

MEDIA RELEASE

(October 2, 2023)

FROM: Ronald D. Holmes
President
Pulse Asia Research, Inc.

RE: Pulse Asia Research's September 2023 Nationwide Survey on the Performance and Trustworthiness of Top National Government Officials and the Performance of Key Government Institutions

Pulse Asia Research, Inc. is pleased to share with you some findings on *the Performance and Trustworthiness of Top National Government Officials and the Performance of Key Government Institutions* from the September 2023 *Ulat ng Bayan* national survey. We request you to assist us in informing the public by disseminating this information.

The survey fieldwork was conducted from **September 10 to 14, 2023** using face-to-face interviews. This nationwide survey is based on a sample of 1,200 representative adults 18 years old and above. It has a $\pm 2.8\%$ error margin at the 95% confidence level. Subnational estimates for the geographic areas covered in the survey have the following error margins at 95% confidence level: $\pm 5.7\%$ for Metro Manila, the rest of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Those interested in further technical details may refer to our website (www.pulseasia.ph)

The following are some of the key developments during the weeks immediately prior to and during the conduct of the survey interviews:

1. The congressional deliberations regarding the ₱ 5.7-trillion national budget for 2024, with the House Appropriations Committee approving the ₱ 4.8 billion in confidential and intelligence funds requested by some government entities, including the Office of the President (OP), the Office of the Vice-President (OVP), and the Department of Education (DepEd);
2. The statement released by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) regarding the so-called “concerning resurgence of swarming activity” in the West Philippine Sea (WPS) as indicated by the presence of about three (3) dozens Chinese fishing vessels in the area in

late August 2023 and early September 2023 as well as efforts of Chinese vessels to block a Filipino resupply mission in Ayungin shoal;

3. The call made by the President during the 18th East Asia Summit held in Jakarta on 07 September 2023 to stop the “dangerous use” of coast guard and maritime militia vessels in contested areas in the South China Sea (SCS) and for stakeholders to adhere to international law in resolving territorial disputes in the SCS;
4. The rejection by the Philippines, along with India and Malaysia, of the 2023 standard map of China that includes the WPS as part of its territory as indicated by a 10-dash line, which encompasses the entire SCS and overlaps with the exclusive economic zones (EEZ) of the Philippines, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Vietnam;
5. The new initiatives of the Department of National Defense (DND) to modernize the Philippine Navy and the Philippine Coast Guard amidst the continuing Chinese incursions into the WPS to be carried out through a comprehensive re-strategization and the forging of partnerships with allies;
6. The postponement of the administration’s plan to import rice due to high prices in the world market and the projection made by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that the Philippines’ rice importation will reach 3.8 million metric tons for the marketing years 2023-2024, making it the top rice importer in the world;
7. The implementation of Executive Order (EO) No. 39, beginning 05 September 2023 and to last indefinitely, that sets the national price ceiling for regular milled rice at ₱ 41/kilo and ₱ 45/kilo for well-milled rice, a move that surprised members of the administration’s economic team since they were not consulted on the matter;
8. The Department of Social Welfare and Development’s (DSWD) distribution of cash assistance amounting to ₱ 15,000 beginning 09 September 2023 to rice micro traders across the country who are affected by the cap on rice prices;
9. The release of the August 2023 inflation figures showing an increase in headline inflation from 4.7% in July 2023 to 5.3% in August 2023 primarily due to the higher increase in the prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages, with rice and vegetables being the main drivers in the increase in the inflation rate for food items;
10. The acquittal of Ms. Maria Ressa and Rappler Holdings Corporation over charges of tax evasion by the Pasig City Regional Trial Court Branch 157, this being the last of five (5) charges of tax evasion filed against Ms. Ressa and Rappler during the Duterte administration;
11. The distribution by the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) of the ₱ 3-billion fuel subsidy for public utility vehicle operators (PUV) beginning 13 September 2023, this following nine (9) consecutive weeks of oil price increases;
12. The filing of certificates of candidacy from 28 August to 02 September 2023 for the *barangay* and *Sangguniang Kabataan* elections to be held on 30 October 2023 and the launch

on 08 September 2023 of the Committee on *Kontra Bigay* (CKB), the entity that will be responsible for implementing policies against vote buying and vote selling, among others;

