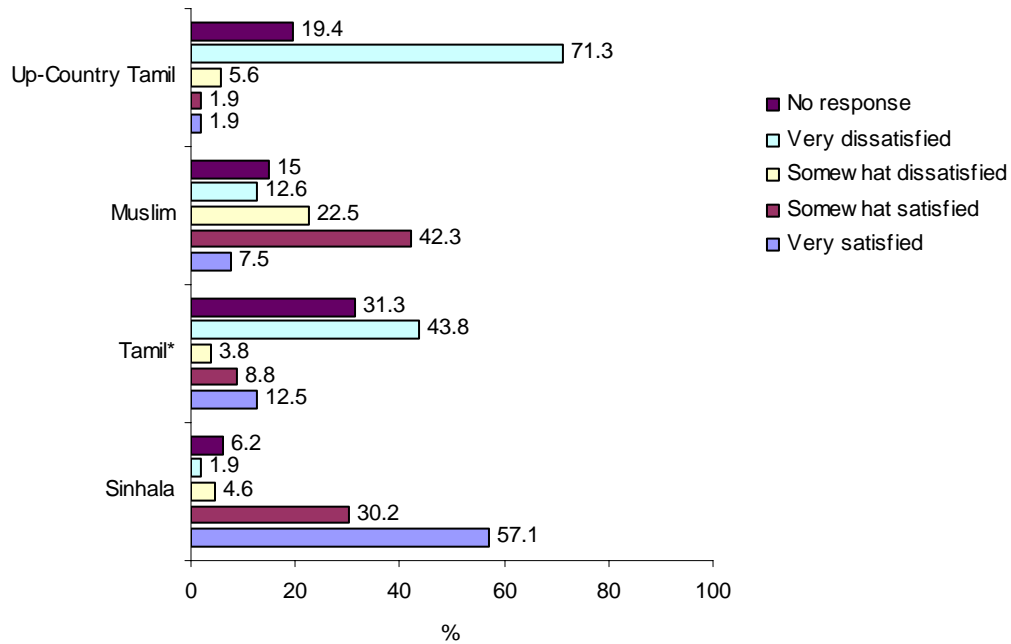


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

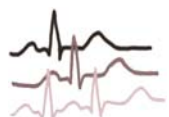


Please indicate your level of satisfaction with President Rajapakse's performance with regards to conducting the war

Ethnic breakdown

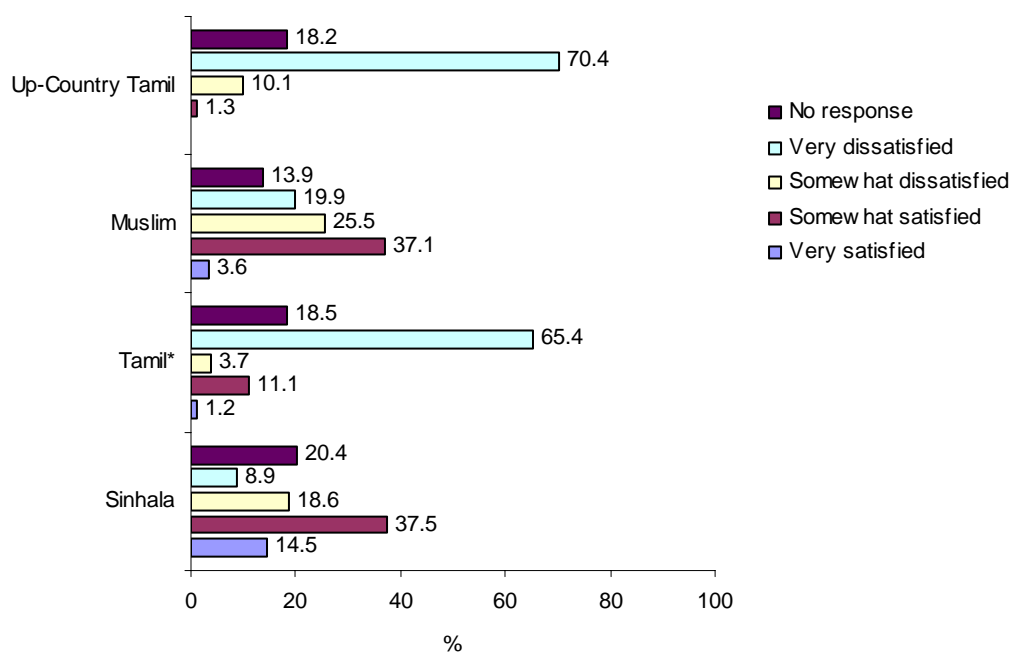


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Please indicate your level of satisfaction with President Rajapakse's performance with regards to conducting peace negotiations

