

YOUNGOV / SUNDAY TIMES SURVEY

Fieldwork July 19-20, 2007; sample 1,664

For detailed tables, [click here](#)

Voting intention		%
	Conservative	33
	Labour	40
	Liberal Democrat	15
	Some other party	12

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

	A Labour government led by Gordon Brown	30
	A Conservative government led by David Cameron	24
	Neither	34
	Don't know	13

Thinking about Prime Minister Gordon Brown, which of the following qualities do you think he has? [Please tick all that apply]

And now thinking about David Cameron, the leader of the Conservative Party, which of the following qualities do you think he has? [Please tick all that apply]

	Brown	Cameron
	%	%
Sticks to what he believes in	44	12
Strong	35	8
Decisive	32	9
Honest	25	13
In touch with the concerns of ordinary people	20	17
Good in a crisis	16	5
A natural leader	11	14
Charismatic	4	32
None of these	25	34
Don't know	13	22

Since Gordon Brown has taken over as Prime Minister, has he done better or worse than you expected?

	Better	22
	Worse	6
	About the same	59
	Don't know	14

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

‘Gordon Brown should call an early general election, within the next few months, because he was never elected by the public and does not have a real mandate to govern.’ %

Agree	54
Disagree	32
Don't know	14

Gordon Brown said this week that the government would consider reclassifying cannabis from a Class C to a Class B drug. This would increase the penalties for possession, supply and use.

Which approach would you support?

A tougher policy, by making cannabis a class B drug	52
Keeping cannabis as a class C drug	20
Decriminalising cannabis altogether	16
Don't know	12

Jacqui Smith, the home secretary, has admitted smoking cannabis occasionally when she was a student.

Is it a good thing or a bad thing for someone who took cannabis when much younger to be in charge of the Government's policy on drugs?

Good, because it means she is more knowledgeable about the subject	26
Bad, no-one who took illegal drugs should be in charge of drugs policy	13
It makes no difference either way to her ability to decide drug policy	54
Don't know	8

Iain Duncan Smith, the former Conservative leader, has proposed a £400 million increase on alcohol duties to curb binge drinking and fund treatment for alcoholism and drug addiction.

Do you support or oppose this idea?

Support	37
Oppose	46
Don't know	17

The Conservatives think that marriage should be encouraged through tax incentives. Do you think this would encourage more couples to marry and stay together or not? %

Yes, it would encourage	32
No, it would make little or no difference	61
Don't know	7

Do you think politicians should try to change our behaviour in this way, for example by promoting marriage, or should politicians stay out of such matters and leave people to decide them for themselves?

Politicians should promote marriage	30
Politicians should leave people to decide these matters for themselves	64
Don't know	7

Gordon Brown will visit Washington next week. He has stressed that the special relationship with America will be as strong as under Tony Blair, the former Prime Minister. Which of the following best describes your view?

Gordon Brown is right to try and be as close to George W Bush as Tony Blair was	24
Gordon Brown should seek to put some distance between him and George Bush	60
Don't know	17

If America were to attack Iran to stop it getting nuclear weapons, what should Britain do?

Support the attack	13
Criticise the attack	17
Stay out of the argument, and neither support nor criticize the US	62
Don't know	8

Do you think Britain has become a more equal or unequal society since Labour came to power ten years ago?

More equal	15
More unequal	48
Not changed much either way	25
Don't know	12

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
	%	%	%
The very rich have got richer, but most others have stayed roughly where they were in relation to other people	74	16	11
The Government has failed to tackle poverty effectively	69	15	17
Immigrants have displaced and undercut British workers, hurting the lower-paid	67	22	11
Globalisation has kept down the wages of unskilled people in jobs competing with countries such as China	66	13	21
The Government has failed to tax the rich enough	64	21	16
The real problem is the emergence of an lower-class which is separate from the rest of society	56	24	20
The middle-classes have got a lot better off in comparison with unskilled workers and the unemployed	41	42	18

What do you think when you hear of the multi-million pound earnings of top executives, City traders, private equity fund managers and sports stars?

