

## YouGov / Sunday Times Survey Results

Sample Size: 2025 GB Adults  
Fieldwork: 15th - 16th October 2009

	Voting intention			Gender		Age			Social Grade		Region					
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Male	Female	18 to 34	35 to 54	55 +	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland
<b>Weighted Sample</b>	<b>2025</b>	661	488	267	971	1054	579	738	708	1114	909	259	659	432	499	177
Unweighted Sample	2025	681	471	254	959	1066	441	746	838	1227	796	257	650	410	486	222
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

### Headline Voting Intention

[Excluding Don't Knows and Wouldn't Votes]

Con	41	100	0	0	38	44	41	38	44	46	35	43	49	43	35	23
Lab	30	0	100	0	32	29	32	33	27	26	36	32	23	27	40	36
Lib Dem	17	0	0	100	17	16	21	15	15	19	14	15	21	17	14	11
Other	12	0	0	0	13	11	7	14	14	10	14	9	8	13	11	30

### Other Parties Voting Intention

UKIP	4	0	0	0	4	4	1	3	7	3	5	2	3	5	5	1
SNP / PCY	3	0	0	0	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	0	0	2	0	25
BNP	2	0	0	0	3	2	1	4	2	2	3	2	1	2	4	2
Green	2	0	0	0	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3	1	2
Respect	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1

### Non Voters

Would Not Vote	8	0	0	0	6	10	10	8	6	6	11	8	8	8	10	6
Don't know	13	0	0	0	9	16	13	14	11	12	13	16	11	16	11	10

### Do you think Gordon Brown is doing well or badly as prime minister?

Very well	4	0	14	1	5	3	2	4	5	4	4	4	3	3	4	9
Fairly well	24	6	61	22	26	23	27	24	23	23	26	21	23	22	28	31
<b>TOTAL WELL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>40</b>
Fairly badly	33	33	22	50	31	34	38	34	27	33	32	36	31	35	33	28
Very badly	34	59	2	26	34	34	23	33	43	36	32	33	39	33	31	26
<b>TOTAL BADLY</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>53</b>
Don't know	5	2	2	1	4	7	10	5	2	4	7	5	5	7	5	7

### Do you think David Cameron is doing well or badly as Conservative leader?

Very well	11	29	2	4	12	10	10	9	13	12	9	13	13	11	8	6
Fairly well	48	64	38	49	48	47	52	44	47	52	42	49	48	46	48	48
<b>TOTAL WELL</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>53</b>
Fairly badly	20	4	33	30	20	21	16	23	21	18	23	21	19	18	23	24
Very badly	11	0	20	14	13	9	8	13	12	9	14	7	11	12	13	11
<b>TOTAL BADLY</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>
Don't know	10	3	7	4	7	14	14	11	7	9	13	10	10	13	9	12

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		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

**Do you think Nick Clegg is doing well or badly as leader of the Liberal Democrats?**

Very well	4	3	3	13	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	2	4	3	5	3
Fairly well	40	47	40	61	42	39	36	36	48	42	37	41	44	39	38	35
<b>TOTAL WELL</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>37</b>
Fairly badly	23	22	28	14	26	20	23	25	21	22	24	22	22	20	25	29
Very badly	8	5	8	2	10	6	5	10	9	8	9	9	6	8	10	10
<b>TOTAL BADLY</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>
Don't know	25	23	21	9	18	32	33	26	18	23	28	27	23	31	23	24

**Who would you trust more to raise you and your family's standard of living?**

Gordon Brown and Alistair Darling	24	1	75	18	29	20	24	25	23	22	26	22	20	18	33	34
David Cameron and George Osborne	31	79	3	12	33	29	31	27	35	35	25	31	38	30	26	21
Neither	36	15	17	64	32	40	31	40	36	33	40	38	34	39	36	36
Don't know	9	4	6	7	7	11	15	8	6	9	9	10	9	13	5	10

