

Attitudes and Considerations of Voters in the Philippine National Elections

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ABSTRACT

A survey was administered in a province in the Philippines to determine the political knowledge, attitudes, considerations, and problems encountered by the registered voters in the area during elections. Results have shown that all voter respondents, in general, have a collective understanding and engage in a consensus on the political and electoral structures of the elections. Most of the voters have expressed their non-disturbance about voting scenarios (problems encountered) and individual views and opinions (voters' attitudes) they have all encountered but did put an overall yet partially significant emphasis on their demographic profiles. Furthermore, the extent of problems encountered by the voters made a justifiable analysis of voting behavior which provided a mirror for voters on how they perceived such experiences during election day. On the contrary, voting attitudes have presented the parameter of the values that voters had used and put into account. Regardless of their voting experiences, still they viewed the situation as normal and confirmed the real-life backgrounds and existing moral foundations of individuals which were considered prerequisites of being rational voters. Both attitudes and considerations have constituted of significant relationship to the variables and voters, especially on how they respond to their duties as citizens and form a new realization after the election. Whatever their responses were, voters have, in some areas, experienced a positive relationship with age, education, occupation, and religious affiliation.

Keywords: Attitudes; Considerations; Political knowledge; Problems-encountered; Voters

Introduction

Election is one of the most important tools for supporting national decision-making. Politicians use divisive campaign strategies, and after the results are announced, the losing sides feel bitter and isolated (Nellis, 2023). Furthermore, one of the primary concerns of all democratic nations worldwide is the potential for decreased voting behavior in some countries if elections are held between 2019 and 2022 (Giommoni et al., 2020). Because they are afraid of getting sick or are unsure of where and how to vote, many people may decide not to cast a ballot if officials do not extensively notify the public about safety-related restrictions and electoral adjustments (Turcu, et al., 2020).

One of the most anticipated political events in the nation is the national election in the Philippines. Despite the dramatic circumstances that exist there, the competition seems to be serious given the various media outlets that are being used to influence and gather voter opinions and sentiments (Lau in al., 2018). In addition, it has supported the study's premise that local concerns and initiatives are frequently eclipsed by national issues and activity, pointing to communication deficits at the local level (Baclig, 2022). Local officials, especially those at the provincial level, appear to need to involve their constituents more to raise awareness of their projects (Silvestre, 2022). In the category of highest voting results worldwide, the Philippines came in at number 50 and fifth in Asia. The country's electoral status is unstable and unpredictable, nonetheless, as voter views and considerations impact the ranking (International IDEA, 2019).

Regarding political scenarios present in the eight municipalities (with the exemption of General Nakar and Jomalig), the economic condition of the local population has something to do with the decision-making process of the voters (with 84.45% in May 2022). Even before the beginning of the campaign period, local candidates in REINA-POGI areas were starting to give a glimpse of their plans on running to a local post supported by their families and

resources like jobs and social favors that have determined their support in the elections (COMELEC Report, 2022). Aside from this, the researcher wanted to know how voters respond to the delayed programs of local officials that were now rushed ahead of the campaign period. Transportation services and food allowances which were free of charge had been given also to voters, especially to those who were in the city or urban areas who did not have pocket money (Arugay, 2022).

In support, first-time voters' political cynicism is characterized by factors that include perceived immorality, mistrust of the government, hostility against politicians, low external efficacy, perceived ineptitude of government personnel, politicians' dependability, public trust, and the function of political parties (Murcia et al., 2016). The results show that young Filipino voters are more likely to voice their support for the candidates they like in person than in online forums, according to Collado et al. (2020).

To relate to the Philippine Voting System, the May 2022 Philippine National and Local Elections were conducted under pandemic conditions, so the country prepared at the earliest possible time (Velmonte, 2020). The Palawan plebiscite which was carefully and successfully conducted in March 2021 has been a clear proof that democratic procedures can be upheld even under the pandemic (Verzosa et al., 2022). The eligibility requirements for regular voters as provided by the Commission on Election (Zoleta, 2022) include those Filipino citizens who have reached at least 18 years old on or before the approaching election, residing in the Philippines for at least one year, and for barangay elections who are settling in the barangay. This research seeks to clarify the reasons behind the non-participation of other registered voters in the national survey (Holmes, 2016). In addition, additional election-related research has shown that several variables, including finances, family dynamics, and service-oriented agreements, manifest when assessing attitudes and factors when voting (Lee, 2020).

The importance of voting behavior and voters' psychology on the election and its underlying effect on many considerations created by voters at their extent of discretion (Boccagni et al., 2016) was one theoretical premise put forth by Antunes et al. (2014). According to Lafleur et al. (2015), the theory provides a clear explanation of how voters think about various scenarios both before and during the poll. According to the Sociological Model of Voting Behavior, voting behavior and attitudes are collective conceptions that are formed by people's decision, voting, and individual influence. These concepts together constitute a social construct. The foundation's goal is to guide logical interpretations into certain notions about the characteristics of voters (Kirmani et al., 2023).

An established voting model served as the model for the conceptual framework that this study has employed. They serve to incorporate into the framework elements particular to voting attitudes and concerns. As previously said, by adding pertinent study elements, the model assisted in the construction of this framework. As can be seen, this study was guided by the advanced model at its foundation. As a result, detailed information about voters' prior voting experiences in local and national elections of 2022 as well as potential internal and external influences on their participation in the voting process have been extracted. The researcher divided the framework into two sections—voters' participation and attitudes and considerations (independent variables)—to facilitate a better understanding of the suggested study model.

Finding out the attitudes and factors that voters in the national elections in the Philippines were considering was the paper's main idea. This study also attempted to examine the behavioural aspects of voters, particularly their reactions to the shifting political platforms presented by national and local candidates when it comes to resolving disputes and concerns at the height of the campaign season. Specifically, this study strived to find solutions to the level or extent of voters based on mean in terms of political knowledge, attitudes, considerations, and problems encountered during elections; the significant relationship between the demographic profile of voters and their problems encountered and attitudes during elections; and the significant relationship between voters' considerations and the voters' attitudes in the national and local elections.

Methodology

Research Design

To address the research objectives and questions, this paper employed a descriptive correlational research methodology, utilizing data from the survey and multiple interview modalities (Cruz et al., 2017).

Research Participants

Selected registered voters who participated in the May 2022 national and local elections and whose birth year fell between 1940 and 2004 were considered respondents for this study. With multiple representations from the clusters developed by this study, these respondents were identified using a stratified random sampling technique that represented various voter names taken from the official COMELEC list and currently residing in any barangay in the Metro REINA and POGI, Quezon. Based on the characteristics thought to be the most important precondition for making this study possible, the researcher categorized the survey's respondents. In total, this study is composed of one hundred eighty (180) respondents equal to their grouping based on the provided sampling technique of this study. Six municipalities have chosen to participate in the data gathering, these were the areas of Burdeos, Infanta, Panukulan,

Patnanungan, Polillo, and Real. With a total of 60,016 male voters and 61,467 female voters, only 90 voters per sex category were subject to interview through sampling. Each municipality is given an allocation of 30 voter-respondents, 15-15 based on male and female categories. Within the six municipalities, there are 90-90 distribution of voters in total which corresponds to the required number of respondents for the study.

