POLITICO TECH GLOBAL

POPULARITY TREND REPORT: COLOMBIA

15 August 2022

President	: Iván Duque
Party	: Centro Democrático
First day	: 7 August 2018
Last day	: 7 August 2022

Executive summary

Takeaway. Iván Duque finished his presidency with improving but still low popularity ratings. **Averages**. In his final months, polls showed improving approval and net ratings from lows registered in April 2022. **Dynamics**. These positive trends in public support reflect Duque's embrace of a statesmen's role, his lame-duck status, and a good-faith partner in the transition of power. **Comparison**. PTG estimates Duque was less popular at the start and end of his term, as well as overall, than most of his Colombian predecessors and counterparts in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile. His Covid-19 rally was more robust than Jair Bolsonaro's and Sebastián Piñera's, and similar in size and duration to that of Alberto Fernández.

Duque

Net Popularity

–24.6

Approval	**Disapproval**
34.8%	**59.4%**
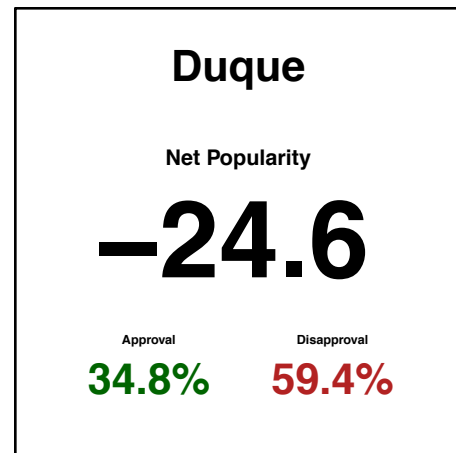
Average popularity

The table on the right shows monthly popularity averages for President Iván Duque over his final 12 months. His net popularity score for July (-24.6), his last full month in office, indicates that Duque's disapproval rating outstripped his approval rating by roughly 25 points. This is by far his highest popularity in this period. Duque's July approval ratings (34.8%) are well above his previous high in January 2022 (31%), and up almost 15 points from the 12-month low (22%) in April 2022. Disapproval in July (59.4%) was at its lowest mark in the past year and 14.3 points lower than its 12-month peak (73.7%) in April 2022. Duque's rising popularity is likely due to 3 factors: 1) embracing the role of statesmen in his final months; 2) his lame-duck status and the public's accompanying relief; and 3) a cooperative spirit during the transition of power to President-elect, Gustavo Petro. See the next section for a more detailed discussion of these three factors.
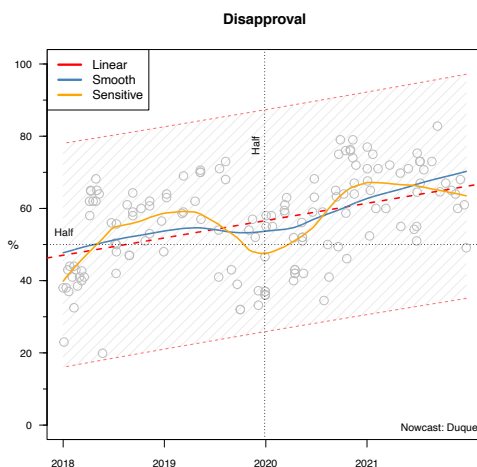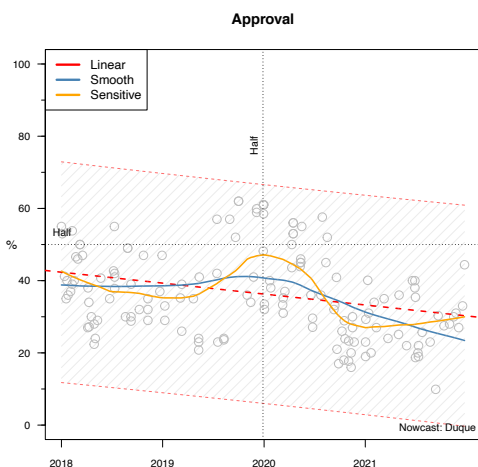
30-day average: Last year