Ethnic breakdown



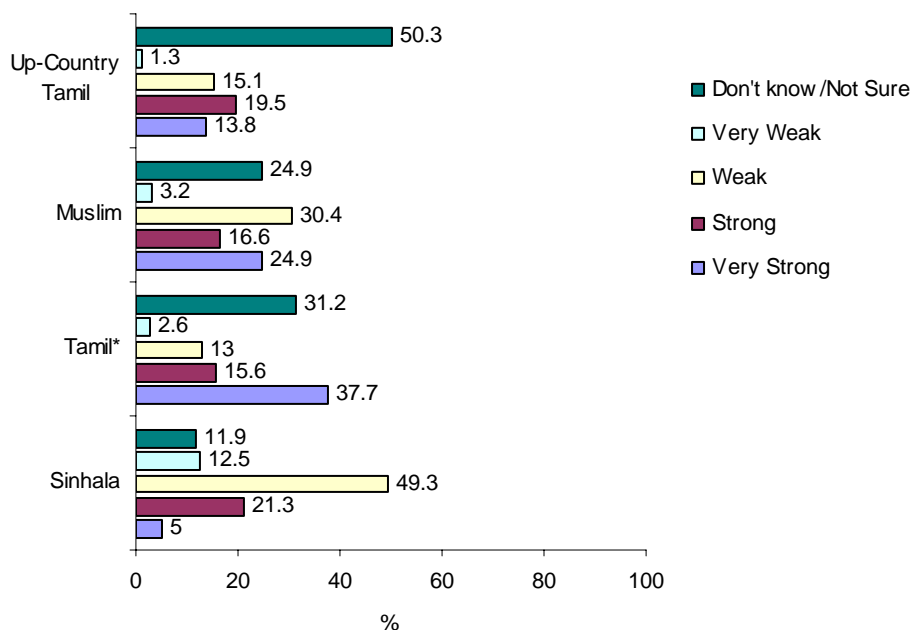
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Military Capacity

What is your assessment of the LTTE's current military capacity?

Ethnic Breakdown

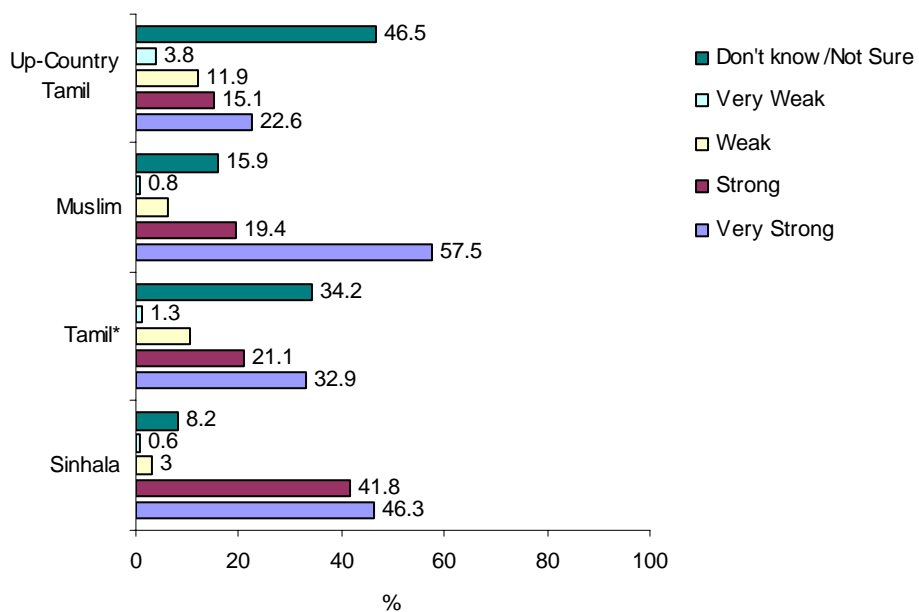


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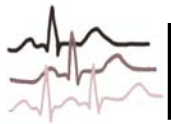


What is your assessment of the government's current military capacity?