13. The start of classes for academic year 2023-2024 in public schools across the country on 29 August 2023, with enrollment in elementary and high schools falling short of the DepEd target by around 2.5 million; while the Vice-President, who leads the department concurrently, blamed protest rallies for the shortfall, the Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT) attribute it to the shortage in classrooms, teachers, and education support personnel; prior to the start of classes, the Vice-President also called on teachers and school administrators to remove all wall decorations inside classrooms to avoid distracting students from their lessons;
14. The release of a DepEd memorandum dated 06 September 2023 requiring a change in the terms used in Grade 6 *Araling Panlipunan* curriculum on the martial law years from “*diktadurang Marcos*” (Marcos dictatorship) to simply “*diktadura*” (dictatorship), a move seen by critics of the DepEd as an effort to rebrand the Marcos family;
15. The expulsion of Negros Oriental Representative Arnolfo Teves, Jr. from the Lower House on 16 August 2023 and the issuance of a warrant of arrest for him on 05 September 2023 in connection with his role in the death of Negros Oriental Governor Roel Degamo and nine (9) other individuals in March 2023;
16. The deferral of the implementation of the revised departure guidelines for Filipino travelers, originally scheduled for implementation starting 03 September 2023, amidst concerns raised by lawmakers, migrant workers, human rights groups, the business community, and the public;
17. The recommendation made by the Office of the Ombudsman to file graft charges, instead of plunder, against former officials of the Procurement Service-Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) and officers of Pharmally Pharmaceutical Corporation in connection with the granting of various contracts to Pharmally for the delivery of medical supplies for the government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
18. The suspension of 22 reclamation projects in Manila on 09 August 2023 in order for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to assess their environmental and social impacts as well as their compliance with relevant regulations.

Pulse Asia Research’s pool of academic fellows takes full responsibility for the design and conduct of the survey, as well as for analyses it makes based on the survey data. In keeping with our academic nature, no religious, political, economic, or partisan group influenced any of these processes. Pulse Asia Research undertakes *Ulat ng Bayan* surveys on its own without any party singularly commissioning the research effort.

For any clarification or questions, kindly contact Ana Maria Tabunda, Research Director of Pulse Asia Research at 09189436816 or Ronald D. Holmes, Pulse Asia Research President via Telegram or WhatsApp at +639189335497 or at ronald.holmes@gmail.com (via email).

Pulse Asia Research's September 2023 *Ulat ng Bayan* Survey:
Media Release on the Performance and Trustworthiness of
Top National Government Officials and the
Performance of Key Government Institutions
02 October 2023

Only two (2) of the leading Philippine government officials register majority approval ratings in September 2023

Most Filipino adults remain appreciative of the quarterly performance of the President and the Vice-President (65% and 73%, respectively). Both government officials also record majority approval scores in all geographic areas (60% to 73% and 63% to 87%, respectively) and socio-economic groupings (53% to 68% and 54% to 76%, respectively). (Please refer to Tables 1 to 2.)

Half of the country's adult population (50%) has a positive assessment of the work done by Senate President Juan Miguel F. Zubiri while the same percentage of Filipino adults (50%) are unable to say if they approve or disapprove of the performance of Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexander G. Gesmundo. In the case of House Speaker Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, he obtains essentially the same approval and indecision ratings (41% versus 44%). The disapproval ratings of the country's top national government officials vary from 5% for the Vice-President to 16% for the Supreme Court Chief Justice. (Please refer to Table 1.)

Table 1
AWARENESS & PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF TOP NATIONAL OFFICIALS
September 10 - 14, 2023 / Philippines
(Row Percent)

Top National Officials	Aware	Base: Aware		
		Approval	Undecided	Disapproval
FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR. (President)	100	65	25	10
SARA DUTERTE (Vice-President)	100	73	22	5
JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI (Senate President)	97	50	42	8
FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ (Speaker of the House of Representatives)	92	41	44	14
ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO (Supreme Court Chief Justice)	74	34	50	16

Q23. Mayroon ako ritong mga pangalan ng ilang mga kasalukuyang opisyal ng ating pamahalaan. Pakisabi ang inyong opinyon tungkol sa pagganap nila ng kanilang tungkulin nitong huling tatlong buwan. Sa pamamagitan po ng board na ito, kayo ba ay (SHOW AND READ RATING BOARD) kay (NAME) sa kanyang pagganap bilang (POSITION) o wala pa kayong narinig, nabasa o napanood na kahit na ano tungkol sa kanya kahit na kailan?