	Net	Approval	Disapproval
2022			
July	-24.6	34.8	59.4
June	-33.3	29.7	63.0
May	-39.5	27.5	67.0
April	-53.6	20.1	73.7
March	-50.0	23.0	73.0
February	-38.8	27.4	66.2
January	-31.6	31.0	62.6
2021			
December	-31.8	30.6	62.4
November	-36.5	29.5	66.0
October	-35.0	30.5	65.5
September	-40.9	27.1	68.0
August	-48.1	23.8	71.9

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Popularity dynamics

The plots below show Colombians' approval and disapproval of President Iván Duque over the course of his government. **Cycle**. Towards the end of his term, his ratings diverged from their long-run trend (**red lines**), with approval rising and his disapproval falling. Large gaps between PTG's sensitive (**yellow lines**) and smooth predictions (**blue lines**) suggest some volatility in the Colombian public's perceptions of Duque. The speed with which public updates its views gave Duque significant power to help, or hurt, his public standing depending on his actions. **Drivers.** Duque's popularity dynamics reflect three main factors. 1) *Honeymoon*: A political neophyte and dauphin of ex-president Álvaro Uribe, Duque sought independence and was criticized for lacking a clear legislative vision. Since governing is costly, this may have buoyed his popularity to around his first-round vote total (39%). 2) *Covid-19 Rally*: Covid produced a popularity rally for Duque, and the public generally supported his pandemic policies. The rally was likely weakened by Duque's heavy-handed reaction to protests against corruption, inequality, poor peace process implementation, and rumors of austerity in late 2019. 3) *Going Quietly*: Duque spent his final months playing the role of statesman, becoming a major non-NATO ally of the United States and discussing environmental policy with Jeff Bezos. And as a lame-duck president, Duque ceased proposing new (and unpopular) policies (e.g., raising taxes on many goods, which sparked mass protest in May 2021). In this vein, Duque was gracious and

cooperative during the transition of command from his government to that of incoming president, Gustavo Petro. The public rewarded him for these actions. **Reactions**. Google trend analysis revealed 3 peaks in public attention to Duque during his presidency. The highest peak was the week (30 December 2018 to 5 January 2019) following confirmation of assassination plots against Duque. A close second was 15-21 May 2020, the week Duque declared a state of emergency to combat Covid-19. The third peak corresponds to Duque's violent repression of protesters, initially irked by Duque's tone-deaf tax reform but quickly enveloped a wide range of matters (2-8 May 2021). Of the Top-25 Google related search topics associated with Iván Duque we find the "orange economy," his signature plan to support Colombia's creative sector. Also, we see ex-presidents Uribe, Pastrana, and Samper; polemic Calí mayor Jorge Iván Ospina; and First Lady María Juliana Ruiz. Finally, Colombians often queried Duque's age, education, and origin. **Outlook**. Duque's political future remains open. In the *short run*, he will tackle displaced populations, climate-related challenges, and promoting democratic values and economic opportunity as Distinguished Fellow at the Wilson Center. Meanwhile, he will likely reconsider what relationship he wants with his Centro Democrático party and its *de facto* leader, Álvaro Uribe. Another presidential run is forbidden by the constitution.