Ethnic Breakdown

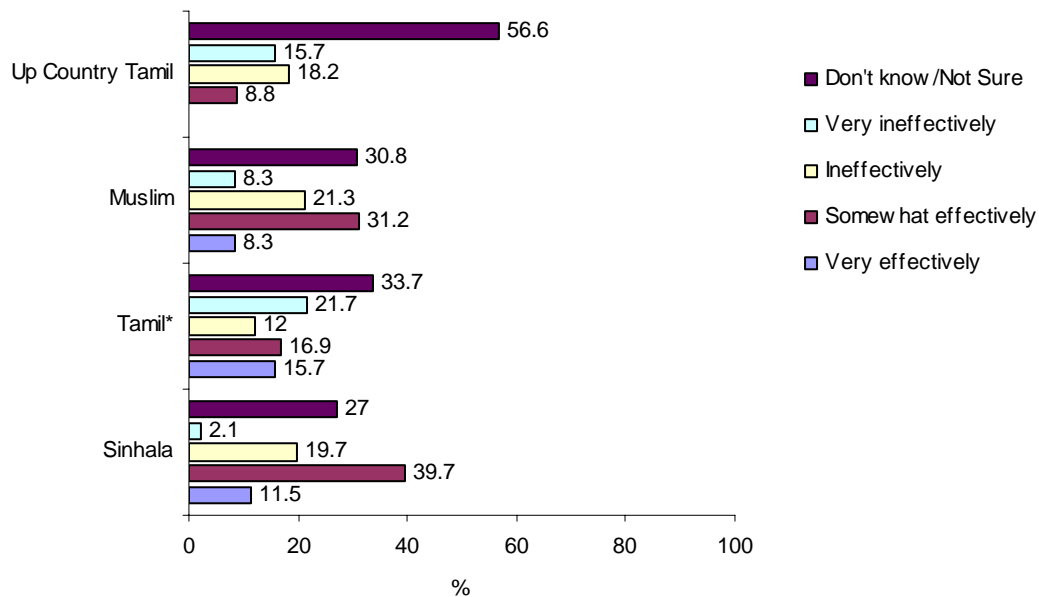


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

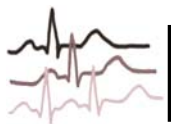


How effectively, would you say, has the government neutralised the LTTE's air capability and air strikes?

Ethnic Breakdown



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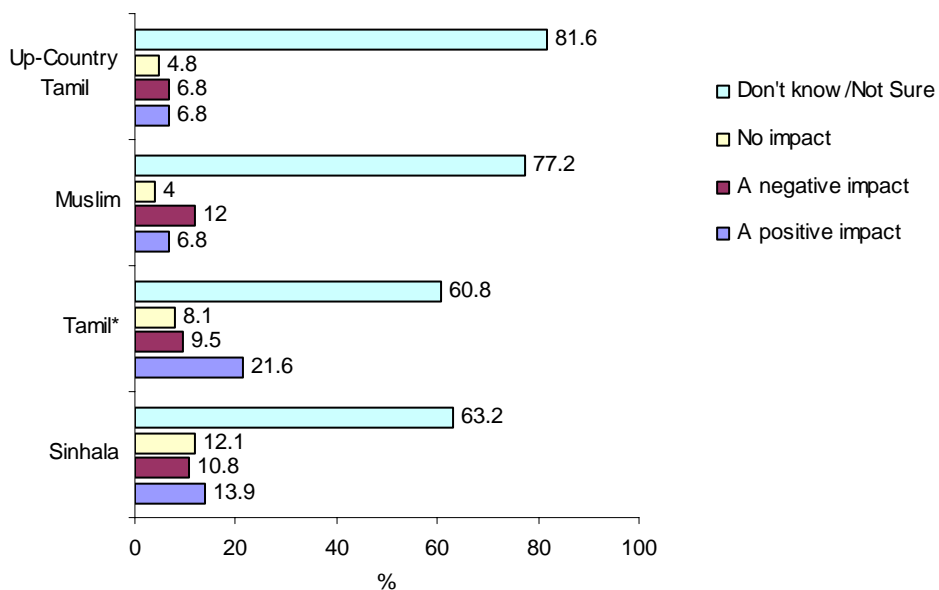


UNP and Federalism

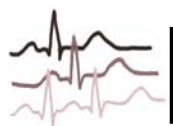
Recent news reports have claimed that the UNP have repositioned their stance regarding federalism, calling instead for a maximum level of power sharing.

In your opinion will this have a positive or negative impact on a political settlement?