Research Instrument

The result of the pilot testing, the Reliability test through Cronbach Alpha was presented based on the four major components of the research instrument. This instrument's trial was conducted in the second to third week of January 2023. As per the advice of the research expert, the study has limited its pilot respondents to 15, proportionally representing the three municipalities of Burdeos, Infanta, and Real. Each municipality has 5 voter respondents and was given a research instrument copy (interview schedule) in printed format, Filipino or English.

Data Collection Procedure

Before collecting data, the researcher formally requested an endorsement from the Regional COMELEC Office. This endorsement facilitated access to essential election reports from every municipal COMELEC station, serving as the data source for this paper. The formal request provided key background information about the respondents, such as voting participation duration, gender, occupation, and year of birth within the specified limitations.

Following the identification of the respondents, the researcher assessed and categorized them using pre-established standards. Following approval, the researcher assembled, copied, and sent survey forms created specifically for the study to participants or authorized registered voters who may carry out the study's administration. The survey forms were openly distributed to the study's chosen sample after a preliminary trial and any required modifications. A total of one hundred eighty forms were distributed, completed, and collected. The researcher's community contacts played a crucial role in retrieving the forms, utilizing various methods, including online and printed forms.

Data Analysis

Data analysis was conducted using Minitab 14 software, which facilitated the generation of tabular, graphical, and statistical presentations of the results. For the demographic profile analysis, primary information about voters was collected and summarized using a spreadsheet-generated tally board. To assess the level or extent of voters' political knowledge, attitudes, considerations, and problems encountered during elections, the weighted mean was computed and analyzed based on the Likert scale. The results were generated and presented through the software.

In exploring the significant relationship between the demographic profile of voters and their encountered problems during elections, as well as the relationship between the demographic profile of voters and their attitudes towards voting, the numerical responses from the voter-respondents, tallied and encoded in the spreadsheet, were transferred to Minitab for further computation and analysis.

Ethical Considerations

The ethical guidelines established by the standard research ethics are adhered to in this investigation. The respondents were kept informed about every step of the process that needed to be completed for this research. The responders were always respected because they were more important than the study. They were informed that the study would not in any way impact their means of subsistence or way of life; rather, it was completely voluntary and intentional. The researcher appreciated and offered the respondents' autonomy, dignity, privacy and secrecy, safety, and informed consent, among other concerns. Additionally, after the study was completed, the data collection materials were destroyed.

Results and Discussions

Demographic Profile

Table 1 presents the demographic profile of respondents in terms of civil status, occupation, educational attainment, and religious affiliation.

Voter's Political Knowledge

Table 2 reveals a high overall weighted mean of 4.16 for voters' political knowledge, indicating a strong understanding of the political landscape, election rules, candidates' nature, and the Philippine political system. The data, particularly in items 1 to 5 and 11 to 15, suggests that most respondents possess the necessary knowledge for effective voting. Despite limited internet access in POGI municipalities, voters maintain a robust awareness of political engagement, aided by the introduction of mobile data, 24/7 electricity, and signal-infused television and radio during the election period. This underscores their awareness of poll-related matters (Silvestre, 2022).

Table 1: Demographic profile of respondents in terms of civil status, occupation, educational attainment, and religious affiliation.

	f	%
Civil Status		
Single	62	34.44
Married	107	59.44
Widow	11	6.11
Occupation		
Blue Collar Job	78	43.33
White Collar Job	66	36.67
Unemployed	36	20.00
Educational Attainment		
Tertiary	98	54.44
Secondary	12	6.67
Primary	70	38.89
Religious Affiliation		
Roman Catholic	162	90.00
Iglesia Ni Kristo	6	3.33
Born Again	12	6.67

Table 2: Level of voter's political knowledge

	STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1.	Voting is not a mere act or thing but is an exercise of the political right and civil duty of every citizen.	4.48	Very High
2.	On May 9, 2022, the National and Local elections were held in the Philippines. It was an opportunity to seek and insist on reforms in government that the people seek and show participation as a citizen.	4.37	Very High
3.	National elections include positions such as senator, president, vice president, and representatives of each sector in the national legislature.	4.37	Very High
4.	Local elections include positions such as governor, vice governor, provincial council members, representatives of each district, and municipal government positions.	4.46	Very High
5.	The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) is one of the major government agencies responsible for overseeing elections in the country. It also sets the rules that candidates must follow.	4.46	Very High
6.	There are ten (10) presidential candidates and nine (9) vice presidential candidates who ran in the last May 9, 2022, in the Philippine national election.	3.65	High
7.	The campaign period for candidates who ran for national positions began on February 8, 2022, and ended on May 7, 2022. For local candidates, their campaign date was from March 25, 2022, to May 7, 2022.	3.75	High
8.	The PDP-Laban (Partido Demokratiko Pilipino–Lakas ng Bayan) was the largest political party in the country before the May 9, 2022, national and local elections with 60% members nationwide.	3.40	Average
9.	To maintain an active voting status of the voter, he or she requires at least two (2) consecutive voting in both local and national elections.	4.16	High
10.	In the election, there were seven (7) candidates for the position of governor and five (5) for the vice governor position in Quezon province with six (6) candidates from the first district running for the provincial council position.	4.15	High
11.	The primary function of a senator and representative of the district is the creation of bills, resolutions, appropriations of funds, and legislative aids.	4.24	Very High

12. The president's primary order is the creation of issues (executive order, administrative order, proclamation, memorandum order, etc.) It is also responsible for the implementation of laws and reforms for the country.	4.24	Very High
13. In addition to the cabinet position, the vice president is required to assume and accept the position of the president in the event of death, invalidity, or resignation of the incumbent president.	4.21	Very High
14. The governor of the province and the council are responsible for the social services, and administration of the province which include the legislature, provincial treasury, and support to the municipal governments.	4.21	Very High
15. Municipal elective positions are charged by law with the supervision of all programs, projects, services, and activities of the municipal government and to ensure the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities to its citizens.	4.24	Very High

Voter's Attitudes

Table 3 indicates a high overall weighted mean of 3.58 for voters' attitudes, reflecting a strong acceptance of election-related opinions and values. The majority of voters exhibited tolerance and engagement in the electoral process, using these values as references for future decisions. This high level of voter attitudes is attributed to diverse social and economic attributes, considering the geographical and cultural perspectives of the voters. Items 6, 9, and 18 highlight the logical and careful approach of most voters in choosing candidates, emphasizing the relevance and mindfulness in their decision-making. The high level of voting opinions is also influenced by sociocultural bonds and familial attachments within voter groups (Stout, 2019).