Approval

Disapproval

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Comparative approval

The graphics below compare approval ratings over Iván Duque's government to those over the last six Colombian presidential terms. The numbers displayed represent PTG's popularity predictions based on all available historical survey data for the presidents throughout their respective governments. In this way, the PTG predicts Duque's ending popularity at 27.5% (light blue line). This places lower than all predecessors except Andrés Pastrana (16.4%) and Juan Manuel Santos's second term (Santos II, 22.7%). Duque, Pastrana, and Santos II all began with less than 50% approval. But whereas Pastrana's and Santos's popularity suffered from protracted and fraught peace negotiations with the FARC guerillas, Duque's popularity was propped up by a Covid-19 rally. In the Colombian context, the size of that rally is comparable only to the rally that Álvaro Uribe received in the wake of *Operación Jaque*, when his government rescued several FARC hostages from the jungle of Guaviare, including politician Ingrid Betancourt. Averaging over the entire term, Duque (36.7%) again outstrips Pastrana (25.8%) and Santos II (29.6%) yet is roughly half as popular as Álvaro Uribe in his first (72.8%) and second (78.5%) terms. To provide some regional context, PTG estimates that Duque's ending popularity falls within 2 points of Brazil's Fernando Henrique Cardoso second term (28.9%) and Argentina's Raúl Alfonsín (29.4%) and interim Eduardo Duhalde (26.5%). Upon leaving office in August 2022, Duque's predicted approval ratings were lower than his contemporaries in Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro (35.8%), and Chile, Gabriel Boric (34.4%), but indistinguishable from those of Alberto Fernández of Argentina. The size and duration of Duque's Covid-19 rally were on par with those of his Argentine counterpart, Alberto Fernández, and much more robust than those of presidents Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil and Sebastián Piñera of Chile. His overall popularity is similar to Argentina's Cristina Fernández de Kirchner (34.0%, 2007-2011) and Brazil's João Baptista de Oliveira Figueiredo (37.6%, 1979-1985). Duque's medium- and long-run political plans are unclear. His predecessors have taken on party leadership roles (Uribe, Gaviria), joined the academy and speaking circuit (Santos), or worked as diplomats (Samper, briefly Pastrana). Among these actors, a June 2022 Invamer poll puts Duque's favorable ratings as third, 9 points lower than Uribe and 6 points higher than César Gaviria.

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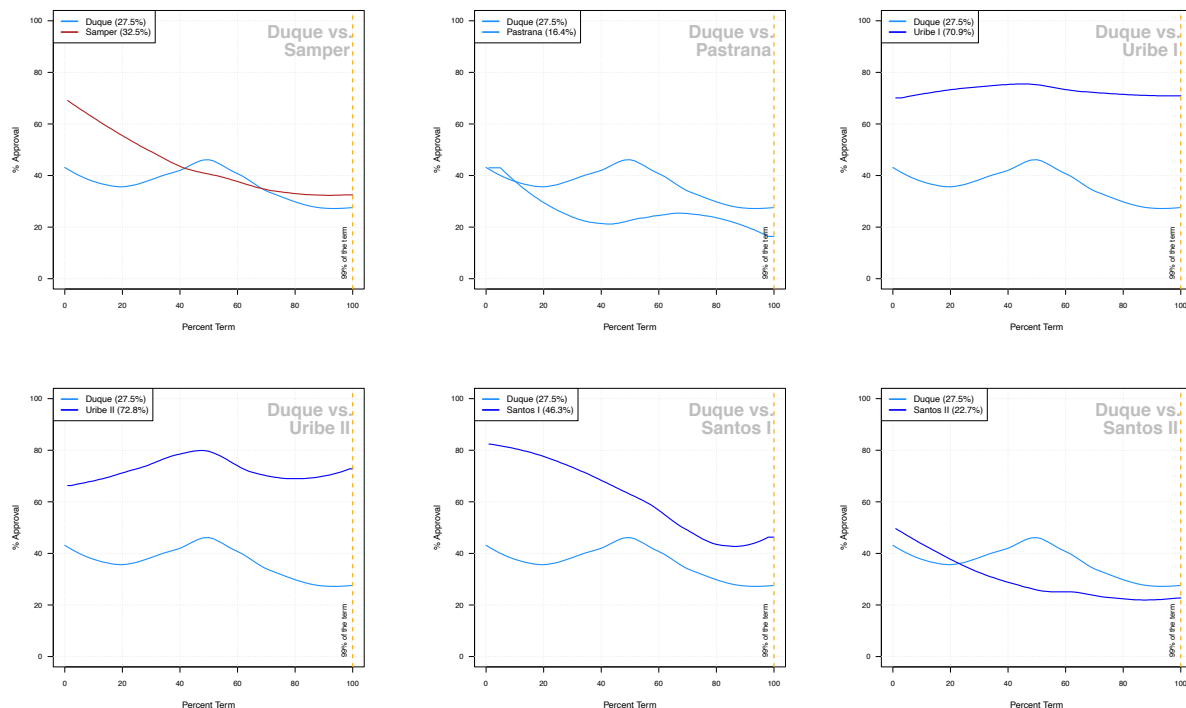
Latest polls