Ethnic Breakdown

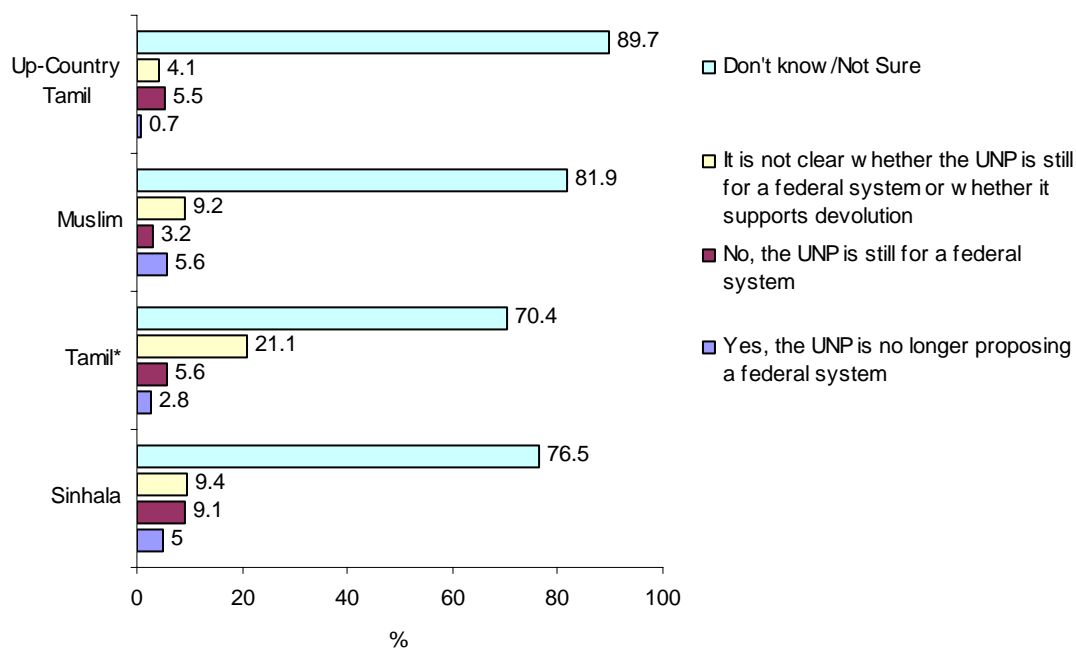


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Do you think that this amounts to a change in the UNP's position?

Ethnic Breakdown



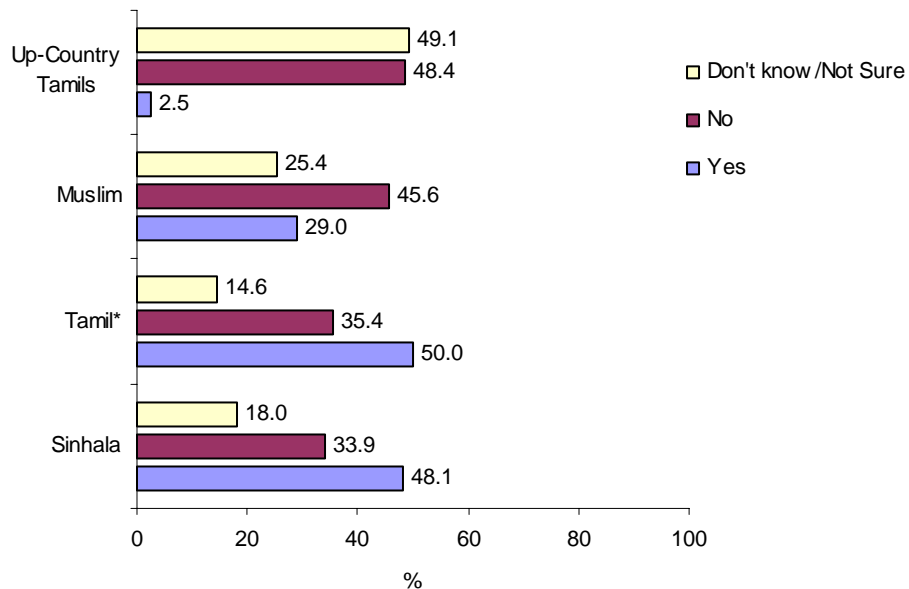
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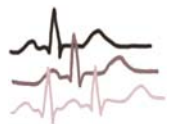
All Party Representative Committee

Are you aware of the All Party Representative Committee?

Ethnic Breakdown

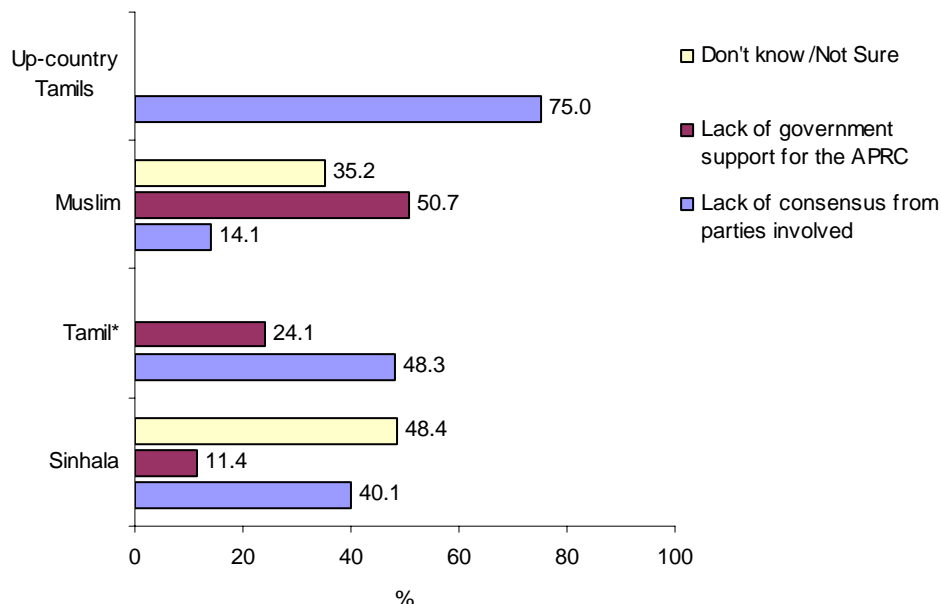


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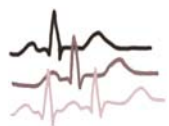


The final report from the committee was due to be published in September, however, it was announced that the APRC will now take a two month recess. What do you feel is the reason for the committee to take such a recess?

