

# YouGov / Citizenship Foundation Survey Results

Sample Size: 3,994 14 - 25 year olds  
Fieldwork: 18th - 25th November 2009  
For detailed results [click here](#)

%

Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to vote in the General Election, either now if you are 18 or over or in the future when you reach 18

10 – Certain to vote	44
9	10
8	10
7	8
6	4
5	6
4	2
3	2
2	2
1	1
0 – Certain not to vote	5
Don't know	6

Which THREE, if any, of the following do you believe are the most important reasons for voting in a General Election (Please tick up to three options.)

*[All who are certain/ probable to vote]*

It is my right as a British citizen	66
It is my duty as a British citizen	55
My vote will make a difference	49
My family and/ or friends have always encouraged me to vote	26
I have learned about politics in school	15
I am concerned about a particular political issue	40
Other	7
Don't know	2

Thinking now about how people choose who to vote for at a General Election...

Which THREE, if any, of the following are likely to be MOST important to you when deciding who to vote for? (Please tick up to three options.)

*[All who are certain/ probable to vote]*

The political party's position on particular issues	73
The candidate's political party	57
The candidate's position on particular issues	55
The candidate's 'track-record' as an MP	27
The fact that the candidate looks and sounds like someone I could trust	23
The candidate's involvement in the recent 'expenses scandal'	12
The candidate or party that my family will vote for	10
The candidate or party that my friends will vote for	3
Other reason(s)	5
Don't know	3

%

**Which, if any, of the following political parties would you say that you like the MOST?**

Conservatives	23
Labour	18
Liberal Democrats	18
Scottish National Party (SNP) / Plaid Cymru	3
Another party	9
Not applicable – I do not like any of the political parties	13
Don't know	16

**And which of these parties do you like the MOST?**

Green	4
BNP	3
UKIP	1
Other	1
Respect	0
Don't know	0

**Which TWO or THREE, if any of the following political parties are you MOST likely to vote for at the next General Election you can vote in or will you not vote? (Please tick up to three options.)**

Conservatives	37
Labour	35
Liberal Democrats	41
Scottish National Party (SNP)	3
Plaid Cymru	2
Green	23
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	9
British National Party (BNP)	7
Respect	2
Another party	6
No party / I would not vote	7
Don't know	13

**If any of these organisations or groups were to stand candidates in an election, how likely, if at all, would you be to vote for them rather than the political parties mentioned in the previous questions?**

**Oxfam**

Very likely to vote for them	7
Somewhat likely	25
<b>TOTAL LIKELY</b>	<b>32</b>
Not very likely	27
Not at all likely to vote for them	33
<b>TOTAL UNLIKELY</b>	<b>59</b>
Don't know	8

	%
<b>Amnesty International</b>	
Very likely to vote for them	9
Somewhat likely	24
<b>TOTAL LIKELY</b>	<b>32</b>
Not very likely	24
Not at all likely to vote for them	31
<b>TOTAL UNLIKELY</b>	<b>56</b>
Don't know	12
<b>Comic Relief</b>	
Very likely to vote for them	8
Somewhat likely	20
<b>TOTAL LIKELY</b>	<b>27</b>
Not very likely	23
Not at all likely to vote for them	43
<b>TOTAL UNLIKELY</b>	<b>66</b>
Don't know	7
<b>The Business leaders from the Dragons' Den</b>	
Very likely to vote for them	7
Somewhat likely	21
<b>TOTAL LIKELY</b>	<b>28</b>
Not very likely	22
Not at all likely to vote for them	43
<b>TOTAL UNLIKELY</b>	<b>65</b>
Don't know	7
<b>The Judges from the X Factor</b>	
Very likely to vote for them	5
Somewhat likely	6
<b>TOTAL LIKELY</b>	<b>11</b>
Not very likely	12
Not at all likely to vote for them	73
<b>TOTAL UNLIKELY</b>	<b>85</b>
Don't know	5
<b>A religious group such as the Church of England</b>	
Very likely to vote for them	3
Somewhat likely	9
<b>TOTAL LIKELY</b>	<b>12</b>
Not very likely	18
Not at all likely to vote for them	64
<b>TOTAL UNLIKELY</b>	<b>82</b>
Don't know	7