Notes: (1) % Approve = % Truly Approve plus % Somewhat Approve; % Disapprove = % Somewhat Disapprove plus % Truly Disapprove.
(2) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

Appreciation is the predominant sentiment toward the work of Senate President Zubiri among Visayans (61%), Mindanawons (63%), and those belonging to Classes D and E (51% and 52%, respectively). In the rest of Luzon and Class ABC, small majorities cannot say if they approve or disapprove of the latter’s performance (53% and 54%, respectively). The same percentage of Metro Manilans (42%) either approve of the lawmaker’s work or are ambivalent on the matter. *(Please refer to Table 2.)*

Table 2
PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF TOP NATIONAL OFFICIALS
September 10 - 14, 2023 / Philippines
(In Percent)

	RP	LOCATION				CLASS		
		BAL				ABC	D	E
		NCR	LUZ	VIS	MIN			
APPROVAL								
PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	65	60	66	73	60	53	68	53
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	73	63	64	85	87	54	75	76
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	50	42	41	61	63	39	51	52
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	41	35	35	64	38	36	42	41
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	34	25	29	49	34	35	35	28
UNDECIDED								
PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	25	27	24	23	28	33	22	37
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	22	26	30	13	12	33	21	20
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	42	42	53	33	30	54	41	39
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	44	47	49	31	45	34	46	44
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	50	65	53	43	46	44	50	59
DISAPPROVAL								
PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	10	13	10	4	13	14	9	10
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	5	11	7	2	1	13	4	4
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	8	16	6	6	7	7	8	9
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	14	18	16	5	17	30	12	15
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	16	9	19	8	20	21	15	13

Q23. *Mayroon ako ritong mga pangalan ng ilang mga kasalukuyang opisyal ng ating pamahalaan. Pakisabi ang inyong opinyon tungkol sa pagganap nila ng kanilang tungkulin nitong huling tatlong buwan. Sa pamamagitan po ng board na ito, kayo ba ay (SHOW AND READ RATING BOARD) kay (NAME) sa kanyang pagganap bilang (POSITION) o wala pa kayong narinig, nabasa o napanood na kahit na ano tungkol sa kanya kahit na kailan?*

Notes: (1) % Approve = % Truly Approve plus % Somewhat Approve; % Disapprove = % Somewhat Disapprove plus % Truly Disapprove.
(2) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

The only majority approval rating of House Speaker Romualdez is granted by Visayans (64%). Ambivalence concerning the lawmaker’s quarterly performance is the plurality sentiment in Metro Manila and the rest of Luzon (47% and 49%, respectively). About the same approval and indecision figures are registered by the latter in Mindanao (38% versus 45%), Class D (42% versus 46%), and Class E (41% versus 44%). There is a three-way split in the House Speaker’s performance ratings in Class ABC (i.e., 36% approval, 34% indecision, and 30% disapproval).

Supreme Court Chief Justice Gesmundo obtains majority indecision scores in Metro Manila (65%), the rest of Luzon (53%), and Class E (59%). Ambivalence on the matter of trusting or distrusting the latter is expressed by near majorities in Mindanao (46%) and Class D (50%). The Supreme Court Chief Justice has nearly the same approval and indecision ratings in the Visayas (49% versus 43%) and Class ABC (35% versus 44%).

Approval for the performance of the country’s key government officials eases between June 2023 and September 2023

Although the President and the Vice-President continue to enjoy majority approval scores at the national level and across geographic areas and socio-economic classes, both experience significant erosions in their respective approval ratings during the period June 2023 to September 2023. Levels of approval for the President’s work decline in the Philippines as a whole (-15 percentage points) and in all areas and classes (-14 to -15 percentage points and -12 to -29 percentage points, respectively). As for the Vice-President, her approval ratings drop at the national level (-11 percentage points) as well as in Metro Manila (-12 percentage points), the rest of Luzon (-13 percentage points), Class ABC (-18 percentage points), and Class D (-11 percentage points). *(Please refer to Table 3.)*

The only notable change in the performance ratings of Senate President Zubiri is the decline in his overall approval rating (-6 percentage points). Meanwhile, the approval scores of House Speaker Romualdez decrease not only in the Philippines (-11 percentage points) but also in Metro Manila (-14 percentage points), the rest of Luzon (-12 percentage points), Mindanao (-15 percentage points), and Class D (-13 percentage points). Similarly, appreciation for the work of Supreme Court Chief Justice Gesmundo eases among Filipino adults (-10 percentage points) and Metro Manilans (-16 percentage points), Mindanawons (-13 percentage points), and those in Classes D and E (-9 and -29 percentage points, respectively).