Ethnic Breakdown

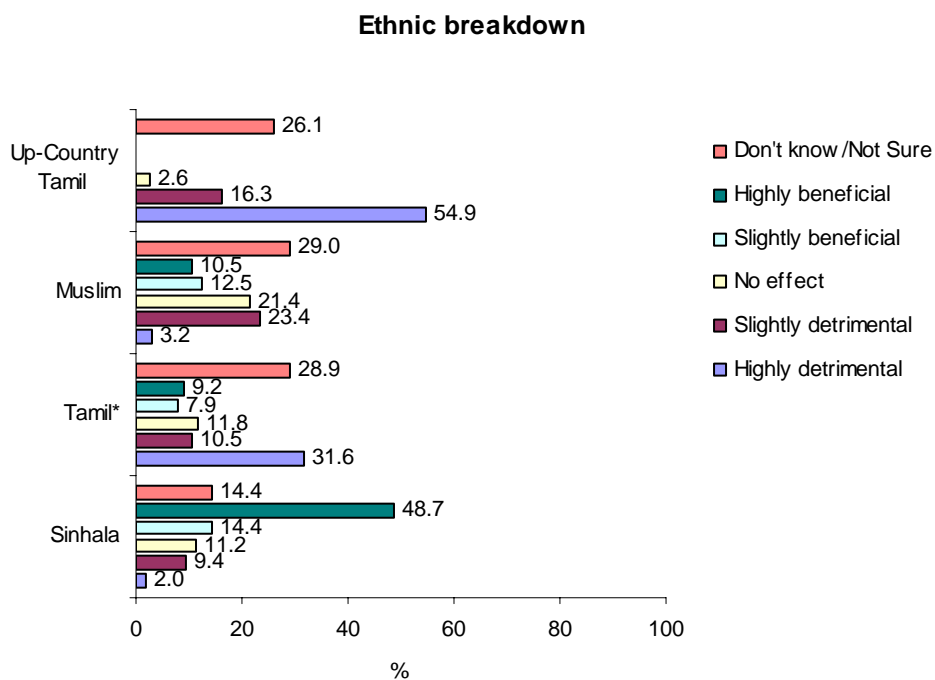


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Thamilchelvan

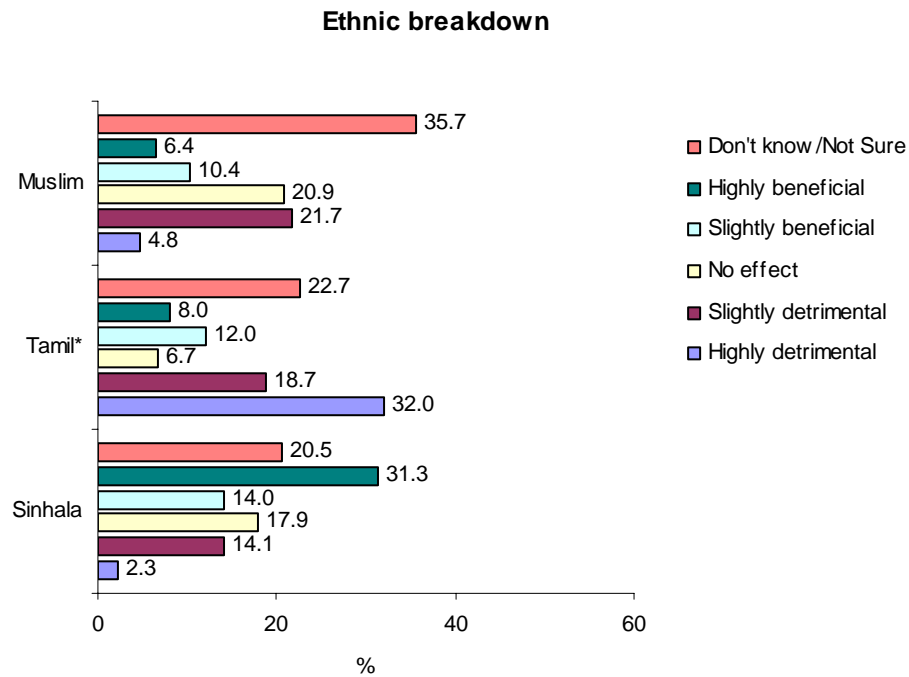
What are the implications of the assassination of political leader Thamilchelvan on the government's war against the LTTE?



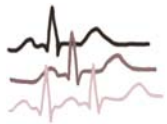
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



What are the implications of the assassination of political leader Thamilselvan on finding a political solution?