	%
<b>Which THREE of the following qualities do you most admire in politicians?</b> <b>(Please tick up to three options.)</b>	
Honesty and trustworthiness	<b>61</b>
A willingness to speak out on controversial issues	<b>49</b>
A clear commitment to particular policies	<b>37</b>
Expert knowledge	<b>30</b>
Consistency	<b>30</b>
Accessibility – so that you can make contact with them when you need to	<b>16</b>
Charisma	<b>13</b>
Loyalty to the political party that they belong to	<b>10</b>
Not applicable, there are no qualities I admire in politicians	<b>10</b>
Don't know	<b>5</b>

**To what extent do you believe that most politicians display the three qualities that you have identified?**

*[All who believe politicians exhibit at least one of the above qualities]*

10 – to a high degree	<b>1</b>
9	<b>1</b>
8	<b>4</b>
7	<b>9</b>
6	<b>16</b>
5	<b>16</b>
4	<b>15</b>
3	<b>16</b>
2	<b>11</b>
1	<b>5</b>
0 – not at all	<b>6</b>
Don't know	<b>3</b>

	%
<b>In your opinion, how many elected politicians in Britain today, if any, do the following?</b>	
<b>Not giving straight answers to questions</b>	
Most politicians do this	<b>71</b>
Some politicians do this	<b>19</b>
Not many politicians do this	<b>3</b>
No politicians do this	<b>1</b>
Don't know	<b>5</b>
<b>Accepting bribes</b>	
Most politicians do this	<b>12</b>
Some politicians do this	<b>32</b>
Not many politicians do this	<b>34</b>
No politicians do this	<b>5</b>
Don't know	<b>17</b>
<b>Misusing official expenses and allowances</b>	
Most politicians do this	<b>37</b>
Some politicians do this	<b>48</b>
Not many politicians do this	<b>9</b>
No politicians do this	<b>1</b>
Don't know	<b>6</b>
<b>Making promises they know they can't keep</b>	
Most politicians do this	<b>50</b>
Some politicians do this	<b>38</b>
Not many politicians do this	<b>6</b>
No politicians do this	<b>1</b>
Don't know	<b>6</b>
<b>Wanting votes more than wanting to do the right thing</b>	
Most politicians do this	<b>52</b>
Some politicians do this	<b>35</b>
Not many politicians do this	<b>5</b>
No politicians do this	<b>1</b>
Don't know	<b>7</b>

	%
<b>How much, if at all, do you trust the following to tell the truth?</b>	
<b>Close friends or family</b>	
Trust a great deal	75
Trust a fair amount	20
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>96</b>
Do not trust much	2
Do not trust at all	0
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>2</b>
Don't know	2
<b>My neighbours</b>	
Trust a great deal	9
Trust a fair amount	52
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>61</b>
Do not trust much	24
Do not trust at all	5
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>29</b>
Don't know	10
<b>Family doctors</b>	
Trust a great deal	43
Trust a fair amount	44
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>86</b>
Do not trust much	8
Do not trust at all	1
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>10</b>
Don't know	4
<b>School teachers or college lecturers</b>	
Trust a great deal	29
Trust a fair amount	55
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>84</b>
Do not trust much	10
Do not trust at all	2
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>12</b>
Don't know	4
<b>Local police officers on the beat in my area</b>	
Trust a great deal	22
Trust a fair amount	50
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>71</b>
Do not trust much	17
Do not trust at all	5
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>22</b>
Don't know	7

	%
<b>TV news presenters and reporters</b>	
Trust a great deal	5
Trust a fair amount	41
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>46</b>
Do not trust much	38
Do not trust at all	11
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>48</b>
Don't know	6
<b>Religious leaders</b>	
Trust a great deal	7
Trust a fair amount	25
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>31</b>
Do not trust much	34
Do not trust at all	27
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>61</b>
Don't know	8
<b>People who run national charities (e.g. Help the Aged, NSPCC)</b>	
Trust a great deal	11
Trust a fair amount	55
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>66</b>
Do not trust much	22
Do not trust at all	5
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>27</b>
Don't know	8
<b>People who run international charities (e.g. Oxfam, Save the Children)</b>	
Trust a great deal	12
Trust a fair amount	53
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>64</b>
Do not trust much	23
Do not trust at all	5
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>28</b>
Don't know	8
<b>Journalists on "upmarket" newspapers (e.g. Times, Telegraph, Guardian)</b>	
Trust a great deal	5
Trust a fair amount	39
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>45</b>
Do not trust much	35
Do not trust at all	14
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>49</b>
Don't know	7