Ambivalence becomes more pronounced toward the performance of the President (+8 percentage points), the Vice-President (+8 percentage points), and Supreme Court Chief Justice Gesmundo (+7 percentage points). In addition, presidential indecision figures go up in the Visayas (+12 percentage points) and Class E (+24 percentage points) while ambivalence regarding vice-presidential performance becomes more notable in Class D (+9 percentage points). The only significant change in the indecision figures of House Speaker Romualdez occurs in Class D (+8 percentage points). As for ambivalence about the Supreme Court Chief Justice’s performance, it becomes more marked in Metro Manila (+21 percentage points), Class D (+8 percentage points), and Class E (+24 percentage points) but it eases in Class ABC (-22 percentage points).

Regarding these government officials’ disapproval ratings, the only significant changes at the national level are recorded by the President (+6 percentage points) and the House Speaker (+6 percentage points). Across areas and classes, it is only the House Speaker who experienced a significant change (+20 percentage points in Class ABC).

Table 3
COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF TOP NATIONAL OFFICIALS
June and September 2023 / Philippines
(In Percent)

APPROVAL		RP	LOCATION				CLASS		
			BAL				ABC	D	E
			NCR	LUZ	VIS	MIN			
PRESIDENT	Sep 23	65	60	66	73	60	53	68	53
Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.	Jun 23	80	74	81	87	74	75	80	82
	Change*	- 15	- 14	- 15	- 14	- 14	- 22	- 12	- 29
VICE-PRESIDENT	Sep 23	73	63	64	85	87	54	75	76
Sara Duterte	Jun 23	84	75	77	90	96	72	86	84
	Change*	- 11	- 12	- 13	- 5	- 9	- 18	- 11	- 8
SENATE PRESIDENT	Sep 23	50	42	41	61	63	39	51	52
Juan Miguel F. Zubiri	Jun 23	56	51	47	67	67	49	57	58
	Change*	- 6	- 9	- 6	- 6	- 4	- 10	- 6	- 6
HOUSE SPEAKER	Sep 23	41	35	35	64	38	36	42	41
Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez	Jun 23	52	49	47	63	53	41	55	48
	Change*	- 11	- 14	- 12	+ 1	- 15	- 5	- 13	- 7
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE	Sep 23	34	25	29	49	34	35	35	28
Alexander G. Gesmundo	Jun 23	44	41	39	52	47	31	44	57
	Change*	- 10	- 16	- 10	- 3	- 13	+ 4	- 9	- 29
UNDECIDED									
PRESIDENT	Sep 23	25	27	24	23	28	33	22	37
Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.	Jun 23	17	17	18	11	19	17	17	13
	Change*	+ 8	+10	+ 6	+12	+ 9	+16	+ 5	+24
VICE-PRESIDENT	Sep 23	22	26	30	13	12	33	21	20
Sara Duterte	Jun 23	14	16	21	10	3	21	12	16
	Change*	+ 8	+10	+ 9	+ 3	+ 9	+12	+ 9	+ 4
SENATE PRESIDENT	Sep 23	42	42	53	33	30	54	41	39
Juan Miguel F. Zubiri	Jun 23	38	40	47	29	27	43	37	38
	Change*	+ 4	+ 2	+ 6	+ 4	+ 3	+11	+ 4	+ 1
HOUSE SPEAKER	Sep 23	44	47	49	31	45	34	46	44
Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez	Jun 23	40	38	45	33	40	49	38	47
	Change*	+ 4	+ 9	+ 4	- 2	+ 5	- 15	+ 8	- 3
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE	Sep 23	50	65	53	43	46	44	50	59
Alexander G. Gesmundo	Jun 23	43	44	49	39	36	66	42	35
	Change*	+ 7	+21	+ 4	+ 4	+10	- 22	+ 8	+24
DISAPPROVAL									
PRESIDENT	Sep 23	10	13	10	4	13	14	9	10
Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.	Jun 23	4	9	1	2	7	8	3	5
	Change*	+ 6	+ 4	+ 9	+ 2	+ 6	+ 6	+ 6	+ 5
VICE-PRESIDENT	Sep 23	5	11	7	2	1	13	4	4
Sara Duterte	Jun 23	2	9	2	0	1	8	2	0
	Change*	+ 3	+ 2	+ 5	+ 2	0	+ 5	+ 2	+ 4
SENATE PRESIDENT	Sep 23	8	16	6	6	7	7	8	9
Juan Miguel F. Zubiri	Jun 23	6	10	6	3	6	8	6	5
	Change*	+ 2	+ 6	0	+ 3	+ 1	- 1	+ 2	+ 4
HOUSE SPEAKER	Sep 23	14	18	16	5	17	30	12	15
Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez	Jun 23	8	14	8	4	7	10	8	5
	Change*	+ 6	+ 4	+ 8	+ 1	+10	+20	+ 4	+10
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE	Sep 23	16	9	19	8	20	21	15	13
Alexander G. Gesmundo	Jun 23	13	15	11	9	16	4	15	8
	Change*	+ 3	- 6	+ 8	- 1	+ 4	+17	0	+ 5

Notes: (1) *Change = Figures of September 2023 minus Figures of June 2023.