Table 3: Level of voters' attitudes

STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1. I am pleased with the campaign rallies of candidates whether national or local and have expressed my desire to see political forums and meetings on the designated dates and places of the campaign.	3.78	High
2. I am very happy with the differences between the candidates and their supporters, both national and local.	3.64	High
3. I have been properly informed of the differences in views of candidates in the fields of politics, interests, groups, agendas, and leadership styles as well as their management experiences before their run.	3.86	High
4. I am very sensitive to issues regarding the leadership style of candidates, and their accomplishments while serving, especially in evaluating positive and negative information about them.	3.75	High
5. I have shown a deep understanding of the candidates, especially in their handling of the issue of COVID-19 during a pandemic and how they have helped people.	3.87	High
6. I have not been in a hurry to choose who I will vote for, especially if my colleagues or friends have given me the names they have chosen, such as the candidates I will vote for suddenly because I am not prepared for the election.	4.27	Very High
7. I have expressed opposition and disapproval of candidates whose platforms are not suitable for the country or to plans with unclear consequences such as programs that can only benefit selected people but not the public.	3.69	High
8. I have been open and positive about social policies and reforms such as education and health drawn by candidates whether national or local campaigns even at meetings organized in our community.	4.09	High
9. I have seriously thought about who I should vote for. I have made decisions carefully and searched for bases from news on TV and program interviews to assess their credibility and integrity before they run for office.	4.47	Very High
10. I am not interested in listening to or reading any news that is critical or bad for my selected candidates especially if it is about corruption, criminal issues, and political dynasties.	2.93	Average
11. I have no time and choose not to attend political rallies or forums because I believe that it is unnecessary and a waste of time. Instead, I decided to do other more important things for my career.	2.74	Average
12. I never gave other people the opportunity to share their political views, especially when it comes to other candidates in the country and local who I	2.61	Average

don't like. Instead, I prefer to talk to people who are like me.		
13. I have chosen to be accepting of the new administration especially if there are new candidates who have won the election. I'm here to let myself be tolerant and give them a chance to lead the government before being judged.	3.71	High
14. I have never liked people or groups who always gave opinions about history, especially in the days of dictatorship where they were referred to as baseless and mixed distortions of the past.	3.20	Average
15. I am emotionally touched by candidates who chose to go to remote areas in the provinces and towns to interview voters and determine their needs especially when they are related to health, education, and employment.	3.84	High
16. I have shown a view that I based on what most people usually believe, especially among voters in my area who sometimes have the pulse of the majority, I am there too, especially when they look at it during the campaign.	2.64	Average
17. I have been involved in campaigns and rallies, not paying attention that it may potentially cost money or even the use of my time. I chose to go there, and it has been a pleasure for me.	3.17	Average
18. My decision on choosing my candidates to vote was firm and never changed by anyone who wanted to change it. It was a decision for my country and a sacred thing for me as a citizen.	4.24	Very High
19. I appreciate the efforts of some candidates whether national or local who have given their individual time to participate in campaigns and communications to provide answers to unconvinced voters.	3.94	High
20. I expressed my disappointment a few hours after the election where most of the candidates I voted for were not on the list of winners and sometimes even thought that the election result might have been cheated or interfered with by others.	3.13	Average

Voter's Consideration

The first consideration among voters was their familial grouping. Based on the result from Table 4, the extent is moderate. The extent of the relationship between family and their consideration was proved to be coherent and positive as this does not create a dividing factor between them and institutionalized the idea of empowerment in decision-making. It pinpointed that families were not uniform in terms of materializing their decisions due to their individual choices and freedom (Lee, 2020).

Table 4: Extent of voter's considerations (family background)

STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1. I voted for the candidate selected or endorsed by my parents, siblings, relatives, or the head of our household.	2.32	Fair Extent
2. I voted for the candidate who had a sufficient offer to me or my family; whether it is a service or material thing from the party or group he is joining.	2.28	Fair Extent
3. I voted for the candidate to whom I owe a debt; The candidate who gave us a gift and gave my family help in another way.	2.57	Fair Extent
4. My family gave me the freedom to choose what I wanted to vote for and they never interfered with my decision and let me choose better for my opinion and judgment.	4.41	Very High Extent
5. My family guided me when I was confused about various issues surrounding candidates whether it was in national or local elections.	3.62	High Extent

Table 5 reveals that among voters, the influence of friends or peer grouping on decision-making is considered fair. However, items 3 and 4 highlight a minimal degree of influence, with voters indicating limited encouragement from friends or colleagues to explore candidates on social media and generating insights. Most voters expressed self-reliance in candidate selection, prioritizing their judgment over excessive reliance on friends' opinions. This approach is seen as a strategy to avoid choice pressure, hasty decisions, and potential negative impacts of peer influence. The decision to prioritize individual judgments aligns with considerations of poor peer influence and prosocial behavior, as noted in studies such as Collado et al. (2020).

Table 5: Extent of voter's considerations – peer group

STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1. I rely on my friends to decide which candidate they would rather vote for or endorse me. It is whatever the basis for their choice.	1.84	Fair Extent
2. My friends taught me to receive gifts or favors from different candidates to enjoy the privileges once they win, take the oath, and take office.	2.05	Fair Extent
3. My friends and I used the Internet to search different platforms of candidates and assess their political priorities on which could become the basis of our choice.	2.66	Moderate Extent
4. My friends encouraged me to choose the right candidate on the list. They gave me insights on how to weigh my decisions and election priorities.	3.23	Moderate Extent
5. I felt that whoever they chose to vote for would benefit me too, so I relied on them to vote for the names of the candidates I would vote for.	2.06	Fair Extent

Table 6 shows a moderate extent of influence from mass media, including mainstream and social media, among voters. Key indicators (items 1, 3, and 5) demonstrate the direct use of social media for decision-making, obtaining candidate information, and sharing programs. In POGI municipalities with less stable internet, voters faced challenges accessing social media, but they still gathered campaign information through alternative means like radios. The relationship between television and radio was considered less practical during elections, challenging conventional perspectives on media's impact, as observed in studies like Contreras (2020).