	%
<b>People who run major pressure groups (e.g. Greenpeace, Amnesty)</b>	
Trust a great deal	5
Trust a fair amount	36
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>42</b>
Do not trust much	36
Do not trust at all	13
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>49</b>
Don't know	10
<b>My local Member of Parliament</b>	
Trust a great deal	3
Trust a fair amount	29
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>32</b>
Do not trust much	39
Do not trust at all	16
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>54</b>
Don't know	14
<b>Journalists on "mid-market" newspapers (e.g. Mail, Express)</b>	
Trust a great deal	1
Trust a fair amount	11
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>12</b>
Do not trust much	46
Do not trust at all	35
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>81</b>
Don't know	7
<b>Leading Westminster politicians</b>	
Trust a great deal	1
Trust a fair amount	23
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>24</b>
Do not trust much	46
Do not trust at all	21
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>67</b>
Don't know	10
<b>Journalists on local newspapers</b>	
Trust a great deal	2
Trust a fair amount	33
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>35</b>
Do not trust much	40
Do not trust at all	15
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>56</b>
Don't know	9

	%
<b>Senior officials in my local council</b>	
Trust a great deal	1
Trust a fair amount	23
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>25</b>
Do not trust much	43
Do not trust at all	17
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>60</b>
Don't know	15
<b>People who run large companies</b>	
Trust a great deal	1
Trust a fair amount	18
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>19</b>
Do not trust much	48
Do not trust at all	23
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>71</b>
Don't know	10
<b>Journalists on 'red-top' tabloid newspapers (e.g. Sun, Mirror)</b>	
Trust a great deal	1
Trust a fair amount	6
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>7</b>
Do not trust much	32
Do not trust at all	55
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>87</b>
Don't know	7
<b>Celebrities or sportspeople that I admire</b>	
Trust a great deal	3
Trust a fair amount	26
<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>28</b>
Do not trust much	41
Do not trust at all	22
<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>63</b>
Don't know	9

Young people		%
	Trust a great deal	6
	Trust a fair amount	45
	<b>TOTAL TRUST</b>	<b>51</b>
	Do not trust much	31
	Do not trust at all	8
	<b>TOTAL DO NOT TRUST</b>	<b>39</b>
	Don't know	10

Which THREE or FOUR, if any, of the following would you say are the MOST important to you? (Please tick up to four options.)

Living comfortably	61
Having fun	61
Being treated fairly	60
Being treated equally	42
Working hard	35
Getting my voice heard	25
Being unique	24
Sharing what I have	18
Winning	12
Spending money	11
Being powerful	7
None of these	1
Don't know	2

Which, if any, of the following groups do you often think suffer UNFAIR DISCRIMINATION in Britain these days? (Please tick all that apply.)

Children and Young people	45
Gay people	43
Muslims	42
Immigrants	42
Refugees and asylum-seekers	39
Elderly people	37
People of Asian origin	33
Black people and/or people of African-Caribbean origin	31
White working class people	28
Those who are unemployed or who are on benefits	28
Women	24
Jews	20
People educated at state schools	19
People educated at private schools	15
None of these	4
Don't know	6

	%
<b>And which, if any, of these groups do you often think benefit from UNFAIR ADVANTAGES in Britain these days? (Please tick all that apply.)</b>	
People educated at private schools	36
Those who are unemployed or who are on benefits	34
Immigrants	29
Refugees and asylum-seekers	27
Muslims	21
People of Asian origin	16
Black people and/or people of African-Caribbean origin	14
Gay people	9
Women	8
White working class people	8
People educated at state schools	6
Elderly people	5
Jews	5
Children and Young people	4
None of these	10
Don't know	13