(2) % Approve = % Truly Approve plus % Somewhat Approve; % Disapprove = % Somewhat Disapprove plus % Truly Disapprove.

(3) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

Trust is the prevailing sentiment only toward the President and the Vice-President

Majority trust ratings are enjoyed by the President and the Vice-President in September 2023 (71% and 75%, respectively). Senate President Zubiri has nearly the same trust and indecision figures (49% versus 44%) while ambivalence toward their trustworthiness is the plurality sentiment toward House Speaker Romualdez (48%) and Supreme Court Chief Justice Gesmundo (47%). The overall distrust figures of these national government officials vary from 5% for the Vice-President to 20% for the Supreme Court Chief Justice. (Please refer to Table 4.)

Table 4
AWARENESS & TRUST RATINGS OF TOP NATIONAL OFFICIALS
September 10 - 14, 2023 / Philippines
(Row Percent)

Top National Officials	Aware	Base : Aware		
		Big Trust	Undecided	Small / No trust
FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR. (President)	100	71	23	6
SARA DUTERTE (Vice-President)	100	75	20	5
JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI (Senate President)	97	49	44	8
FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ (Speaker of the House of Representatives)	92	38	48	14
ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO (Supreme Court Chief Justice)	74	33	47	20

Q24. Nais sana naming tanungin kayo tungkol sa pagtitiwala ninyo sa ilang mga tao sa ating lipunan. Sa pamamagitan po ng board na ito, maaari bang pakisabi kung gaano kalaki o kaliit ang inyong pagtitiwala kay/sa [PERSONALIDAD]? Masasabi ba ninyo na ito ay (SHOW AND READ RATING BOARD)?

Notes: (1) % Big Trust = % Very Big Trust plus % Big Trust ; % Small/No Trust = % Small Trust plus %Very Small/None Trust.
(2) *Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

The President and the Vice-President record majority trust scores in every geographic area (68% to 77% and 64% to 92%, respectively) and socio-economic grouping (56% to 74% and 61% to 77%, respectively). For the Senate President, trust is the majority sentiment toward him in the Visayas (59%) and Mindanao (57%) while most of those in the rest of Luzon cannot say if they trust or distrust him (54%). Virtually the same trust and indecision ratings are obtained by Senate President Zubiri in Metro Manila (47% versus 46%) and all classes (44% to 49% versus 42% to 45%). (Please refer to Table 5.)

Table 5
TRUST RATINGS OF TOP NATIONAL OFFICIALS
September 10 - 14, 2023 / Philippines
(In Percent)

TRUST	RP	LOCATION				CLASS		
		BAL				ABC	D	E
		NCR	LUZ	VIS	MIN			
PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	71	70	68	77	73	56	74	62
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	75	75	64	83	92	61	77	76
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	49	47	41	59	57	49	49	44
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	38	35	33	58	34	38	39	38
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	33	17	27	50	35	37	33	31
UNDECIDED								
PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	23	25	26	21	17	41	20	28
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	20	19	30	15	4	30	18	19
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	44	46	54	33	32	42	44	45
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	48	52	56	33	42	39	49	45
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	47	70	56	29	39	35	48	49
DISTRUST								
PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	6	5	6	2	10	3	6	9
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	5	6	6	3	4	9	4	5
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	8	7	6	8	11	9	7	10
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	14	13	11	9	24	23	12	17
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	20	12	17	21	25	28	19	20

Q24. Nais sana naming tanungin kayo tungkol sa pagtiwala ninyo sa ilang mga tao sa ating lipunan. Sa pamamagitan po ng board na ito, maaari bang pakisabi kung gaano kalaki o kaliit ang inyong pagtiwala kay/sa [PERSONALIDAD]? Masasabi ba ninyo na ito ay (SHOW AND READ RATING BOARD)?

House Speaker Romualdez enjoys a majority trust score only in the Visayas (58%) while he records majority indecision figures in Metro Manila (52%) and the rest of Luzon (56%). Moreover, ambivalence about the lawmaker’s trustworthiness is the plurality sentiment in Class D (49%). Basically the same trust and indecision ratings are recorded by the House Speaker in Mindanao (34% versus 42%) and Class E (38% versus 45%) while there is a three-way split in Class ABC (i.e., 38% trust, 39% indecision, and 23% distrust).