Table 6: Extent of voter's considerations – mass media

STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1. I use social media like Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter to get references that can help me make decisions in choosing national and local candidates.	2.86	Moderate Extent
2. I heavily based my decisions on social media regardless of the sources and the credibility of the information. After I got the information I needed, I immediately shared it with my friends.	2.59	Fair Extent
3. I have used my social media accounts to get accurate and reliable information about different candidates. I've also been watching historical videos to further enhance my political views.	3.11	Moderate Extent
4. I often comment and report people who do not use social media properly, especially those who are used to spreading misinformation and distorting historical events.	3.43	High Extent
5. I support my candidates on social media by sharing their programs with others, explaining their thoughts to my Facebook colleagues, and helping them choose wisely.	2.72	Moderate Extent

Table 7 reveals that the influence of religion or religious affiliation among voters is rated as fair. While item 3, related to self-moral analysis, received a high extent, item 4 supported the moral compass of voters. Despite 90% being Roman Catholic Christians and 10% non-Catholics, voters demonstrated independence and decision-making. Religious affiliation served as a guide, not a direct control over voters' choices. This fair extent implies that voters' religious affiliations did not dictate their choices, reflecting a shift in the traditional method of integrating religion into campaign mobilization (Sierra, 2022).

Table 7: Extent of voter's considerations – religious affiliation

STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1. Without hesitation, I voted for candidates endorsed by my Church and the religious association to which I belong.	2.11	Fair Extent
2. I let my Church give me suggestions about my choices and I let them give me advice on who I should vote for on election day.	2.28	Fair Extent
3. I believed that my faith in God would help me choose a worthy candidate and give me confidence that He would help me make the right decision. I am ready to accept whatever He has to offer.	3.63	High Extent
4. I believe that my religion is one of the key aspects of my best decision for our country to improve again in various fields. I know it is necessary to follow it.	2.64	Moderate Extent
5. I cannot destroy my loyalty to my Church. I put my thoughts aside and let myself be receptive. I'm waiting for the list of candidates they will give before election day.	2.11	Fair Extent

Table 8 indicates that the influence of socioeconomic status among voters is rated as moderate. Notably, items 4 and 5 received high and very high extents, revealing that voters prioritize candidates with frugal campaigns and are less interested in material support. This suggests a shift towards cleaner campaigns. The relationship of consideration is moderate, indicating that voters' considerations regarding socioeconomic status are tolerable and acceptable, particularly in the REINA-POGI municipalities with economic sufficiency. Voters in these areas valued candidates' socio-political networks for funding and urgent tasks (Cruz et al., 2016).

Table 8: Extent of voter's considerations – socio-economic status

STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1. I prefer to choose a candidate with financial ability and many social connections because I believe that if he is already wealthy, he may not be interested in the public treasury anymore.	2.53	Fair Extent
2. I am not interested in candidates who have good political plans but lack the financial means to support their campaigns. I'm sure it will result in their supporters moving to others.	2.24	Fair Extent
3. I chose a candidate who could give me something else, either material things or favors because I believe I should get things from them because they need my vote for them to win.	2.40	Fair Extent
4. I always balance myself with the openness of candidates during the campaign because they should not make it right to exploit the needs of others as well as to control the minds of voters.	3.92	High Extent
5. I prefer a candidate who economically conducted their campaign activities and demonstrated austerity and simpleness in spending during the campaign.	4.31	Very High Extent

The influence of educational attainment among voters, the sixth consideration, reveals a highly favorable relationship, as indicated in Table 9. The general weighted mean of 4.02 signifies a high extent of the relationship, with all items emphasizing the significant role of voters' educational background in their electoral choices. The majority of voter respondents had completed secondary and tertiary education, suggesting that voters leveraged their educational background to understand candidates, their programs, and political issues. This aligns with previous studies highlighting education as a key factor in voting patterns alongside age and political awareness (Snyder, 2011).

Table 9: Extent of voter's considerations – educational attainment

STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1. I have chosen a candidate who can hold office as a person who has graduated from college and whose degree has to do with his work	4.21	High Extent

in law, economics, and even political governance.

2.	A candidate is more competent if he has graduated especially in political and diplomatic management, domestic and foreign.	4.19	High Extent
3.	I prefer a candidate who has a good educational record, has no negative things to do with his studies, and maintains integrity in the academy he attended.	4.29	Very High Extent
4.	I have selected a candidate with an excellent educational record and political competence in the field of political and legal, economic management, or both.	4.28	Very High Extent
5.	I never liked a candidate who didn't graduate college because I appreciate the proper education of a running candidate when it comes to leadership.	3.16	Moderate Extent

The seventh consideration, focusing on the influence of the candidate's political machinery on voters, reveals a moderately favorable relationship, as shown in Table 10. The general weighted mean of 3.28 indicates a moderate extent of the relationship. Items 1, 4, and 5 reflect a moderate extent, while items 2 and 3 show a high extent. The voters primarily considered the financial capacity of candidates concerning the community's interests and benefits. This consideration became prominent as voters supported local produce and prioritized job creation before and during the election period. However, minimal consideration was given to obtaining material gains from candidates, such as transportation and food. The results highlight the variability in voters' priorities and considerations, with some adjustments and disagreements based on individual environments and orientations (Ravanilla et al., 2022; Ong et al., 2019).

Table 10: Voter's considerations – political machinery

	STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1.	I liked a candidate who shouldered transportation and food expenses to his supporters. I know that although it is considered wrong, it still happens in other ways.	3.17	Moderate Extent
2.	I voted for a candidate who could support the financial needs of the entire community through presentations of local products and providing small jobs during the campaign.	3.52	High Extent
3.	I support a candidate who has gathered the entire community and provided us with assistance in the education of students, medical services for the sick, transportation, and even livelihood.	3.99	High Extent
4.	One of my priorities is to know the influences and sources of material things candidates can provide at campaign rallies and how I should be able to participate in them.	2.68	Moderate Extent
5.	I have selected candidates who know how to use the media and form small groups in their communities to campaign for them even in remote areas to ensure that voters know them.	3.02	Moderate Extent

Problems Encountered

In examining the flaws and challenges faced by voters before, during, and after election day, various voting-related issues were explored. These issues encompassed the voting procedure system, machine malfunctions, political nepotism, incorrect voting addresses, long waiting lines, a shortage of poll assistants, time-consuming processes, deprioritization of persons with disabilities (PWDs) and seniors, physical assaults, vote buying, "HAKOT" voters, lack of security personnel, delayed vote transmission, and traffic problems (Lapuz & Magno, 2019). The study sought to understand voters' attitudes toward these scenarios, considering their opinions and behaviors. Despite the commonality of these challenges during elections, the study found variations in how individuals perceived and experienced them (Ebrahimi et al., 2017).

As depicted in Table 11, the majority of respondents reported encountering fewer flaws or problems in the voting environment, as evidenced by their disagreement with most items in this category. Items 5, 6, and 15 revealed a moderate extent of experience, indicating a satisfactory connection for voters in areas with a reasonable number of voters, such as POGI municipalities. The lower population density in these areas contributed to fewer challenges compared to the more densely populated REINA areas. Despite the geographical challenges, such as in island municipalities, voters experienced minimal issues like voting lines and adequate ventilation in the precincts. Overall, the data suggests that the election area was well-prepared in the days leading up to election day (Teehankee, 2022).