**Which of these phrases best summarises how you see your life prospects over the next ten years?**

I will have completed my studies and will be in the early stages of a successful career;	33
I am likely to have a steady job and will be looking to move 'up the ladder';	19
I am concerned that I will not have been able to find satisfactory employment or a rewarding career;	11
I intend to try a lot of things before concentrating on what I am good at – I have no clear plans at this stage but want to go where life takes me;	11
I am likely to have a family and will concentrate on their needs;	9
I haven't really thought this far ahead - I'll see what comes along.	11
None of these	2
Don't know	4

	%
<b>On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is “not at all knowledgeable” and 5 is “very knowledgeable”, how knowledgeable, if at all, would you say you are about the way that local and national government works?</b>	
1 – Not at all knowledgeable	11
2	22
<b>TOTAL NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE</b>	<b>32</b>
3	32
4	23
5 – Very knowledgeable	9
<b>TOTAL KNOWLEDGEABLE</b>	<b>32</b>
Don't know	3

**Through which, if any, of the following sources do/did you learn about politics?**

**(Please tick all that apply.)**

*[All who are knowledgeable about the way local and national government works]*

Through the Internet	71
Through a newspaper	65
At school or college	64
From books and literature	61
Through TV	61
From my parents and wider family	59
From my friends	37
Through radio	35
From a political party	32
Through an interest in a local issue (such as the decision to build a new school or close a hospital)	26
Through another media source	23
Through an interest in a national or international campaigning or charitable organisation (like Oxfam, Shelter or Amnesty International)	20
Through volunteering or other action in the community	15
Other	5
Don't know	1

%

**On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is “not at all knowledgeable” and 5 is “very knowledgeable”, how knowledgeable, if at all, would you say you are about the LAW(what the rules we live by are, how they are enforced and who makes them)?**

1 – Not at all knowledgeable	4
2	15
<b>TOTAL NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE</b>	<b>19</b>
3	40
4	29
5 – Very knowledgeable	8
<b>TOTAL KNOWLEDGEABLE</b>	<b>38</b>
Don't know	4

**Through which, if any, of the following sources do/did you learn about the LAW?**

*[All who are knowledgeable about the LAW]*

At school or college	75
From my parents and wider family	55
Through the Internet	54
From books and literature	54
Through TV	46
Through a newspaper	45
From my friends	35
Through radio	22
Through an interest in a local issue (such as the decision to build a new school or close a hospital)	18
Through another media source	16
Through an interest in a national or international campaigning or charitable organisation (like Oxfam, Shelter or Amnesty International)	15
From a political party	11
Through volunteering or other action in the community	10
Other	8
Don't know	1

**On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is “not at all knowledgeable” and 5 is “very knowledgeable”, how knowledgeable, if at all, would you say you are about the ECONOMY(the way that we do business, how wealth is shared and the way that decisions are made about things like taxation, public spending and welfare benefits)?**

1 – Not at all knowledgeable	9
2	25
<b>TOTAL NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE</b>	<b>34</b>
3	35
4	20
5 – Very knowledgeable	6
<b>TOTAL KNOWLEDGEABLE</b>	<b>27</b>
Don't know	4

**Through which, if any, of the following sources do/did you learn about the ECONOMY?** %

*[All who are knowledgeable about the ECONOMY]*

At school or college	66
Through the Internet	66
Through a newspaper	59
From books and literature	54
Through TV	53
From my parents and wider family	51
Through radio	28
From my friends	27
Through another media source	19
From a political party	16
Through an interest in a local issue (such as the decision to build a new school or close a hospital)	14
Through an interest in a national or international campaigning or charitable organisation (like Oxfam, Shelter or Amnesty International)	10
Through volunteering or other action in the community	6
Other	6
Don't know	1

**Which FOUR, if any, of the following do you think your school or college should spend MORE time teaching you about? (If you have already left school or college, please think about what your school should have spent MORE time teaching you about.)**

Banking, mortgages and personal finance	49
Politics and current affairs	43
The economy	36
Law	26
My rights as a citizen	25
Sex and relationships	21
My responsibilities as a citizen	19
The views and lifestyles of those from different cultural, ethnic and faith groups	19
Morality	18
Health	18
The skills required for effective participation in the community and in politics	18
Drugs, alcohol and substance abuse	15
How I can make my community a better place	13
How I can help people in need	10
None of these	4
Don't know	5