Date	House	Approval	Disapproval	Net
2022-07-31	Guarumo	44.4	49.1	-4.7
2022-07-24	Cifras y Conceptos	33.0	61.0	-28.0
2022-07-10	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	27.0	68.0	-41.0
2022-06-30	Datexco	31.0	60.0	-29.0
2022-06-22	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	30.0	64.0	-34.0
2022-06-07	Invamer	28.0	65.0	-37.0
2022-05-18	Invamer	27.5	67.0	-39.5
2022-04-27	Invamer	30.3	64.6	-34.3
2022-04-18	CELAG	9.9	82.8	-72.9
2022-03-29	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	23.0	73.0	-50.0
2022-02-28	Invamer	25.7	70.7	-45.0
2022-02-15	Datexco	19.0	73.0	-54.0
2022-02-15	Datexco	22.0	67.0	-45.0
2022-02-13	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	20.0	73.0	-53.0
2022-02-04	CELAG	35.4	64.5	-29.1
2022-02-04	CELAG	18.7	75.3	-56.6
2022-02-02	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	40.0	55.0	-15.0
2022-02-02	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	38.0	51.0	-13.0
2022-01-24	Guarumo	40.0	54.2	-14.2
2022-01-03	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	22.0	71.0	-49.0
2021-12-07	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	36.0	55.0	-19.0
2021-12-05	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	25.1	69.8	-44.7
2021-10-28	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	24.0	72.0	-48.0
2021-10-14	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	35.0	60.0	-25.0
2021-09-16	Cifras y Conceptos	27.0	71.0	-44.0
2021-09-08	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	34.0	60.0	-26.0
2021-08-28	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	20.0	75.0	-55.0
2021-08-19	Gallup World Poll	31.0	65.0	-34.0
2021-08-16	Guarumo	40.1	52.4	-12.3
2021-08-09	Invamer	29.3	67.6	-38.3
2021-08-08	Datexco	19.0	77.0	-58.0
2021-08-08	Datexco	23.0	71.0	-48.0
2021-06-28	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	23.0	72.0	-49.0
2021-06-22	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	27.0	67.0	-40.0
2021-06-22	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	30.0	64.0	-34.0
2021-06-17	Datexco	16.0	79.0	-63.0
2021-06-17	Datexco	20.0	74.0	-54.0
2021-06-08	CELAG	23.3	76.3	-53.0
2021-06-08	CELAG	17.7	75.9	-58.2
2021-05-26	AmericasBarometer/LAPOP	23.9	46.1	-22.2
2021-05-23	Guarumo	28.9	58.7	-29.8
2021-05-22	Invamer-Gallup 5 City	18.0	76.0	-58.0
2021-05-15	Centro Nacional de Consultoría/CNC	26.0	64.0	-38.0

Contact the PTG for more information on individual polls.

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Country Indicators

Overview

Indicator	Current	Previous	Measure	Updated
Currency	4385	4405		Sep/22
Stock Market	1219	1228	points	Sep/22
GDP Growth Rate	1.5	1.4	percent	Jun/22
GDP Annual Growth Rate	12.6	8.6	percent	Jun/22
Unemployment Rate	11	11.26	percent	Jul/22
Inflation Rate	10.84	10.21	percent	Aug/22
Inflation Rate MoM	1.02	0.81	percent	Aug/22
Interest Rate	9	7.5	percent	Jul/22
Balance of Trade	-0.8	-2.25	USD Billion	Jun/22
Current Account	-5039	-5367	USD Million	Jun/22
Current Account to GDP	-5.7	-3.4	percent of GDP	Dec/21
Government Debt to GDP	64.5	65.8	percent of GDP	Dec/21
Government Budget	-7.1	-7.8	percent of GDP	Dec/21
Business Confidence	9.7	11.5	points	Jul/22
Consumer Confidence	-2.4	-10.4	points	Aug/22
Retail Sales MoM	1.2	-1	percent	Feb/22
Corporate Tax Rate	31	32	percent	Dec/21
Personal Income Tax Rate	39	39	percent	Dec/21