Table 11: Extent of problems encountered during elections

	STATEMENTS	MEAN	INTERPRETATION
1.	There is no systematic voting procedure in our polling precinct for voters such as providing the correct line in the queue and the tools necessary for voting.	2.00	Fair Extent
2.	Voting machines have malfunctioned and voters have been looking for alternative solutions so that they can still submit their ballots.	2.37	Fair Extent
3.	Voters who know someone inside the precinct or relatives of poll watchers and vote technicians no longer line up and ignore to get their voting numbers already.	2.34	Fair Extent
4.	I found my name in the wrong place or precinct that was not in my actual voting address. This has caused me to be very uncomfortable with my line.	1.85	Fair Extent
5.	Due to the pandemic, I have been able to queue for hours due to limited queue seats and the number of pens in the precinct was insufficient. It was done to observe physical distancing.	2.72	Moderate Extent
6.	The queue at my precinct was long enough to cause the anger of all who later feared that the voting time might be extended just to accommodate all the voters.	2.74	Moderate Extent
7.	There was a shortage of poll assistants to oversee the good poll trend even in the queue adjustment at the precinct which caused queue line confusion and voter misunderstandings.	2.03	Fair Extent
8.	I was tired of the long queue because it was almost full and because there was only one line, and the space was limited outside and inside my precinct.	2.56	Fair Extent
9.	There was a shortage of vote counting machines due to the sudden malfunction so there was only one working machine in our precinct that day, so everyone spent time waiting.	2.25	Fair Extent
10.	While voting, my precinct experienced a sudden power outage in our area. There was no other source of electricity, so we waited for it to come back.	1.86	Fair Extent
11.	There are no designated areas for people with disabilities (PWDs) and senior citizens in my precinct. They could do nothing but join the other voters who were waiting in line to vote.	1.94	Fair Extent
12.	There has been a slight disturbance in our area due to conflicts between some candidates and their supporters outside the precinct.	1.64	Poor Extent
13.	My precinct is so small that it can't handle the allocated number of voters in our precinct, so it's crowded and uncomfortable for voters.	2.17	Fair Extent
14.	There was a reported issue of physical assault in our area that was considered unpleasant on election day which also reflected the disagreement between voters.	1.71	Poor Extent
15.	I have seen vote buying in our area, whether the amount of money given by the candidates is small or large. This was to ensure their success in the position they were running.	3.04	Moderate Extent
16.	some voters are not familiar with our area or what you call "HAKOT" and sometimes they make noise there.	2.12	Fair Extent
17.	We lacked security personnel like the Barangay Police or any other local officer who would maintain peace and order in our precinct.	2.08	Fair Extent
18.	There was also a "DAGDAG-BAWAS" in vote counting in our area, ballots were delayed in sending election results through online transmission due to a slow internet connection.	2.03	Fair Extent
19.	The elections in our area were initiated late due to the technicalities seen by the technician teachers.	1.80	Poor Extent
20.	There were also no traffic officers in charge on election day, so motorists had no choice but to wait for long lines of vehicles in the middle of the road outside our precinct.	1.94	Fair Extent

Relationship Between Demographic Profile and Problems Encountered

In this study, the analysis of the relationship between age and voters' maturity is crucial, providing insights into how respondents navigate challenges during elections (Perterra, 2021). Age emerges as a significant factor influencing the problems voters encounter on election day. While voters who were not classified as Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) or Senior Citizens may have faced long wait times due to the high voter turnout, they prioritized the vulnerable groups (Resnick et al., 2013). Educational attainment also plays a role, with voters demonstrating a solid understanding of

political knowledge. This was evident in their adaptive response to challenges such as machine malfunctions, power outages, minimal reports of physical assault, consistent disapproval of vote buying, and a shortage of security personnel (Jaca et al., 2021). Despite some expressed disappointment, voters ultimately exhibited a strong commitment to exercising their voting rights and participating in the elections (Arguelles, 2019).

Table 12: Relationship between voters' age to the extent of the perceived problems encountered during elections

	Statements	X ² -value	p-value	Relationship
1.	There is no systematic voting procedure in our polling precinct for voters such as providing the correct line in the queue and the tools necessary for voting.	0.072	0.336	Not significant
2.	Voting machines have malfunctioned and voters have been looking for alternative solutions so that they can still submit their ballots.	0.067	0.369	Not significant
3.	Voters who know someone inside the precinct or relatives of poll watchers and vote technicians no longer line up and ignore to get their voting numbers already.	-0.019	0.796	Not significant
4.	I found my name in the wrong place or precinct that was not in my actual voting address. This has caused me to be very uncomfortable with my line.	-0.089	0.234	Not significant
5.	Due to the pandemic, I have been able to queue for hours due to limited queue seats and the number of pens in the precinct was insufficient. It was done to observe physical distancing.	-0.180	0.016	Significant
6.	The queue at my precinct was long enough to cause the anger of all who later feared that the voting time might be extended just to accommodate all the voters.	0.037	0.618	Not significant
7.	There was a shortage of poll assistants to oversee the good poll trend even in the queue adjustment at the precinct which caused queue line confusion and voter misunderstandings.	-0.095	0.203	Not significant
8.	I was tired of the long queue because it was almost full and because there was only one line, and the space was limited outside and inside my precinct.	0.034	0.652	Not significant
9.	There was a shortage of vote counting machines due to the sudden malfunction so there was only one working machine in our precinct that day, so everyone spent time waiting.	0.050	0.508	Not significant
10.	While voting, my precinct experienced a sudden power outage in our area. There was no other source of electricity, so we waited for it to come back.	-0.010	0.891	Not significant
11.	There are no designated areas for people with disabilities (PWDs) and senior citizens in my precinct. They could do nothing but join the other voters who were waiting in line to vote.	-0.112	0.136	Not significant
12.	There has been a slight disturbance in our area due to conflicts between some candidates and their supporters outside the precinct. There was a bit of noise outside my precinct.	-0.084	0.264	Not significant
13.	My precinct is so small that it can't handle the allocated number of voters in our precinct, so it's crowded and uncomfortable for voters.	-0.148	0.047	Significant
14.	There was a reported issue of physical assault in our area that was considered unpleasant on election day which also reflected the disagreement between voters.	0.039	0.600	Not significant
15.	I have seen vote buying in our area, whether the amount of money given by the candidates is small or large. This was to ensure their success in the position they aspired.	0.096	0.201	Not significant
16.	There are voters also who are not familiar with our area or what you call "HAKOT" and sometimes they create commotions there.	-0.047	0.534	Not significant