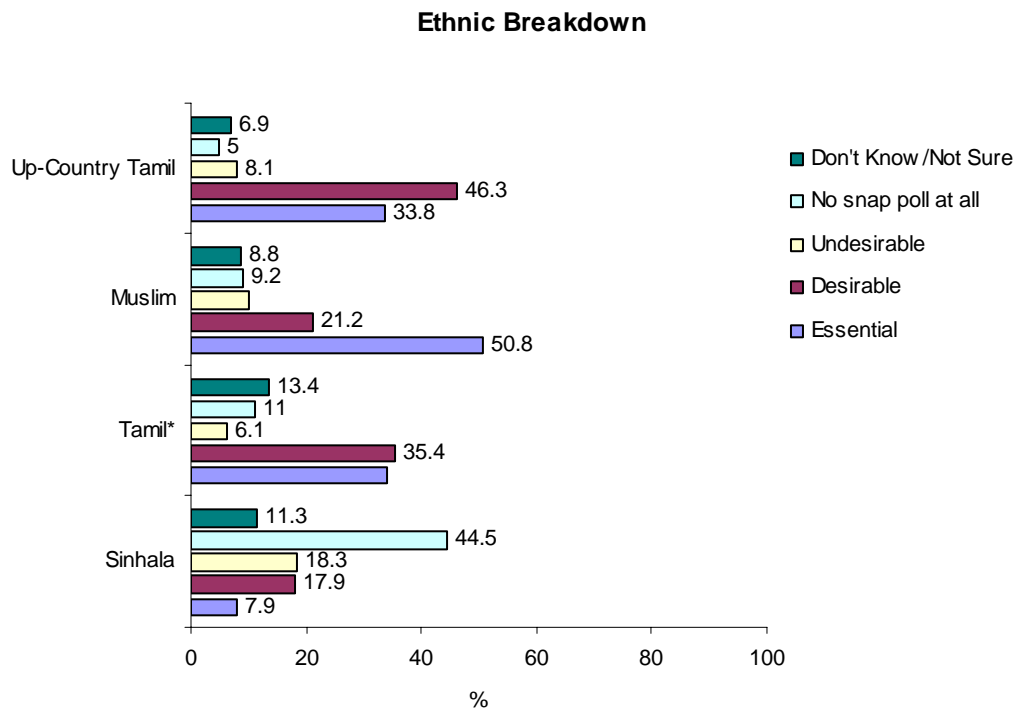


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

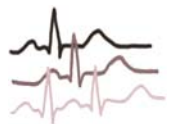


Snap Polls

Some people believe that the government will call for a snap poll. In your opinion, a snap poll would be:



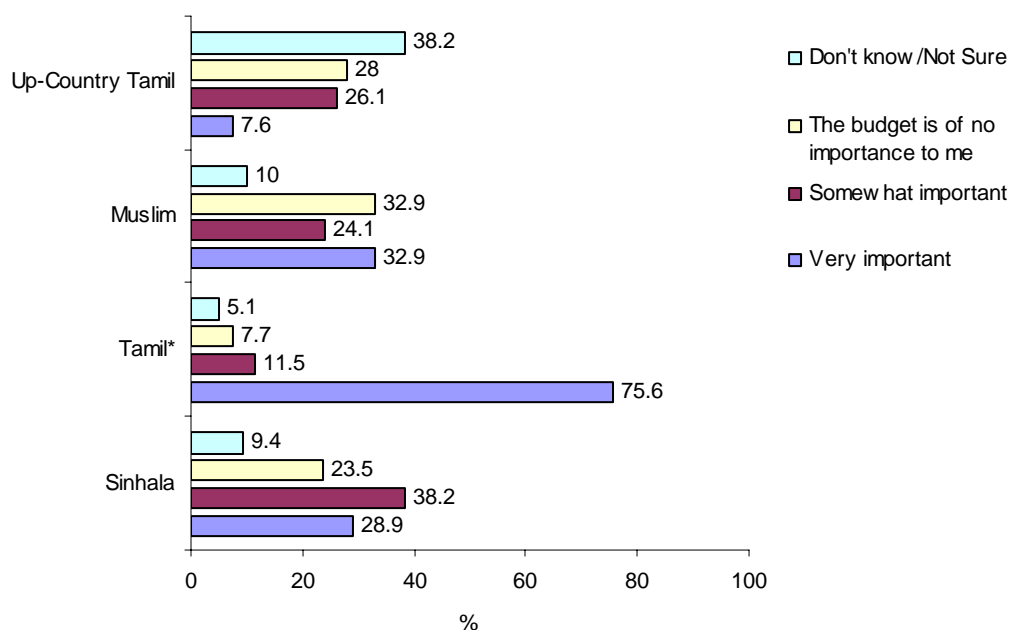
*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



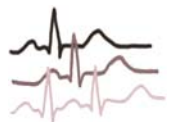
The 2008 Budget

Personally how important is the budget to you?