**How good or bad is the state of the economy at present?**

Very good	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
Fairly good	5	1	16	3	7	4	5	4	6	4	6	6	5	4	5	8
<b>TOTAL GOOD</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>
Neither good nor bad	15	8	30	17	16	14	15	17	14	13	17	17	14	15	16	16
Fairly bad	46	48	44	57	45	48	54	45	42	49	43	47	49	45	46	42
Very bad	30	41	8	23	29	32	18	33	37	31	30	26	30	32	32	31
<b>TOTAL BAD</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>73</b>
Don't know	3	1	1	0	3	2	7	1	1	2	3	4	2	4	2	3

**Do you fear that you or a close member of your family will lose their job as a result of the current financial crisis?**

Yes I do fear this	40	44	33	39	36	43	40	41	39	41	38	37	41	40	42	36
No I don't	31	26	46	36	37	26	35	30	29	32	30	36	32	27	28	38
Not sure	22	24	16	17	21	23	21	25	20	20	24	21	22	23	23	17
Not applicable – neither I nor any close member of my family is currently working	7	6	5	8	6	8	4	4	13	7	8	7	6	10	6	10

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		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

**Do you think house prices in your area will rise or fall over the next 12 months?**

Rise by more than 10%	4	5	4	2	4	4	4	5	4	3	6	3	5	4	4	4
Rise by less than 10%	30	27	42	33	35	26	33	26	32	30	30	38	31	25	29	33
<b>TOTAL RISE</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>
Stay about the same	45	49	43	48	42	48	36	50	47	49	41	36	46	45	48	43
Fall by less than 10%	9	10	6	10	9	9	8	9	9	8	10	6	8	11	9	9
Fall by more than 10%	3	4	2	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	3	4	4
<b>TOTAL FALL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>
Don't know	9	6	5	5	7	10	15	7	5	7	11	13	8	11	6	8

**Do you think Labour would do better or worse at the next general election if it replaced Gordon Brown and chose a new leader?**

Labour would do better if it replaced Gordon Brown	35	39	30	44	39	31	37	36	32	35	34	33	34	36	40	22
Labour would do about the same	44	52	41	40	42	47	39	42	50	45	43	44	48	41	40	49
Labour would do worse if it replaced Gordon Brown	10	4	23	9	12	9	9	11	11	11	9	12	8	10	10	19
Don't know	11	5	7	7	8	14	15	11	7	9	13	11	10	13	10	10

**Turning to the issue of MPs' expenses, an inquiry has been held by the retired civil servant, Sir Thomas Legg.**

**He says a large number of MPs should return expenses they have received, because their claims were not 'reasonable'. Some MPs say that they were only obeying the rules at the time and should not therefore be required to pay anything back.**

**What is your view?**

MPs should be made to pay up even if they obeyed the rules at the time	65	68	62	59	66	64	56	65	73	60	72	60	66	66	67	65
MPs are right to say that the rules cannot be changed retrospectively	28	27	34	36	29	28	31	29	25	35	20	30	29	25	29	30
Don't know	7	5	4	5	5	8	13	6	2	6	8	10	6	9	5	6

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		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

**David Cameron has said MPs who don't pay up will not be allowed to stand as Conservative candidates at the next election, even if they obeyed the rules at the time.**

**Is he right or wrong to require such MPs to pay up?**

Mr Cameron is right	<b>69</b>	77	60	65	69	68	63	68	74	65	73	64	70	70	69	69
Mr Cameron is wrong	<b>20</b>	16	30	25	22	18	20	21	19	24	15	21	19	17	22	20
Don't know	<b>11</b>	7	10	11	9	13	16	11	7	11	12	14	11	13	9	11

**What is your general view of MPs and expenses?**

Many MPs were dishonest in the past and still are	<b>73</b>	76	63	70	72	74	71	73	75	71	76	70	72	74	75	74
Many MPs were dishonest but have learned their lesson	<b>20</b>	20	30	23	21	19	18	21	21	22	18	21	21	19	19	20
Don't know	<b>7</b>	4	7	7	7	7	11	6	4	8	6	9	6	7	7	7