17. We lacked security personnel like the Barangay Police or any other local officer who can maintain peace and order in our precinct.	-0.053	0.480	Not significant
18. There was also a “DAGDAG-BAWAS” in vote counting in our area, ballots were delayed in sending election results through online transmission due to a slow internet connection.	-0.003	0.966	Not significant
19. The elections in our area were initiated late due to the technicalities seen by the technician teachers. There were also errors in the ballot such as the number and name of the voter and the late preparation of the precinct.	-0.019	0.798	Not significant
20. There were also no traffic officers in charge on election day, so motorists had no choice but to wait for long lines of vehicles in the middle of the road outside our precinct.	-0.076	0.310	Not significant

The geopolitical division, or area, plays a crucial role in understanding the challenges voters face during elections. Cultural distinctions and economic orientations contribute to variations in voters' experiences across different regions (Abdu et al., 2017). Additionally, factors like technician readiness and transportation logistics can impact the prompt resolution of issues, particularly in island municipalities (Inocian et al., 2017). The availability of information resources in each area influences voters' perceptions, leading to unique responses based on distinct social and economic environments (Nares et al., 2022). While sexual orientation minimally affects voters' perceptions of challenges on election day, it does not significantly impact their understanding and experience of election-related problems (Checkoway, 2011). Most voters do not consider their sexual orientation as a relevant component of their polling experience (Crowder-Meyer et al., 2019).

Table 13: Relationship between voters' municipality to the extent of the perceived problems encountered during elections

Statements	X ² -value	p-value	Relationship
1. There is no systematic voting procedure in our polling precinct for voters such as providing the correct line in the queue and the tools necessary for voting.	18.059	0.054	Not significant
2. Voting machines have malfunctioned and voters have been looking for alternative solutions so that they can still submit their ballots.	32.693	0.005	Significant
3. Voters who know someone inside the precinct or relatives of poll watchers and vote technicians no longer line up and ignore to get their voting numbers already.	22.858	0.011	Significant
4. I found my name in the wrong place or precinct that was not in my actual voting address. This has caused me to be very uncomfortable with my line.	13.479	0.019	Significant
5. Due to the pandemic, I have been able to queue for hours due to limited queue seats and the number of pens in the precinct was insufficient. It was done to observe physical distancing.	14.713	0.143	Not significant
6. The queue at my precinct was long enough to cause the anger of all who later feared that the voting time might be extended just to accommodate all the voters.	26.437	0.034	Significant
7. There was a shortage of poll assistants to oversee the good poll trend even in the queue adjustment at the precinct which caused queue line confusion and voter misunderstandings.	24.132	0.063	Not significant
8. I was tired of the long queue because it was almost full and because there was only one line, and the space was limited outside and inside my precinct.	24.955	0.051	Not significant
9. There was a shortage of vote counting machines due to the sudden malfunction so there was only one working machine in our precinct that day, so everyone spent time waiting.	9.939	0.446	Not significant
10. While voting, my precinct experienced a sudden power	30.167	0.001	Significant

outage in our area. There was no other source of electricity, so we waited for it to come back.			
11. There are no designated areas for people with disabilities (PWDs) and senior citizens in my precinct. They could do nothing but join the other voters who were waiting in line to vote.	14.326	0.159	Not significant
12. There has been a slight disturbance in our area due to conflicts between some candidates and their supporters outside the precinct. There was a bit of noise outside my precinct.	10.583	0.060	Not significant
13. My precinct is so small that it can't handle the allocated number of voters in our precinct, so it's crowded and uncomfortable for voters.	9.197	0.513	Not significant
14. There was a reported issue of physical assault in our area that was considered unpleasant on election day which also reflected the disagreement between voters.	7.056	0.217	Not significant
15. I have seen vote buying in our area, whether the amount of money given by the candidates is small or large. This was to ensure their success in the position they were running.	39.369	0.006	Significant
16. some voters are not familiar with our area or what you call "HAKOT" and sometimes they make noise there.	24.873	0.006	Significant
17. We lacked security personnel like the Barangay Police or any other local officer who would maintain peace and order in our precinct.	13.826	0.181	Not significant
18. There was also a "DAGDAG-BAWAS" in vote counting in our area, ballots were delayed in sending election results through online transmission due to a slow internet connection.	30.128	0.001	Significant
19. The elections in our area were initiated late due to the technicalities seen by the technician teachers. There were also errors in the ballot such as the number and name of the voter and the late preparation of the precinct.	7.690	0.174	Not significant
20. There were also no traffic officers in charge on election day, so motorists had no choice but to wait for long lines of vehicles in the middle of the road outside our precinct.	5.538	0.354	Not significant

Occupation did not significantly influence the way voters perceived and responded to problems and challenges during elections, indicating that voters remained unbiased on their professional roles (Duong, 2021). However, feedback from REINA-POGI regions suggested that voters reliant on natural and agricultural resources felt underserved by the government (McMurry, 2022). Civil status or marital relationships played a crucial role in voters' decision-making processes, with voters prioritizing candidates they believed could uplift their economic and social conditions (Bajar, 2022). Despite positive valuations, voters did not use their civil status to interpret encountered challenges during elections or deviate from their primary purpose—voting (Bajar, 2022). Religion had a nominal observable influence on voters' perceptions of struggles during elections, with voters' orientations, environmental factors, and community conditions shaping their experiences (Uyheng et al., 2021).

Table 14: Relationship between voters' occupation to the extent of the perceived problems encountered during elections

Statements	X ² -value	p-value	Relationship
1. There is no systematic voting procedure in our polling precinct for voters such as providing the correct line in the queue and the tools necessary for voting.	4.419	0.620	Not significant
2. Voting machines have malfunctioned and voters have been looking for alternative solutions so that they can still submit their ballots.	3.209	0.921	Not significant
3. Voters who know someone inside the precinct or relatives of poll watchers and vote technicians no longer line up and ignore to get their voting numbers already.	7.677	0.263	Not significant
4. I found my name in the wrong place or precinct that was	1.839	0.765	Not significant