GDP

GDP Growth Rate	1.5	1.4	percent	Jun/22
GDP Annual Growth Rate	12.6	8.6	percent	Jun/22
GDP	314	270	USD Billion	Dec/21
GDP Constant Prices	239160	227617	COP Billion	Jun/22
Gross Fixed Capital Formation	44149	43981	COP Billion	Jun/22
GDP per Capita	6443	5871	USD	Dec/21
GDP per Capita PPP	14705	13400	USD	Dec/21
GDP from Agriculture	13663	13879	COP Billion	Jun/22
GDP from Construction	11145	11350	COP Billion	Jun/22
GDP from Manufacturing	29435	28225	COP Billion	Jun/22
GDP from Mining	9011	9130	COP Billion	Jun/22
GDP from Transport	11893	11049	COP Billion	Jun/22
GDP from Utilities	6979	6826	COP Billion	Jun/22

Labor

Unemployment Rate	11	11.26	percent	Jul/22
Unemployed Persons	2795	2644	Thousand	Jun/22
Population	51.41	50.88	Million	Dec/21
Employed Persons	22023	22185	Thousand	Jun/22
Employment Rate	56.5	56.99	percent	Jun/22
Labor Force Participation Rate	63.5	63.7	percent	Jul/22
Minimum Wages	1000000	908526	COP/Month	Dec/22

Prices

Inflation Rate	10.84	10.21	percent	Aug/22
Inflation Rate MoM	1.02	0.81	percent	Aug/22
Consumer Price Index CPI	122	120	points	Aug/22
Core Consumer Prices	119	118	points	Aug/22
Core Inflation Rate	9.41	8.82	percent	Aug/22
Producer Prices	182	185	points	Aug/22
Food Inflation	24.6	23.6	percent	Jul/22
CPI Housing Utilities	115	114	points	Aug/22
CPI Transportation	118	118	points	Aug/22
Export Prices	209	216	points	Aug/22
Import Prices	167	169	points	Aug/22
Producer Prices Change	30	32.9	percent	Aug/22

Money

Interest Rate	9	7.5	percent	Jul/22
Interbank Rate	9	9	percent	Sep/22
Money Supply M0	105723	106625	COP Billion	Aug/22
Money Supply M1	184081	182295	COP Billion	Aug/22
Money Supply M2	672435	666490	COP Billion	Jul/22
Money Supply M3	729562	728322	COP Billion	Aug/22
Foreign Exchange Reserves	57000	57349	USD Million	Aug/22
Deposit Interest Rate	2.1	3.38	percent	Dec/21
Central Bank Balance Sheet	298592	301528	COP Billion	Feb/22

Trade

Balance of Trade	-0.8	-2.25	USD Billion	Jun/22
Current Account	-5039	-5367	USD Million	Jun/22
Current Account to GDP	-5.7	-3.4	percent of GDP	Dec/21
Exports	5.91	5.55	USD Billion	Jul/22
Imports	6.37	6.8	USD Billion	Jun/22
External Debt	176085	174313	USD Million	May/22
Capital Flows	-5164	-4718	USD Million	Jun/22
Foreign Direct Investment	4773	5186	USD Million	Jun/22
Remittances	647	664	USD Million	Feb/22
Gold Reserves	4.68	4.68	Tonnes	Jun/22
Crude Oil Production	743	744	BBL/D/1K	May/22
Terms of Trade	162	163	points	Jul/22
Terrorism Index	6.1	5.91		Dec/19

Government

Government Debt to GDP	64.5	65.8	percent of GDP	Dec/21
Government Budget		-7.8	percent of GDP	Dec/21
Government Budget Value	-15758	-13322	COP Billion	Dec/21
Government Spending	40874	40861	COP Billion	Jun/22
Government Revenues	13776	15931	COP Billion	Jun/21
Fiscal Expenditure	29118	31892	COP Billion	Dec/21
Credit Rating	55			Sep/22
Military Expenditure	10133	10168	USD Million	Dec/20

Tax

Corporate Tax Rate	31	32	percent	Dec/21
Personal Income Tax Rate	39	39	percent	Dec/21
Sales Tax Rate	19	19	percent	Dec/21
Social Security Rate	30.5	30.5	percent	Dec/21
Social Security Rate For Companies	20.5	20.5	percent	Dec/21
Social Security Rate For Employees	10	10	percent	Dec/21

