

Outcome of CepRass' Opinion Poll Results for Mayoral and Chairmanship Elections

We are pleased to announce the results of the recent opinion poll survey conducted by Center for Policy, Research and Strategic Studies (CepRass), providing valuable insights into the upcoming mayoral and chairmanship elections. The survey aimed to gauge potential voters' intentions, perceptions of likely winners, and key issues influencing their decisions. Here are the key findings:

Profile of Poll Respondents: The survey encompassed a balanced representation of gender, with 39% female and 61% male respondents. The largest age group was 35-44, accounting for 30% of participants, followed by the 25-34 age group at 20%. Notably, 48% of respondents had informal or no formal education. The survey also reflected the diverse ethnic composition of the respondents, with Mandinka as the largest ethnic group (35%), followed by Fula (29%) and Wolof (15%).

Voting Behavior and Intention: All respondents reported having a voter's card, indicating eligibility to participate in the upcoming elections. An overwhelming majority (98%) expressed an intention to vote, with 39% being first-time voters. Among the LGAs surveyed, Brikama, Banjul, and Kanifing exhibited a substantial number of undecided or secretive voters. Notably, strong civic engagement was observed, with 57% of respondents being almost certain to vote.

Perception of Likely Candidates to Win: The poll provided valuable insights into potential voters' perception of the likely candidates to win in each LGA. While the UDP candidate, Talib Ahmed Bensouda, emerged as the likely winner in Kanifing (55% support), candidates from the NPP demonstrated strong support in various regions, including Basse, Janjanbureh, and Kuntaur. However, a significant percentage of respondents (ranging from 19% to 42%) were unable to predict the likely winners in their respective LGAs, indicating uncertainty and indecision among voters.

Key Election and Local Government Issues: Road construction emerged as the most important issue for potential electorates (37%), followed by food availability (16%), waste collection (14%), and community markets (6%). Respondents considered corruption, revenue mobilization, and rental prices as relatively less important issues. The establishment of the Commission of Inquiry received mixed opinions, with 33% viewing the timing as extremely inappropriate and 9% finding it extremely appropriate. Additionally, 46% acknowledged the occurrence of vote buying, while 92% disagreed that financial inducement of candidates to withdraw from elections is good for the country.

The CEPRASS-NED Project opinion poll survey offers valuable insights into the preferences, perceptions, and concerns of potential voters ahead of the mayoral and chairmanship elections. It highlights the importance of key issues, such as road construction, and the need for transparency and accountability in local governance. These findings serve as a vital resource for candidates and parties to better understand the electorate's expectations and tailor their campaigns accordingly.

We extend our gratitude to all the respondents who participated in this survey, contributing to the democratic process through their valuable opinions. These results aim to foster informed decision-making and promote a healthy democratic discourse in our community.

For more detailed information on the opinion poll survey results, kindly visit [www.ceprass.gm/link]

Together, let us ensure a fair, inclusive, and participatory electoral process.

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