	not in my actual voting address. This has caused me to be very uncomfortable with my line.			
5.	Due to the pandemic, I have been able to queue for hours due to limited queue seats and the number of pens in the precinct was insufficient. It was done to observe physical distancing.	5.534	0.699	Not significant
6.	The queue at my precinct was long enough to cause the anger of all who later feared that the voting time might be extended just to accommodate all the voters.	6.460	0.596	Not significant
7.	There was a shortage of poll assistants to oversee the good poll trend even in the queue adjustment at the precinct which caused queue line confusion and voter misunderstandings.	8.143	0.228	Not significant
8.	I was tired of the long queue because it was almost full and because there was only one line, and the space was limited outside and inside my precinct.	0.499	0.998	Not significant
9.	There was a shortage of vote counting machines due to the sudden malfunction so there was only one working machine in our precinct that day, so everyone spent time waiting.	5.817	0.213	Not significant
10.	While voting, my precinct experienced a sudden power outage in our area. There was no other source of electricity, so we waited for it to come back.	2.750	0.600	Not significant
11.	There are no designated areas for people with disabilities (PWDs) and senior citizens in my precinct. They could do nothing but join the other voters who were waiting in line to vote.	10.455	0.235	Not significant
12.	There has been a slight disturbance in our area due to conflicts between some candidates and their supporters outside the precinct. There was a bit of noise outside my precinct.	1.777	0.777	Not significant
13.	My precinct is so small that it can't handle the allocated number of voters in our precinct, so it's crowded and uncomfortable for voters.	6.112	0.411	Not significant
14.	There was a reported issue of physical assault in our area that was considered unpleasant on election day which also reflected the disagreement between voters.	2.960	0.565	Not significant
15.	I have seen vote buying in our area, whether the amount of money given by the candidates is small or large. This was to ensure their success in the position they were running.	9.368	0.312	Not significant
16.	some voters are not familiar with our area or what you call "HAKOT" and sometimes they make noise there.	13.481	0.096	Not significant
17.	We lacked security personnel like the Barangay Police or any other local officer who would maintain peace and order in our precinct.	5.376	0.497	Not significant
18.	There was also a "DAGDAG-BAWAS" in vote counting in our area, ballots were delayed in sending election results through online transmission due to a slow internet connection.	7.511	0.276	Not significant
19.	The elections in our area were initiated late due to the technicalities seen by the technician teachers. There were also errors in the ballot such as the number and name of the voter and the late preparation of the precinct.	4.923	0.554	Not significant
20.	There were also no traffic officers in charge on election day, so motorists had no choice but to wait for long lines of vehicles in the middle of the road outside our precinct.	3.050	0.802	Not significant

Relationship Between Demographic Profile and Voter's Attitudes

The voters' acceptability of the statements slightly varied by parameter, indicating that voters can manage their attitudes for future elections (Friese et al., 2016). While most items exhibited positive values, the study emphasizes the

crucial significance of voters expressing sympathy for others. Understanding the socio-economic situations of people in REINA-POGI received substantial attention from candidates and support from provincial and national governments (David et al., 2017). The study found that education has a balanced influence on attitudes during election season, as voters utilized their insights and knowledge to weigh different ideas from candidates and respond to the consequences of their actions (Crowder-Meyer et al., 2019). Local elections garnered desirable acceptance, showcasing the concept of heterogeneity in voters' inclination to values during the election period, influenced by their educational attainment and internalized values (Cruz et al., 2016; Daoust, 2023). The nearby proximity of municipalities facilitated the exchange of social boundaries, contributing to this influence.

Table 15: Relationship between voters' age to the extent of their attitudes on elections

	Statements	X²-value	p-value	Relationship
1.	I am pleased with the campaign rallies of candidates whether national or local and have expressed my desire to see political forums and meetings on the designated dates and places of the campaign.	0.091	0.226	Not significant
2.	I am very happy with the differences between the candidates and their supporters, both national and local.	-0.046	0.541	Not significant
3.	I have been properly informed of the differences in views of candidates in the fields of politics, interests, groups, agendas, and leadership styles as well as their management experiences before their run.	-0.002	0.979	Not significant
4.	I am very sensitive to issues regarding the leadership style of candidates, and their accomplishments while serving, especially in evaluating positive and negative information about them.	-0.055	0.461	Not significant
5.	I have shown a deep understanding of the candidates, especially in their handling of the issue of COVID-19 during a pandemic and how they have helped people.	-0.097	0.195	Not significant
6.	I have not been in a hurry to choose who I will vote for, especially if my colleagues or friends have given me the names they have chosen, such as the candidates I will vote for suddenly because I am not prepared for the election.	0.045	0.549	Not significant
7.	I have expressed opposition and disapproval of candidates whose platforms are not suitable for the country or to plans with unclear consequences such as programs that can only benefit selected people but not the public.	-0.055	0.463	Not significant
8.	I have been open and positive about social policies and reforms such as education and health drawn by candidates whether national or local campaigns even at meetings organized in our community.	0.072	0.339	Not significant
9.	I have seriously thought about who I should vote for. I have made decisions carefully and searched for bases from news on TV and program interviews to assess their credibility and integrity before they run for office.	0.055	0.460	Not significant
10.	I am not interested in listening to or reading any news that is critical or bad for my selected candidates especially if it is about corruption, criminal issues, and political dynasties.	-0.008	0.911	Not significant
11.	I have no time and choose not to attend political rallies or forums because I believe that it is unnecessary and a waste of time. Instead, I decided to do other more important things for my career.	-0.091	0.222	Not significant
12.	I never gave other people the opportunity to share their political views, especially when it comes to other candidates in the country and local who I don't like. Instead, I prefer to talk to people who are like me.	-0.107	0.152	Not significant
13.	I have chosen to be accepting of the new administration especially if there are new candidates who have won the election. I'm here to let myself be tolerant and give them a chance to lead the government before being judged.	-0.091	0.225	Not significant
14.	I have never liked people or groups who always gave opinions	0.023	0.764	Not significant

about history, especially in the days of dictatorship where they were referred to as baseless and mixed distortions of the past.

15. I am emotionally touched by candidates who chose to go to remote areas in the provinces and towns to interview voters and determine their needs especially when they are related to health, education, and employment.	0.144	0.050	Significant
16. I have shown a view that I based on what most people usually believe, especially among voters in my area who sometimes have the pulse of the majority, I am there too, especially when they look at it during the campaign.	-0.032	0.669	Not significant
17. I have been involved in campaigns and rallies, not paying attention that it may potentially cost money or even the use of my time. I chose to go there, and it has been a pleasure for me.	-0.022	0.765	Not significant
18. My decision on choosing my candidates to vote was firm and never changed by anyone who wanted to change it. It was a decision for my country and a sacred thing for me as a citizen.	0.017	0.824	Not significant
19. I appreciate the efforts of some candidates whether national or local who have given their time to participate in campaigns and communications to provide answers to unconvinced voters.	-0.012	0.869	Not significant
20. I expressed my disappointment a few hours after the election where most of the candidates I voted for were not on the list of winners and sometimes even thought that the election result might have been cheated or interfered with by others.	-0.046	0.537	Not significant

There was a significant relationship between sex and attitudes, suggesting that voters' perceived values were not affected by sex, and sex did not directly influence their election-related behavior. The study indicates that voters accepted differences in sex parameters but did not use or allow themselves to be used by sex to portray their behavior during and after the campaign period (Arguelles, 2019). Respondents emphasized that marital status did not matter on election day, with the majority maintaining their dignity at work and having established their choice early in the campaign season (Estrañero, 2022; David et al., 2016; Tapsell, 2021). Religion had minimal significance, indicating that voters did not let their religion intervene in crafting their choice days ahead of the election (Uyheng et al., 2021).

