

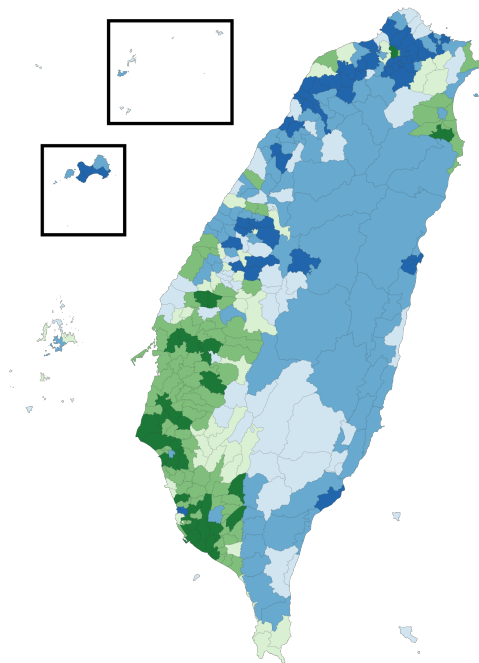
General Briefing

Situation

Elections are now only 30 days from being held in Taiwan, as a close presidential election pits the incumbent Greens of the DPP versus the Blues of the KMT. With the DPP candidate holding a marginal but consistent lead despite an ongoing corruption scandal, Chinese officials have begun to make their displeasure with a possible further DPP term known. A Chinese spokesman has described the current DPP government as posing “great risks to cross strait stability” due to “continued anti-China sentiment” and has added that “further DPP rule may irreparably remove the chance of a peaceful resolution of differences.”

Chinese words have been backed by action. Just 3 days ago the undersea fiber-optic cable providing Internet service to the islands of Kinmen was severed, which Taiwanese authorities say will take a number of days to repair. Airspace incursions have rapidly increased in frequency, and most worryingly China has been staging a military buildup in Fujian across the strait to coerce, or perhaps, to act.

Polling



Current polling at township/city or district level with Green representing support for the DPP and Blue representing support for the KMT

State of the Chinese Buildup

The current buildup involves elements of at least five group armies (71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, and 75th), aircraft buildup, and the dispersion of PLARF missile units from garrison for field exercise. Several commercial RORO vessels are known to have been activated, and at least two have been seen in port getting reinforced ramps fitted to allow them to be used for amphibious assault. Reports state that the PLAAF Airborne Corps has been placed on alert, and troops in Amphibious Combined Arms Brigades and Marine Brigades have been recalled. Logistics buildups are occurring, and reports of blood drives have surfaced. Satellite images have captured several PHL-19 (a 370mm multiple rocket launcher, able to hit Taiwan from the mainland) deployed on the coast.