Business

Business Confidence	9.7	11.5	points	Jul/22
Industrial Production	12.3	46.1	percent	Jun/22
Car Registrations	25312	23616		Dec/21
Total Vehicle Sales	8914	10853	Units	Jun/22
Leading Economic Index	8.5	17.2	percent	Jun/22
Internet Speed	5523	5397	KBps	Mar/17
IP Addresses	5185338	5082089	IP	Mar/17
Capacity Utilization	80.44	82.4	percent	Apr/22
Cement Production	1201700	1189247	Tonnes	Jul/22
Competitiveness Index	62.73	61.63	Points	Dec/19
Competitiveness Rank	57	60		Dec/19
Corruption Index	39	39	Points	Dec/21
Corruption Rank	87	92		Dec/21
Ease of Doing Business	67	65		Dec/19
Industrial Production MoM	0.2	3.6	percent	Apr/22
Manufacturing PMI	52.4	49.5	points	Aug/22

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Methods and disclaimer

Methods

Politico Tech Global's (PTG's) Popularity Trend Report (PTR) is intended to measure the net impact of public opinion on leader, coalition or party popularity distributions for selected cases over the course of specific tenures. The PTR is based on the PTGs worldwide national election survey dataset. The popularity data are collected by PTG professionals and are backed by original sources, archived in their original format, and updated daily.

The PTR is composed of 4 different sections: average popularity; popularity dynamics; comparative approval; and latest polls. Analyses in these sections are based on the PTR dataset, but the data are transformed in various ways to ease interpretation. While our datasets contain vast historical data, sometimes spanning decades, PTG often uses a subset of these data to assess the net impact of recent developments most accurately.

The PTR average popularity section is composed of 30-day rolling averages of leader, coalition, or party popularity approval and disapproval indices. These averages synthesize all polls published in a given time frame using the mean. The tables show the average approval and disapproval for the sitting leader each month, as well as net popularity (approval minus disapproval). All three variables tap distinct, but complementary, dimensions of reputation.

The PTR popularity dynamics section plots the polling marginals in the PTG dataset that shed light on the popularity of the current leader, coalition, or party. These include, but are not limited to job approval, management evaluations, personal support, and general image. The section includes plots representing both approval and disapproval trends. The distinction is intended to represent the difference in determinants for each variable.

The PTR frontrunner section shows plots for the top-two frontrunners. Three estimators are adopted. The first is a best-fit line based on a naïve linear model ("Linear"; color: yellow). The second is a locally weighted regression line based on a model that detects sudden shifts in support ("Sensitive"; color: blue). The third is a local linear polynomial fit line with a lower floor based on a more context-sensitive model ("Sensitive"; color: red).

The PTR comparative approval section contrasts the popularity of the incumbent leader, coalition, or party with the popularity predecessors. The trends in the plot are locally weighed regression lines around all the polls available in the PTG database. The trend is measured over the full extent of a leader's term, whether it be a complete term or not. As such, the horizontal axis of each plot begins the day a president debuts (0%) and ends the day they leave office (100%).

Disclaimers

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Politico Tech Global

Mission

Politico Tech Global (PTG) aims to simplify complex public opinion landscapes and bring its clients reliable insights into who holds power today and who will hold power tomorrow. PTG deciphers data trends and presents its patrons with a clear perspective on how the public views their political leaders over space and time. PTG uses cutting-edge statistical algorithms and machine-learning techniques to gather complex data and report it in plain terms. It enhances risk assessments by measuring uncertainty and reporting probability margins for all relevant outcomes.

PTG delivers regular, reliable, dependable, and private research through its market-minded, academically oriented team of dedicated experts. It ensures clients receive the most scientifically rigorous assessments of government and election prospects on the market. It delivers information in four main ways: through its Vote Trend Report (VTR); through its Popularity Trend Report (PTR); through scheduled and tailored online or in-person meetings with its clients; and through regular seminars and presentations. The firm is managed and advised by a board of top-level academics, career politicians and concerned stakeholders.

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Access

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