Most Metro Manilans (70%) and those in the rest of Luzon (56%) are unable to say if they trust or distrust Supreme Court Chief Justice Gesmundo. Near majorities in Classes D and E share this sentiment (48% and 49%, respectively). On the other hand, half of Visayans (50%) trust the latter. About the same trust and indecision figures are posted in Mindanao (35% versus 39%) while a three-way split may be observed in Class ABC (i.e., 37% trust, 35% indecision, and 28% distrust).

The overall trust ratings of the country’s leading government officials drop between June 2023 and September 2023

Despite recording majority trust ratings in September 2023, trust in the President and the Vice-President eases at the national level from June 2023 to September 2023 (-14 and -12 percentage points, respectively). Furthermore, the President’s trust scores decline in the rest of Luzon (-20 percentage points), the Visayas (-13 percentage points), and every socio-economic class (-13 to -21 percentage points). In the case of the Vice-President, trust in her becomes less notable in the rest of Luzon (-18 percentage points) and Class D (-13 percentage points). (Please refer to Table 6.)

Table 6
COMPARATIVE TRUST RATINGS OF TOP NATIONAL OFFICIALS
June and September 2023 / Philippines
(In Percent)

TRUST		RP	LOCATION					CLASS		
			NCR	BAL			ABC	D	E	
				LUZ	VIS	MIN				
PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	Sep 23	71	70	68	77	73	56	74	62	
	Jun 23	85	78	88	90	78	77	87	83	
	Change*	- 14	- 8	- 20	- 13	- 5	- 21	- 13	- 21	
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	Sep 23	75	75	64	83	92	61	77	76	
	Jun 23	87	79	82	92	98	73	90	87	
	Change*	- 12	- 4	- 18	- 9	- 6	- 12	- 13	- 11	
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	Sep 23	49	47	41	59	57	49	49	44	
	Jun 23	57	50	50	59	74	63	56	59	
	Change*	- 8	- 3	- 9	0	- 17	- 14	- 7	- 15	
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	Sep 23	38	35	33	58	34	38	39	38	
	Jun 23	54	49	51	61	55	53	55	50	
	Change*	- 16	- 14	- 18	- 3	- 21	- 15	- 16	- 12	
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	Sep 23	33	17	27	50	35	37	33	31	
	Jun 23	43	40	42	44	45	38	43	48	
	Change*	- 10	- 23	- 15	+ 6	- 10	- 1	- 10	- 17	
UNDECIDED PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	Sep 23	23	25	26	21	17	41	20	28	
	Jun 23	11	16	7	8	17	16	9	13	
	Change*	+12	+ 9	+19	+13	0	+25	+11	+15	
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	Sep 23	20	19	30	15	4	30	18	19	
	Jun 23	10	16	14	8	0	24	7	13	
	Change*	+10	+ 3	+16	+ 7	+ 4	+ 6	+11	+ 6	
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	Sep 23	44	46	54	33	32	42	44	45	
	Jun 23	35	42	40	39	17	30	36	36	
	Change*	+ 9	+ 4	+14	- 6	+15	+12	+ 8	+ 9	
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	Sep 23	48	52	56	33	42	39	49	45	
	Jun 23	36	41	37	36	34	31	36	42	
	Change*	+12	+11	+19	- 3	+ 8	+ 8	+13	+ 3	
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	Sep 23	47	70	56	29	39	35	48	49	
	Jun 23	46	49	51	46	37	57	45	44	
	Change*	+ 1	+21	+ 5	- 17	+ 2	- 22	+ 3	+ 5	
DISTRUST PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.	Sep 23	6	5	6	2	10	3	6	9	
	Jun 23	4	6	4	2	5	7	4	4	
	Change*	+ 2	- 1	+ 2	0	+ 5	- 4	+ 2	+ 5	
VICE-PRESIDENT SARA DUTERTE	Sep 23	5	6	6	3	4	9	4	5	
	Jun 23	3	5	4	0	1	3	3	0	
	Change*	+ 2	+ 1	+ 2	+ 3	+ 3	+ 6	+ 1	+ 5	
SENATE PRESIDENT JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	Sep 23	8	7	6	8	11	9	7	10	
	Jun 23	8	9	10	2	9	7	8	5	
	Change*	0	- 2	- 4	+ 6	+ 2	+ 2	- 1	+ 5	
HOUSE SPEAKER FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ	Sep 23	14	13	11	9	24	23	12	17	
	Jun 23	10	10	12	3	11	15	9	8	
	Change*	+ 4	+ 3	- 1	+ 6	+13	+ 8	+ 3	+ 9	
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO	Sep 23	20	12	17	21	25	28	19	20	
	Jun 23	11	11	7	10	18	4	12	9	
	Change*	+ 9	+ 1	+10	+11	+ 7	+24	+ 7	+11	

Notes: (1) *Change = Figures of September 2023 minus Figures of June 2023.