%

**Which FOUR, if any, of the following do you think your school or college spends TOO MUCH time teaching you about? (If you have already left school or college, please think about what your school spent TOO MUCH time teaching you about.)**

Drugs, alcohol and substance abuse	32
Sex and relationships	24
The views and lifestyles of those from different cultural, ethnic and faith groups	22
Health	11
Morality	10
How I can make my community a better place	9
My responsibilities as a citizen	8
How I can help people in need	8
My rights as a citizen	6
The skills required for effective participation in the community and in politics	5
Politics and current affairs	3
Law	2
The economy	2
Banking, mortgages and personal finance	2
None of these	30
Don't know	13

**Which, if any, of the following GCSE or A level courses can you take/ could you have taken at your school or college?**

History	82
Religious Studies	74
Psychology	55
Economics	45
Sociology	45
Politics	38
Citizenship Studies	18
None of these	4
Don't know	6

**Which, if any, of the following GCSEs or A levels are you taking/ did you take?**

*[All who could take one of the above subjects]*

History	44
Religious Studies	33
Psychology	17
Economics	11
Politics	10
Sociology	10
Citizenship Studies	7
None of these	24
Don't know	1

%

**Which, if any, of the following GCSE or A level courses would you have studied had they been offered at your school or college?**

*[All who could NOT have taken one of the above subjects]*

Psychology	17
History	12
Sociology	10
Economics	10
Politics	10
Religious Studies	6
Citizenship Studies	4
None of these	59
Don't know	8

**Are you taking, or did you take, a course at school or college with "Citizenship" in the title (e.g. citizenship education, citizenship studies etc.)?**

Yes, I am taking/ did take a course with "Citizenship" in the title	22
No, I am not taking/ did not take a course with "Citizenship" in the title	74
Don't know	4

**Did/ will you take an exam in this subject?**

*[All who are taking a course with citizenship in the title]*

Yes, I did/ will take an exam in this subject	42
No, I did not/ will not take an exam in this subject	55
Don't know	3

**And did/ will everyone in this subject take an exam?**

*[All who are taking a course with citizenship in the title where there is an exam]*

Yes, everyone did/ will take an exam in this subject	83
Not, everyone did not/ will not take an exam in this subject	15
Don't know	3

**Are you taking / did you take part in any of the following at school or college? (Please tick all that apply.)**

A Work Experience or Work Shadowing programme	67
Fundraising for charities or good causes	47
Volunteering in the local community	25
A student exchange programme	14
A community involvement project	12
Volunteering abroad	4
None of these	15
Don't know / can't remember	4

**Have any of the following given a talk or taken part in an activity at your school or college? (Please tick all that apply.)**

	%
Representative from the police	54
Charity workers	38
Representatives from the army	32
A local business person	30
Religious leaders	30
A Member of Parliament	21
A local councillor	20
A lawyer	10
A Peer (a Lord or Baroness)	6
A Member of the European Parliament (MEP)	5
Other	6
No, no-one has come into my school or college	11
Don't know / can't remember	12

**Were these visits or activities usually part of...?**

*[All who have had at least one visitor]*

The Citizenship Education programme	7
Other courses, such as vocational (or work related) education programmes	9
The Careers Education and Guidance programme	17
An assembly or tutorial programme	53
Don't know	14

**When somebody from outside came to your school or college to talk to you, did you find him or her...? (If more than one person came to visit your school please think about the most recent visit.)**

*[All who have had at least one visitor]*

Very interesting	11
Somewhat interesting	59
<b>TOTAL INTERESTING</b>	<b>70</b>
Not very interesting	21
Not at all interesting	6
<b>TOTAL NOT INTERESTING</b>	<b>27</b>
Don't know	3

**How much, if any, value can you see in Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and local councillors visiting schools and colleges in the area they represent?**

A great deal of value	20
Some value	41
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>	<b>61</b>
Not much value	21
No value at all	10
<b>TOTAL NOT MUCH VALUE</b>	<b>31</b>
Don't know	8

**How frequently, if at all, would you like to see Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and local councillors at schools and colleges in your area?**

*[All who see value in it]*

Never	3
At least once a term	14
About once a term	25
About once a year	49
At election times	5
Don't know	4