Ethnic Breakdown

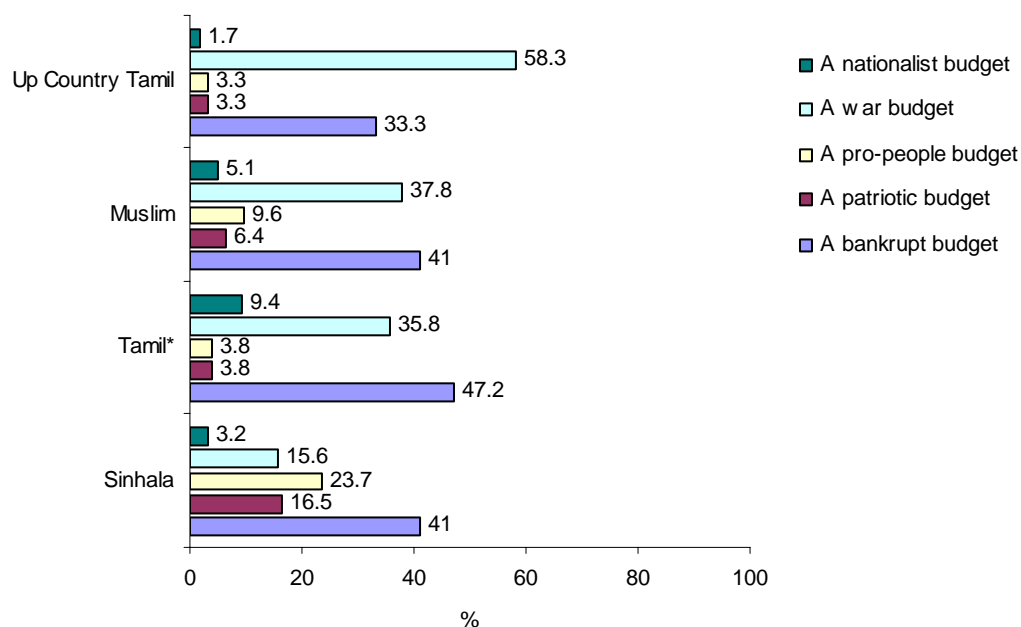


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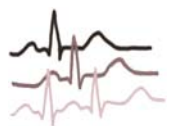


Which of the following provides the best description of the 2008 Budget?

Ethnic Breakdown

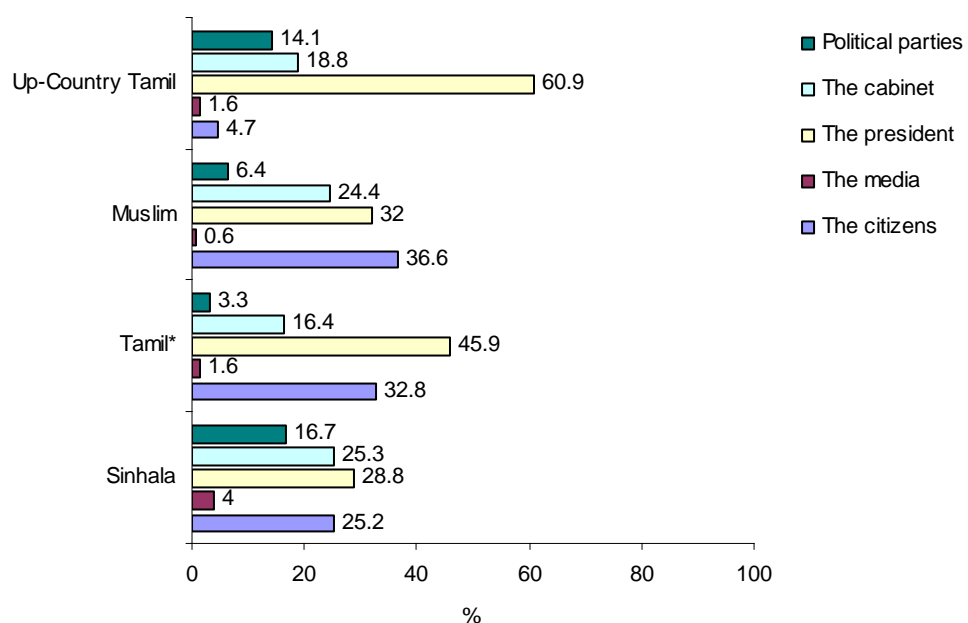


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.

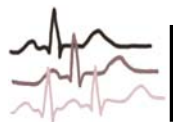


Who can influence what goes into the budget?