I think such earnings are always too high	52
I think that in SOME cases such earnings are justified but in many cases they are not	34
I think that in MOST cases such earnings are justified but in some cases they are not	7
I think such earnings are always justified	2
Don't know	5

Which, if any, of the following measures would you support in order to reduce inequality? [Please tick all that apply]

Reduce immigration	60
Increase income tax from 40% to 50% for people earning more than £100,000 a year	53
Increase the minimum wage significantly	51
Increase the taxes that big companies pay on their profits	47
Increase income tax generally, and use the money to increase welfare benefits (e.g. child benefit, basic state pension, etc.)	12
Increase the rate of inheritance tax	11
None of these	4
Don't know	6

Last week Sir Tom Hunter, a Scottish businessman, announced he would be giving £1 billion over the next few years for charitable and community work. %

Do you think more wealthy businessmen should do this?

Yes, they should	77
No, there is no need for them to act in this way	13
Don't know	10

Which do you think is better, allowing businessmen to build up fortunes which they may give some away, or taxing them more heavily so the Government can decide how to spend the money?

Allow businessmen to build fortunes and encourage them to give some of it away	40
Tax them more heavily, so the Government can decide how to use the money	33
Neither	15
Don't know	12

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

Rise by more than 10%	22
Rise by less than 10%	40
Stay about the same	22
Fall by less than 10%	5
Fall by more than 10%	1
Don't know	9

Thinking about the price of housing and young people who may wish to buy their own home, which of these statements comes closer to your view?

Young people should be able to buy a home and it is unfair that many cannot afford to do so	65
Young people should not automatically expect to own their own home	29
Don't know	6

The Government has announced that it wants to build an extra three million new homes by 2020, with local councils being given more powers to build new council homes.

Which of the following would you prefer for the neighbourhood where you live?

No new homes – any new building would spoil our neighbourhood	16
Some new homes, but NOT council homes	27
Some new homes and I would be happy if these included council homes	49
Don't know	8

Most of the planned new homes will be in the south-east of England. Do you think the Government should make more effort to disperse people to other parts of the country? %

- Yes – the Government should make such an effort **51**
- No – people should decide where they want to live without the Government getting involved **42**
- Don't know **8**

(To mortgage payers) **Which of the following applies to your mortgage?**

- Variable interest-rate mortgage: the interest rate I/we pay has risen steadily in recent months **45**
- Fixed rate mortgage, but the fixed rate period has recently ended, or will soon end; this means a sudden jump in my/our repayments **13**
- Fixed rate mortgage, and I/we are not affected by the recent increase in interest rates for the time being **31**
- None of these **5**
- Don't know **5**

At present, members of the House of Lords are either appointed, or have inherited their title. Do you think this state of affairs...?

- Is undemocratic, and has a harmful effect on the quality of parliamentary decisions that affect everyday life in Britain **27**
- Is undemocratic, but does not make much practical difference to the quality of decisions that affect everyday life **22**
- Allows people from outside politics to play a role in Parliament, and often improves the quality of decisions that affect everyday life **30**
- Don't know **22**

All parties at Westminster agree that the membership of the House of Lords should be reformed. Which of the following would you prefer for the House of Lords in the future?

- All members of the House of Lords should be appointed **6**
- All members of the House of Lords should be elected **37**
- The House of Lords should comprise a mixture of elected and appointed members **40**
- Don't know **17**

Which of the following applies to you?	%
I carry a donor card most or all the time	24
I don't carry a donor card, but would be willing for my organs to be used after my death to help someone else to live	46
I do NOT want any of my organs to be given to anyone else after my death	18
Don't know	13

At present, if someone dies who does NOT have a donor card, permission is needed from his or her relatives before any organs can be used to help someone else. Britain's Chief Medical Officer wants to change the law, so that people would have to put their names on an opt-out register if they DON'T want their organs to be used; doctors would have access to the organs of anyone else after their death.

Do you support or oppose this proposal?

Support – doctors should have access to the organs of any dead person whose name is not on an opt-out register	52
Oppose – doctors should have access to the organs of only those people who have indicated, or their relatives have indicated, that their organs may be used	40
Don't know	8