(2) % Big Trust = % Very Big Trust plus % Big Trust ; % Small/No Trust = % Small Trust plus %Very Small/None Trust.

(3) *Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

Likewise, the trust scores of the other key government officials decline during the same period. Trust in Senate President Zubiri becomes less pronounced in the Philippines (-8 percentage points), Mindanao (-17 percentage points), and Class E (-15 percentage points). The trust ratings of House Speaker Romualdez decrease not only at the national level (-16 percentage points) but also in Metro Manila (-14 percentage points), the rest of Luzon (-18 percentage points), Mindanao (-21 percentage points), and Class D (-16 percentage points). And in the case of Supreme Court Chief Justice Gesmundo, levels of trust in him decline among Filipino adults (-10 percentage points), Metro Manilans (-23 percentage points), those in the rest of Luzon (-15 percentage points), and those in Classes D and E (-10 and -17 percentage points, respectively).

Overall levels of ambivalence toward the trustworthiness of the following officials rise between June 2023 and September 2023 – the President (+12 percentage points), the Vice-President (+10 percentage points), Senate President Zubiri (+9 percentage points), and House Speaker Romualdez (+12 percentage points). Essentially the same national figures are recorded by Supreme Court Chief Justice Gesmundo in June 2023 and September 2023 (46% versus 47%).

Across areas and classes, ambivalence toward presidential trustworthiness becomes more notable in the rest of Luzon (+19 percentage points), the Visayas (+13 percentage points), and every socio-economic grouping (+11 to +25 percentage points). The Vice-President's indecision figures increase in the rest of Luzon (+16 percentage points) and Class D (+11 percentage points) while ambivalence regarding the trustworthiness of the Senate President becomes more pronounced in the rest of Luzon (+14 percentage points), Mindanao (+15 percentage points), and Class D (+8 percentage points).

House Speaker Romualdez's indecision scores go up in the rest of Luzon (+19 percentage points) and Class D (+13 percentage points). While ambivalence about the trustworthiness of Supreme Court Chief Justice Gesmundo becomes more marked in Metro Manila (+21 percentage points), the reverse holds true in the Visayas (-17 percentage points) and Class ABC (-22 percentage points).

As regards distrust in these top government officials, there are few movements between June 2023 and September 2023. Levels of distrust in the Supreme Court Chief Justice go up at the national level (+9 percentage points) and in Class ABC (+24 percentage points). As for House Speaker Romualdez, distrust in him becomes more pronounced among Mindanawons (+13 percentage points).

Near to small majority approval ratings are registered by key government institutions in September 2023; few changes in the performance ratings of these entities occur between June 2023 and September 2023

Small majority approval scores are enjoyed by the Senate (59%) and the House of Representatives (54%). Nearly half of Filipino adults also have a positive opinion about the work done by the Supreme Court (49%). These figures are essentially the same as those recorded in the June 2023 *Ulat ng Bayan* survey. (Please refer to Tables 7 to 8.)

The Senate enjoys majority approval figures in every geographic area (52% to 69%) and Classes D and E (59% to 61%). Most Metro Manilans (53%), Visayans (65%), Mindanawons (64%), and those in Classes D and E (53% to 56%) have a positive assessment of the Lower House’s performance. Majority approval ratings are obtained by the Supreme Court in the Visayas (70%) and Mindanao (62%). (Please refer to Table 7.)

Table 7
PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF THE SENATE,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SUPREME COURT
September 10 - 14, 2023 / Philippines
(In Percent)

APPROVAL	RP	LOCATION				CLASS		
		NCR	LUZ	VIS	MIN	ABC	D	E
SENATE	59	55	52	66	69	39	61	59
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	54	53	44	65	64	38	56	53
SUPREME COURT	49	40	35	70	62	41	50	45
UNDECIDED								
SENATE	35	29	43	29	25	38	34	31
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	38	30	46	33	32	38	38	40
SUPREME COURT	37	41	46	25	29	29	38	39
DISAPPROVAL								
SENATE	7	16	6	4	6	23	4	9
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	8	18	10	2	4	23	6	7
SUPREME COURT	14	20	19	5	9	30	12	16

Q20. Mayroon ako ritong mga pangalan ng ibat-ibang ahensiya o opisina ng pamahalaan. Pakisabi ang inyong opinyon tungkol sa pagganap nila ng kanilang tungkulin nitong huling tatlong buwan. Sa pamamagitan po ng board na ito, kayo ba ay (SHOW AND READ RATING BOARD) sa pagganap sa mga tungkulin ng (AHENSIYA/ OPISINA) o wala pa kayong narinig, nabasa o napanood na kahit na ano tungkol sa kanila kahit na kailan?