Ethnic Breakdown

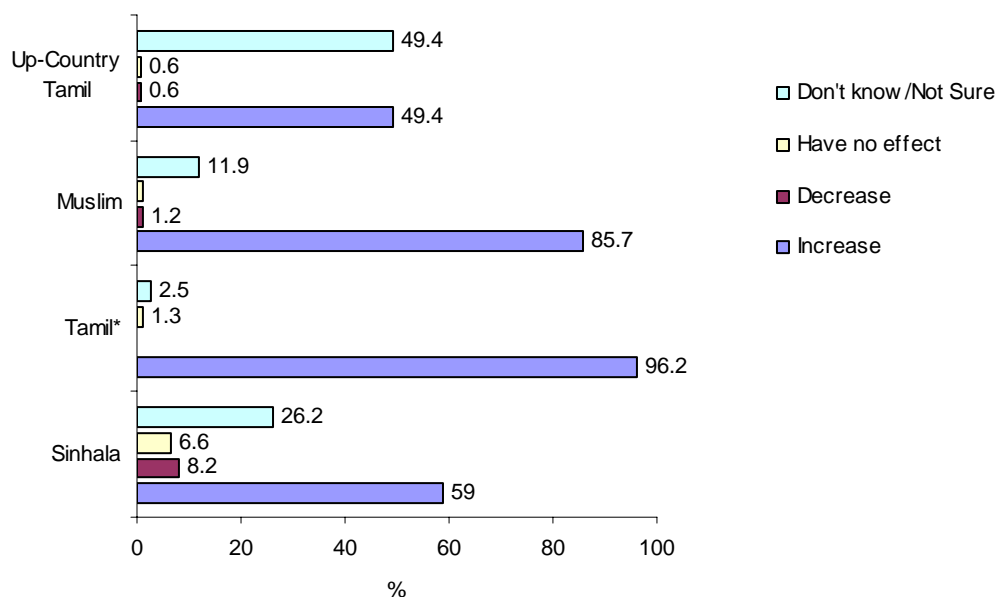


*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



In your opinion will the 2008 Budget increase or decrease the cost of living?

Ethnic Breakdown



*The Tamil community was surveyed using a non-random sampling technique. Therefore, all findings that reference the Tamil people cannot be generalized to the entire community.



Annex

District sample (weighted) distribution in November 2007

DISTRICT	TOTAL
Colombo	202
Gampaha	198
Kalutara	98
Kandy	117
Matale	40
Nuwara Eliya	62
Galle	93
Matara	73
Hambantota	48
Batticaloa	32
Ampara	56
Trincomalee	25
Kurunegala	133
Puttalam	63
Anuradhapura	66
Polonnaruwa	32
Badulla	73
Monaragala	38
Ratnapura	94
Kegalle	71
NATIONAL	1614

Ethnic sample (weighted) distribution in November 2007

ETHNICITY	TOTAL
Sinhala	1118
Tamil	83
Muslim	160
Up-Country Tamil	253
NATIONAL	1614

Given that the goal of the Peace Confidence Index (PCI) study is to measure the fluctuations in public confidence levels towards the peace process over time it is essential that the study be conducted repetitively with equal pauses during the study. Hence, from May 2001 to February 2004, PCI was conducted bi-monthly, however, from March 2005 onwards, SI decided to conduct the study quarterly to make the PCI more efficient.

The study is conducted using a structured questionnaire that is administered to a sample of approximately 1600 respondents during each phase of the study. This sample is adequate to capture the minimum ethnic diversity within the span of ten days of fieldwork. Although it is undeniable that an individual's opinion on the peace process is influenced by a number of factors, the ethnic factor, which is the most important and influential, is the sole factor that has been accommodated in this model.

The total sample is distributed amongst 20 administrative districts (strata) of Sri Lanka, excluding the Northern Province due to the escalation of violence in the months prior to the survey. The sample size assigned to each stratum is approximately equal to the population proportions. However, some districts are over sampled due to the ethnic heterogeneity but the over sampling biases are eliminated by weighting the sample. In this particular wave, the Eastern province was surveyed using a snowball sampling technique, and the entire Tamil sample was surveyed using this same method. The Tamil sample was chosen from the Eastern districts of Ampara, Trincomalee and Batticaloa as well as from the city of Colombo.

A sample is allocated to a particular ethnicity within a district only if the population proportion of that particular ethnicity exceeds 9%. A Divisional Secretariat (DS) is selected as the primary sampling unit using the Simple Random Sampling technique while the Grama Niladhari Divisions (GND) in a DS are selected randomly as the secondary sampling unit using the '**Grama Niladhari Divisions of Sri Lanka 1996**' published by the Department of Census and Statistics as the sample frame.

To maintain the quality of the fieldwork and ensure a maximum dispersion of the sample within a DS, enumerators are allowed to conduct a maximum of ten interviews a day in a GND. Within a given GND, the enumerator is advised to select a starting point randomly and proceed with interviews using the random walk (right hand rule) technique in order to assure the random selection of households. In the case of urban areas, the interviewer is instructed to skip a house while selecting the households, thus resulting in the interview-taking place at every alternative household. As the final sampling unit, the respondent is chosen from the household using the 'KISH' grid thus ensuring that each member of the household has an equal chance of being selected to the PCI sample.

The PCI national level estimates are subject to a 3% error margin with a .95 confidence level. It is noteworthy to mention here that the PCI model does not support the regional level analysis at the same level of precision.

Social indicator (SI) is an independent social research organisation, which conducts polls on socio-economic and political issues.

Operating under the Board of Directors of the Center for Policy Alternatives (CPA), SI was established in September 1999, and filled a longstanding vacuum for permanent, professional and independent polling facility in Sri Lanka on social and political issues.

Polling is an instrument of the empowerment, a means by which The silent majority of the public can express their opinions on issues affecting them.

Our mission is to conduct surveys on key social issues, thereby providing a means through which public opinion can influence the public policy debate.



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