**Do you think the average MP is more honest or less honest than the average voter?**

Average MP is more honest than the average voter	<b>2</b>	1	3	4	3	1	4	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	3	0
Average MP is neither more honest nor less honest	<b>47</b>	47	59	54	50	45	45	47	50	51	43	52	47	46	46	48
Average MP is less honest than the average voter	<b>46</b>	50	36	39	44	48	43	47	47	42	50	42	46	47	48	47
Don't know	<b>5</b>	3	2	3	4	6	8	4	3	4	6	5	5	6	3	6

**The next general election must be held by next June. Do you think it should be brought forward and held immediately to purge parliament of MPs who abused the expenses system?**

Yes the election should be held immediately	<b>38</b>	63	12	31	41	36	35	40	40	38	39	36	44	37	35	34
No it can wait until next spring	<b>53</b>	33	84	64	51	54	51	52	54	55	50	52	48	52	57	58
Don't know	<b>9</b>	5	5	6	8	10	15	8	6	7	11	12	8	11	8	8

**Some voters say they might vote for one of the smaller political parties, or not vote at all, instead of voting for Labour, the Conservatives or Liberal Democrats, because of the expenses issue.**

**Would you seriously consider doing this because of this issue?**

Yes, I would definitely consider switching to a smaller party or not voting at all	<b>16</b>	7	7	12	17	14	14	18	14	14	18	14	13	18	17	17
Yes I might consider switching or not voting	<b>20</b>	17	16	26	18	21	25	18	17	18	22	19	21	19	21	13
No I would probably not consider switching or not voting	<b>23</b>	29	30	31	22	25	25	22	23	25	21	20	24	22	25	26
No I would definitely not consider switching or not voting	<b>31</b>	42	43	29	36	28	23	31	39	35	27	36	32	28	30	36
Don't know	<b>10</b>	6	5	2	7	13	13	11	7	8	12	12	10	13	8	8

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

**A number of MPs are standing down at the next election following disclosures about their expenses. In general do you think the new MPs in the next Parliament will be more honest or less honest than the MPs they replace?**

New MPs will be more honest	<b>33</b>	42	36	31	34	32	32	31	36	36	30	34	34	34	31	35
New MPs will be neither more honest nor less honest	<b>55</b>	51	56	62	56	55	52	58	56	55	57	55	56	53	59	52
New MPs will be less honest	<b>2</b>	0	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	3	2	2	3	1	2
Don't know	<b>10</b>	7	6	6	8	12	13	9	8	9	11	10	9	11	9	12

**Despite the exposure of abuse of expenses in the House of Lords the authorities there have yet to order an investigation. Should there be an official investigation?**

Yes there should	<b>84</b>	89	83	85	84	84	72	86	92	84	84	85	87	83	82	82
No there is no need	<b>10</b>	8	14	8	10	10	16	9	6	10	9	10	7	9	12	13
Don't know	<b>6</b>	4	4	6	6	7	12	5	3	5	7	5	6	8	6	5

**Have you or people you know ever fiddled expenses by claiming more than you strictly should have done?**

Yes I have done so	<b>8</b>	7	11	10	13	3	5	10	9	8	8	12	6	7	8	13
No I have not done so but I know colleagues who have	<b>29</b>	29	33	28	32	26	25	28	32	31	26	26	27	30	28	34
No I have not done so and don't know anyone who has	<b>44</b>	49	39	46	39	49	52	43	39	48	39	41	49	42	44	36
Don't know	<b>4</b>	4	4	2	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	6	4	4	4	3
Not applicable - I have never been in a position to claim expenses	<b>15</b>	12	12	15	12	18	14	15	16	9	22	15	14	17	16	14

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

**Turning to other topics...**

**The British National Party leader Nick Griffin will appear on the BBC's Question Time programme next week. Which of the following best fits your view?**

The BBC was RIGHT to invite him, as the BNP has two members of the European Parliament	<b>63</b>	70	59	63	70	56	58	63	66	66	59	60	63	63	66	57
The BBC was WRONG to give him, as it should not provide a platform for someone with such extreme and objectionable views	<b>23</b>	20	31	28	21	25	22	23	24	23	24	24	22	21	23	31
Don't know	<b>14</b>	10	10	10	9	19	19	14	10	11	18	16	16	15	12	11