	%
<b>Which, if any, of the following have you ever visited?</b>	
A local business	46
A court room	27
The Houses of Parliament	23
The offices of a charity or community organisation	17
A council chamber	12
The Scottish Parliament (Scotland)	7
The Welsh Assembly (Wales)	4
The European Parliament	3
None of these	27
Don't know	4

**Which, if any, of the following have you ever visited as part of a school or college trip? (Please tick all that apply.)**

*[All who have visited at least one of the above]*

A local business	21
The Houses of Parliament	16
A court room	15
A council chamber	5
The Scottish Parliament (Scotland)	3
The offices of a charity or community organisation	2
The European Parliament	2
The Welsh Assembly (Wales)	1
None of these	48
Don't know	3

**And, in general, how valuable have you found visiting these places?**

*[All who have visited at least one of the above]*

Very valuable	22
Somewhat valuable	48
<b>TOTAL VALUABLE</b>	<b>70</b>
Not very valuable	18
Not at all valuable	5
<b>TOTAL NOT VALUABLE</b>	<b>22</b>
Don't know	8

%

**Which of these are your main sources of political news and information? (Please tick all that apply.)**

Television	65
Newspapers	58
News websites	51
Friends and/or family	42
Radio	32
Teachers and lecturers	21
Political 'blogs'	10
Leaflets and magazines produced by political parties	9
Political party websites	9
Leaflets and magazines produced by charities or pressure groups	6
Charity and pressure group websites	5
Not applicable, I don't follow political news	6
None of these	4

**Which, if any, of the following issues would you say have INCREASED your interest in politics?**

The recession (or the "credit crunch")	51
The war in Afghanistan	35
The Iraq war	34
The MPs' expenses scandal	34
Britain's relationship with Europe	32
Issues of global warming and climate change or other environmental concerns	32
The proposed introduction of ID cards	25
Poverty, in this country or overseas	21
The debate about lowering the voting age to 16	12
Other	8
Not applicable – I am not interested in politics	12
Don't know	6

**Generally, which, if any, of your family members do you know vote in general elections? (Please tick all that apply.)**

Parents or Guardians	80
Grandparents	44
Siblings	30
Aunts, uncles or other relatives you are especially close to	44
Nobody in my family votes in general elections	4
Not applicable	2
Don't know	9

%

**And generally are you aware of which party they vote for or do they keep this to themselves?**

**Parents or Guardians**

*[All whose parents vote]*

	Yes	31
Yes – and they generally discuss their voting intentions with me		37
No – they generally regard this as a private matter		23
No – I don't know		9

**Grandparents**

*[All whose grandparents vote]*

	Yes	23
Yes – and they generally discuss their voting intentions with me		19
No – they generally regard this as a private matter		33
No – I don't know		26

**Siblings**

*[All whose siblings vote]*

	Yes	26
Yes – and they generally discuss their voting intentions with me		36
No – they generally regard this as a private matter		24
No – I don't know		15

**Aunts, uncles or other relatives you are especially close to**

*[All whose other relatives vote]*

	Yes	12
Yes – and they generally discuss their voting intentions with me		14
No – they generally regard this as a private matter		35
No – I don't know		39

**Do any of the following members of your family volunteer or take part in voluntary charitable or community work? (Please tick all that apply.)**

	Parents	21
	Brothers/sisters	13
Aunts, uncles or other relatives that you are especially close to		11
	Grandparents	10
No, nobody in my family volunteers or takes part in charitable or community work		41
	Not applicable	6
	Don't know	15

%

**Do you take part in voluntary charitable or community work?**

Yes, I do **33**  
No, I do not **67**

**And how often do you take part in charitable or community work?**

*[All who volunteer]*

Every day **3**  
Two to three times a week **12**  
Once a week **26**  
Once a fortnight **9**  
Once a month **11**  
Once every two to three months **13**  
Once every six months **10**  
Once a year **8**  
Less often than once a year **4**  
Don't know **3**

**While at secondary school or college, are/ were you given the opportunity to participate in decision-making, for instance through...?**