Table 16: Relationship between voters' civil status to the extent of their attitudes on elections

Statements	X ² -value	p-value	Relationship
1. I am pleased with the campaign rallies of candidates whether national or local and have expressed my desire to see political forums and meetings on the designated dates and places of the campaign.	1.302	0.522	Not significant
2. I am very happy with the differences between the candidates and their supporters, both national and local.	3.814	0.149	Not significant
3. I have been properly informed of the differences in views of candidates in the fields of politics, interests, groups, agendas, and leadership styles as well as their management experiences before their run.	1.411	0.494	Not significant
4. I am very sensitive to issues regarding the leadership style of candidates, and their accomplishments while serving, especially in evaluating positive and negative information about them.	1.279	0.528	Not significant
5. I have shown a deep understanding of the candidates, especially in their handling of the issue of COVID-19 during a pandemic and how they have helped people.	0.051	0.975	Not significant
6. I have not been in a hurry to choose who I will vote for, especially if my colleagues or friends have given me the names they have chosen, such as the candidates I will vote for suddenly because I am not prepared for the election.	2.450	0.294	Not significant
7. I have expressed opposition and disapproval of candidates whose platforms are not suitable for the country or to plans with unclear consequences such as programs that can only benefit selected people but not the public.	4.084	0.130	Not significant

8. I have been open and positive about social policies and reforms such as education and health drawn by candidates whether national or local campaigns even at meetings organized in our community.	1.849	0.397	Not significant
9. I have seriously thought about who I should vote for. I have made decisions carefully and searched for bases from news on TV and program interviews to assess their credibility and integrity before they run for office.	0.029	0.986	Not significant
10. I am not interested in listening to or reading any news that is critical or bad for my selected candidates especially if it is about corruption, criminal issues, and political dynasties.	3.217	0.200	Not significant
11. I have no time and choose not to attend political rallies or forums because I believe that it is unnecessary and a waste of time. Instead, I decided to do other more important things for my career.	0.640	0.726	Not significant
12. I never gave other people the opportunity to share their political views, especially when it comes to other candidates in the country and local who I don't like. Instead, I prefer to talk to people who are like me.	3.662	0.160	Not significant
13. I have chosen to be accepting of the new administration especially if there are new candidates who have won the election. I'm here to let myself be tolerant and give them a chance to lead the government before being judged.	2.536	0.281	Not significant
14. I have never liked people or groups who always gave opinions about history, especially in the days of dictatorship where they were referred to as baseless and mixed distortions of the past.	1.929	0.381	Not significant
15. I am emotionally touched by candidates who chose to go to remote areas in the provinces and towns to interview voters and determine their needs especially when they are related to health, education, and employment.	3.441	0.179	Not significant
16. I have shown a view that I based on what most people usually believe, especially among voters in my area who sometimes have the pulse of the majority, I am there too, especially when they look at it during the campaign.	0.109	0.947	Not significant
17. I have been involved in campaigns and rallies, not paying attention that it may potentially cost money or even the use of my individual time. I voluntarily chose to go there, and it has been a pleasure for me.	2.067	0.356	Not significant
18. My decision on choosing my candidates to vote was firm and never changed by anyone who wanted to change it. It was a decision for my country and a sacred thing for me as a citizen.	5.100	0.049	Significant
19. I appreciate the efforts of some candidates whether national or local who have given their individual time to participate in campaigns and communications to provide answers to unconvinced voters.	0.742	0.690	Not significant
20. I expressed my disappointment a few hours after the election where most of the candidates I voted for were not on the list of winners and sometimes even thought that the election result might have been cheated or interfered with by others.	1.024	0.599	Not significant

Relationship Between Voters' Attitudes and Considerations During Elections

In terms of voters' participation in rallies, Infanta emerged with the highest residual value, attributed to its central commerce location and better access to digital references. Polillo, due to its geographical location, recorded the lowest value (Aranda, 2021). Socio-economic status influenced considerations, with Patnanungan and Burdeos having the highest residuals, linked to the economic reliance on agriculture and fishing, despite seasonal challenges (Jaca et al., 2021). Voters were well-informed about candidates during campaigns, and despite some advice, they had the freedom to vote as they pleased (Marisa et al., 2020). Social media use during campaigns was a priority for voters, showcasing their openness to candidates' programs and their awareness of accomplishments and issues (Maier et al., 2022; Kim, 2020).

Considering demographic profiles, most voters had completed secondary education and expected candidates to be college graduates (Collado et al., 2020). They collaborated to persuade others and opposed candidates with inappropriate ideologies. Voters demonstrated acceptance of election norms and eagerly shared candidates' programs on social media (Tapsell, 2021). Another factor was the candidates' capacity to support community needs, with voters strategically analyzing qualifications, emphasizing credibility and integrity (Friese et al., 2016). Some voters abstained from rallies due to religious or occupational reasons, relying on trusted friends or relatives to choose for them. Despite material gifts, voters accepted newly elected candidates, emphasizing maturity in understanding the potential benefits regardless of the winner (Shino et al., 2020). However, some conservative voters rejected historical corrections, leading to divisions in political perspectives (Pertierra, 2021). These observations were particularly pronounced in POGI areas with diverse economic statuses (Zampir et al., 2020).

Conclusion

Voters, in general, demonstrated a common understanding of political and electoral structures, engaging in consensus on electoral knowledge, opinions, principles, and problems during the May 2022 elections. The study focused on voters' attitudes and considerations, highlighting their experiences influencing voting decisions and contributing to factors shaping civic responsibilities and perspectives post-election. The study was limited by a number of factors, such as in-person interactions, respondents' internet availability for Google Forms questionnaires, COVID-19-related health and transportation rules, the researcher's teaching responsibilities, and difficulties transferring data. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the study offers insightful information.

Recommendations include institutionalizing and strengthening Voter Pre-Election Seminars or Voter Education Orientations in partnership with Civil Society Organizations for all voters. The Commission on Election (COMELEC) should monitor and supervise campaign information on social media, combatting disinformation through institutionalizing the Task Force Kontra Fake News. For crowded areas, COMELEC should collaborate with the government to identify safe and conducive election environments, considering precinct size and security. To prevent malfunctions of vote counting machines, early procurement, and transparency in counting processes, including electronic transmission and a secured electricity supply, are essential. These recommendations aim to enhance election-related orientation, combat disinformation, improve election environments, and ensure a smooth voting process.

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The author declares that they are free from any conflicts of interest.

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