

YouGov / Sunday Times Survey Results

Sample Size: 2077

Fieldwork: 15th - 16th January 2009

For detailed results, [click here](#)

%

Headline Voting Intention

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

Con	45
Lab	32
Lib Dem	14
Other	9

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

Very well	4
Fairly well	31
Fairly badly	30
Very badly	30
Don't know	6

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

Very well	8
Fairly well	42
Fairly badly	26
Very badly	12
Don't know	12

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

Very well	2
Fairly well	28
Fairly badly	23
Very badly	12
Don't know	35

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

Gordon Brown and Alistair Darling	26
David Cameron and George Osborne	33
Neither	31
Don't know	10

In your opinion, how good or bad is the state of Britain's economy at the moment?

Very good	0
Quite good	1
Neither good nor bad	6
Quite bad	40
Very bad	52
Don't know	2

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	47
No, I don't	25
Not sure	22
Not applicable – neither I nor any close member of my family is currently working	6

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

This is a global recession caused by the banking crisis

Agree	82
Disagree	9
Don't know	9

This is 'Gordon Brown's recession' caused mainly by this Government's management of the economy

Agree	37
Disagree	50
Don't know	13

The Conservatives are a 'do nothing' party - they don't understand that these are exceptional times that need exceptional measures

Agree	39
Disagree	41
Don't know	20

The Government has announced a series of measures including taxpayer stakes in the banks and extra public spending, which it says are needed to get the economy Do you think ministers are using the recession as cover for increasing the state's role in the economy?

Yes – the Government wants to increase the state's role in the economy anyway	35
No – the Government is increasing the state's role only because of the conditions of Britain's economy	43
Don't know	22

%

a) What kind of society would you most like for Britain, on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 represents an economy completely dominated by private companies and 10 represents an economy dominated completely by the state?
b) And what kind of society do you think Britain has actually been in recent years (before the credit crunch)?

	(a) what people want	(b) How Britain is
0 – economy dominated by private companies	2	9
1	1	7
2	5	18
3	10	16
4	8	10
5 – power shared equally by private compies and the state	44	11
6	6	4
7	7	6
8	5	4
9	1	2
10 – economy dominated by the state	2	3
Don't know	10	10

SUMMARY DATA

<i>Average</i>	4.9	3.7
<i>Total 0-4 (Bigger role for private companies)</i>	26	60
<i>5 – power shared equally</i>	44	11
<i>Total 6-10 (bigger role for state)</i>	20	19

America is known for its free market while France is renowned for its greater state control of business and public functions. Which do you think is the better role model for Britain?

The US model	20
The French model	29
Neither	33
Don't know	18

The Government has announced new data-sharing laws to allow public bodies, including town halls, access to your personal data held by other government bodies. Do you think this proposal will or will not give the Government too much access to your personal data?

Will give too much power	65
Will not	19
Don't know	17

**Turning to another issue, Barack Obama will be inaugurated as US president next week. Do you agree or disagree with this statement:
President Obama's arrival as President is likely to usher in a new and more optimistic era for America.**

Agree	78
Disagree	9
Don't know	13

Do you think with Obama as president America's relations with the rest of the world will improve get worse or stay about the same as under President Bush?

Improve	69
Get worse	4
Stay about the same	20
Don't know	7

Some people talk of a 'special relationship' between Britain and the United States. How close do you think this relationship currently is?

Very close	12
Fairly close	52
Not very close	27
Not at all close	4
Don't know	6

How close do you think it should be over the next few years?

Very close	16
Fairly close	52
Not very close	19
Not at all close	5
Don't know	8

Turning now to the issue of air travel.

Thinking personally, and leaving aside immediate concerns over the economy, would you expect to take more flights over the next few years, or fewer, than over the past few years?

More	13
Fewer	26
About the same	42
Don't know	5
Not applicable – I never fly	15

Heathrow airport currently has two runways. The government wants a third runway. Supporters say this would be good for travellers and the economy; opponents say it would be bad for the environment.

Do you support or oppose a third runway for Heathrow?

Support	29
Oppose	42
Don't mind / don't know	29

Which of the following best sums up your view on the expansion of airports in the UK?

There should be more capacity including at Heathrow	29
There should be more capacity but not at Heathrow	30
We should not expand our airports any more	26
Don't know	15

Thinking about the environment more generally, the government is phasing out the sale of conventional light bulbs, which it says are inefficient, in favour of low energy light bulbs.

Do you agree or disagree with the decision to phase out conventional light bulbs?

Agree	57
Disagree	37
Don't know	6

There has been evidence recently that some household waste intended for recycling is accumulating because demand for recycled material has slumped (although other 'green' waste, such as food waste, is still sent for composting).

In general, do you think measures to encourage us to recycle and take other steps to reduce emissions in our everyday lives are worthwhile or a waste of time and money?

They are worthwhile	67
They are a waste of time and money	22
Neither	6
Don't know	5

Turning to another issue, the government is concerned about social mobility - the ability of people to move between occupations and 'classes' - and is seeking to improve it.

Do you feel more or less socially mobile – more stuck or less stuck in the segment of society in which you were born – than your parents?

I think I am more socially mobile than my parents	55
I am less socially mobile	12
About the same	27
Don't know	7

Alan Milburn, the former cabinet minister, has been appointed to find ways of breaking down barriers to social mobility, including making it easier for people from lower social backgrounds to enter professions like medicine or the law. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

In principle it is right to try and break down barriers to social mobility

Agree	80
Disagree	9
Don't know	11

There's a serious danger that, in practice, policies to encourage greater social mobility will lead to 'positive discrimination', in which people who are less qualified will be given a fast-track into certain jobs

Agree **48**
 Disagree **30**
 Don't know **22**

The government's concern for social mobility is really just a way of making life harder for middle-class families

Agree **27**
 Disagree **49**
 Don't know **24**

**Last week video from a home camera was released in which Prince Harry described an army colleague as a "Paki".
 What was your view on this?**

It was used in a good-natured way and wasn't racist **68**
 Any use of such expressions is unacceptable **19**
 Neither **9**
 Don't know **5**

**It also emerged that Prince Charles has for some years used the name 'Sooty' to address an Asian businessman with whom he played polo.
 Which best sums up your view on this?**

The businessman does not mind so nobody else should either **78**
 The use of such names is unacceptable **13**
 Neither **5**
 Don't know **3**

**Do you agree or disagree with the following statement ?
 By using such names the Royal Family is rightly making a stand against 'political correctness'.**

Agree **39**
 Disagree **41**
 Don't know **20**

In general do you think the Royal family is or is not racist?

Is **17**
 Is not **66**
 Don't know **18**

Turning now to events in the Middle East: For the past three weeks there has been a significant military conflict, with Israel launching attacks into Gaza, and Hamas, the Palestinian organisation running Gaza, firing rockets into Israel. From what you know who do you blame for this conflict?

Israel	18
Hamas	24
Both equally	39
Don't know	19

Do you think America could have done more to stop the bloodshed in Gaza?

Yes – America could have done more but has chosen not to	42
No – in practice, there has been nothing more that America could have done	35
Don't know	22

Finally Jonathan Ross will return to TV screens next week after a three-month ban. Should he be allowed to do so by the BBC?

Yes he has served his punishment	38
No the ban should have been longer	6
No he should have been sacked	43
Don't care / don't know	13