Notes: (1) % Approve = % Truly Approve plus % Somewhat Approve; % Disapprove = % Somewhat Disapprove plus % Truly Disapprove.
(2) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

About the same approval and indecision ratings are granted to the House of Representatives by those in the rest of Luzon (44% versus 46%). The same observation may be made for the Supreme Court in Metro Manila (40% versus 41%) and the rest of Luzon (35% versus 46%). Half of those in Class D (50%) are appreciative of the Supreme Court’s performance. In Class ABC, there is a three-way split in the performance ratings of these institutions (i.e., 38% to 41% approval, 29% to 38% indecision, and 23% to 30% disapproval.

While the national performance ratings of these institutions are essentially unchanged during the period June 2023 to September 2023, there are a few significant movements across areas and classes. Appreciation for the Senate's performance becomes more notable in Mindanao (+12 percentage points) but eases in the Visayas (-17 percentage points) and Class ABC (-22 percentage points). Likewise, the Lower House's approval rating declines in Class ABC (-24 percentage points). The Supreme Court experiences an improvement in its approval score in Mindanao (+14 percentage points) but the opposite occurs in Metro Manila (-14 percentage points). (Please refer to Table 8.)

In the Visayas, ambivalence toward the performance of the Senate and the House of Representatives becomes more manifest (both at +15 percentage points). With respect to disapproval, the only significant movement is the increase in the Supreme Court's score in Class ABC (+18 percentage points).

Table 8
COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF THE SENATE,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SUPREME COURT
June and September 2023 / Philippines
(In Percent)

APPROVAL		LOCATION					CLASS			
		RP	NCR	BAL			ABC	D	E	
				LUZ	VIS	MIN				
SENATE	Sep 23	59	55	52	66	69	39	61	59	
	Jun 23	62	59	56	83	57	61	62	59	
	Change*	- 3	- 4	- 4	- 17	+12	- 22	- 1	0	
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	Sep 23	54	53	44	65	64	38	56	53	
	Jun 23	58	62	49	76	58	62	57	55	
	Change*	- 4	- 9	- 5	- 11	+ 6	- 24	- 1	- 2	
SUPREME COURT	Sep 23	49	40	35	70	62	41	50	45	
	Jun 23	53	54	46	75	48	48	54	51	
	Change*	- 4	- 14	- 11	- 5	+14	- 7	- 4	- 6	
UNDECIDED										
	SENATE	Sep 23	35	29	43	29	25	38	34	31
		Jun 23	31	31	36	14	33	30	31	32
		Change*	+ 4	- 2	+ 7	+15	- 8	+ 8	+ 3	- 1
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	Sep 23	38	30	46	33	32	38	38	40	
	Jun 23	34	27	44	18	29	28	34	36	
	Change*	+ 4	+ 3	+ 2	+15	+ 3	+10	+ 4	+ 4	
SUPREME COURT	Sep 23	37	41	46	25	29	29	38	39	
	Jun 23	34	32	42	19	33	40	34	34	
	Change*	+ 3	+ 9	+ 4	+ 6	- 4	- 11	+ 4	+ 5	
DISAPPROVAL										
	SENATE	Sep 23	7	16	6	4	6	23	4	9
		Jun 23	8	10	7	3	10	9	7	9
		Change*	- 1	+ 6	- 1	+ 1	- 4	+14	- 3	0
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	Sep 23	8	18	10	2	4	23	6	7	
	Jun 23	9	11	8	6	12	10	9	9	
	Change*	- 1	+ 7	+ 2	- 4	- 8	+13	- 3	- 2	
SUPREME COURT	Sep 23	14	20	19	5	9	30	12	16	
	Jun 23	13	14	12	6	19	12	12	16	
	Change*	+ 1	+ 6	+ 7	- 1	- 10	+18	0	0	

Notes: (1) *Change = Figures of September 2023 minus Figures of June 2023.

(2) % Approve = % Truly Approve plus % Somewhat Approve; % Disapprove = % Somewhat Disapprove plus % Truly Disapprove.

(3) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.