**What is your view on British troops in Afghanistan?**

They should stay as long as is necessary to establish peace	<b>19</b>	19	30	19	27	12	22	17	18	20	18	17	20	18	18	23
They should be brought back home over the next 12 to 18 months, after handing over to the Afghan army	<b>48</b>	52	48	57	45	50	45	48	50	52	43	51	47	47	47	47
They should be brought home immediately	<b>25</b>	25	15	16	22	29	21	28	27	21	31	22	25	27	28	23
Don't know	<b>8</b>	5	7	8	6	9	12	8	4	8	8	10	7	8	7	8

**It is likely that the European Union will soon operate under a new treaty, the Lisbon Treaty.**

**If there were a referendum in Britain on the Lisbon Treaty would you vote for or against?**

For	<b>18</b>	9	36	33	25	12	19	19	16	21	14	21	18	16	19	21
Against	<b>41</b>	61	26	29	49	35	25	39	58	42	40	46	40	41	43	39
Don't know / would not vote	<b>41</b>	30	38	39	27	53	56	42	26	36	46	33	43	43	39	40

**One of the Treaty's provisions is that the European Union should have a President who will chair major meetings, and represent the EU at major gatherings round the world.**

**Tony Blair is currently favourite to be President of the European Union, though there are possible candidates from other countries.**

**Would you support or oppose Mr Blair becoming president?**

Support Mr Blair becoming EU President	<b>38</b>	24	66	46	44	32	48	37	30	38	38	33	36	38	45	30
Oppose - the President should come from another country	<b>38</b>	56	18	34	38	37	21	37	52	41	34	43	40	33	34	42
Don't know	<b>24</b>	20	16	21	18	31	31	26	19	21	29	24	24	28	21	28

**The President of the European Union will be chosen by the heads of the 27 governments of the EU. Do you think the President should be...?**

Appointed by the heads of the 27 governments	<b>27</b>	22	37	36	29	25	27	25	28	30	23	27	27	23	30	29
Elected directly by the people of the European Union	<b>61</b>	69	56	57	63	59	57	62	63	61	60	63	61	61	59	62
Don't know	<b>12</b>	10	8	8	9	16	16	13	10	9	17	10	13	16	12	9

## YouGov Weighting Data

In addition to weighting by age, gender, social class and region (weighted and unweighted figures shown in the tables), YouGov also weighted its raw data by newspaper readership and political party identification:

	Unweighted no.	Weighted no.
<b>Age and Gender</b>		
Male 18 to 24	<b>58</b>	<b>122</b>
Male 25 to 39	<b>211</b>	<b>263</b>
Male 40 to 54	<b>270</b>	<b>263</b>
Male 55 +	<b>420</b>	<b>323</b>
Female 18 to 24	<b>68</b>	<b>121</b>
Female 25 to 39	<b>284</b>	<b>265</b>
Female 40 to 54	<b>296</b>	<b>284</b>
Female 55 +	<b>418</b>	<b>385</b>
<b>Region</b>		
London	<b>257</b>	<b>259</b>
Rest of South	<b>650</b>	<b>659</b>
Midlands and Wales	<b>410</b>	<b>432</b>
North	<b>486</b>	<b>499</b>
Scotland	<b>222</b>	<b>177</b>
<b>Social Grade</b>		
ABC1	<b>1227</b>	<b>1114</b>
C2DE	<b>796</b>	<b>909</b>
<b>Newspaper Type</b>		
Express / Mail	<b>497</b>	<b>324</b>
Sun / Star	<b>330</b>	<b>445</b>
Mirror / Record	<b>196</b>	<b>323</b>
Guardian / Independent	<b>137</b>	<b>81</b>
FT / Times / Telegraph	<b>230</b>	<b>192</b>
Other Paper	<b>253</b>	<b>253</b>
No Paper	<b>379</b>	<b>404</b>
<b>Political Party Identification</b>		
Lab	<b>647</b>	<b>649</b>
Con	<b>537</b>	<b>526</b>
Lib Dem	<b>191</b>	<b>242</b>
Others	<b>97</b>	<b>61</b>
None	<b>486</b>	<b>496</b>
Don't know	<b>67</b>	<b>51</b>