Being a prefect **41**  
Being a member of, or voting for, a school council **41**  
Being a student member of the school's governing body **18**  
Being a member of a school's charity committee **14**  
Being involved in interview or selection processes for the appointment of staff **13**  
Some other form of participation **16**  
None of these **25**  
Don't know **6**

**Which, if any, of the following activities do/ did you participate in at secondary school or college?**

*[All who could have participated in at least one of the above]*

Being a prefect **44**  
Being a member of, or voting for, a school council **39**  
Some other form of participation **17**  
Being involved in interview or selection processes for the appointment of staff **13**  
Being a member of a school's charity committee **10**  
Being a student member of the school's governing body **10**  
None of these **17**  
Don't know **2**

%

**Why do/ did you choose not to participate?**

*[All who could have participated but chose not to]*

This sort of thing is not for me	<b>36</b>
I can't/couldn't see the point	<b>26</b>
I don't/didn't have the time	<b>25</b>
Other reasons	<b>20</b>
Don't know	<b>3</b>

**How much, if any, influence do you believe that your participation had on decisions that were taken in your secondary school or college?**

*[All who participated at school/ college]*

A great deal	<b>6</b>
A fair amount	<b>24</b>

**TOTAL INFLUENCE 30**

Only occasionally	<b>31</b>
Not very much	<b>26</b>
None at all	<b>12</b>

**TOTAL NO INFLUENCE 38**

Don't know	<b>2</b>
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**Please read the following statements and select the one closest to your view.**

**Statement 1**

Having a school council run by students gives students the chance to have a say in how their school is run	<b>48</b>
School councils have no real impact and are usually a waste of time	<b>42</b>
Don't know	<b>10</b>

**Statement 2**

School councils are a useful way for all students to develop participation skills and learning about how organisations operate	<b>35</b>
School councils are really only useful for certain types of students who are especially interested in getting involved in things like school councils	<b>54</b>
Don't know	<b>11</b>

**A small number of local authority areas now have a Young Mayor. A Young Mayor is an individual, usually aged between 13 and 17, who is elected by other young people to represent them in their local council. The elected Mayor is given a budget to help develop projects and activities in their area.**

**Does your local authority area have a Young Mayor?**

Yes, it does	<b>5</b>
No, it does not	<b>39</b>
Don't know	<b>55</b>

%

**How much of an impact, if any, do you think a Young Mayor is likely to have over the way that young people are treated in the area that they represent?**

A great deal	3
A fair amount	18
<b>TOTAL IMPACT</b>	<b>21</b>
Not very much	44
None at all	21
<b>TOTAL NO IMPACT</b>	<b>65</b>
Don't know	15

**How beneficial, if at all, do you think having a Young Mayor would be for your local area?**

*[All who do not have a young mayor]*

A great deal	6
A fair amount	21
<b>TOTAL BENEFICIAL</b>	<b>27</b>
Not very much	40
None at all	28
<b>TOTAL NOT BENEFICIAL</b>	<b>67</b>
Don't know	6

**Participating in the UK Youth Parliament provides one way in which young people can become involved in politics and local youth councils provide another. Do you think that these types of bodies, by seeking to engage young people in politics, make a positive or negative contribution to society?**

They make a POSITIVE contribution towards society	44
They make a NEGATIVE contribution towards society	6
I do not think they make either a positive or negative contribution towards society	35
Don't know	16

**Would you ever join/have you participated in a youth parliament, a local youth council or in some other political forum that directly involves young people?**

Yes, I have/ would consider doing so	27
No, I have not/ would not consider doing so	61
Don't know	12

%

**Which TWO or THREE, if any, of the following reasons explain why some young people take part in youth parliaments, local youth councils and similar forums?**

It looks good on a UCAS form or a CV	55
They are interested in a career in politics	40
They are interested in political issues	38
They want to have an impact on their community or on wider issues	25
They want to develop their participation skills, for instance debating or speaking in public	24
Their parents encourage them to take part	21
They want to show off their abilities	17
They want to help others	10
It's fun – and they meet people with similar interests	10
Their friends encourage them to take part	4
Other reasons	3
Don't know	10

**Would you ever participate/ have you ever participated in a group of people or an organisation trying to have an influence on a certain issue, such as a charity, a community association or a pressure group?**

Yes, I have/would	41
No, I have not/would not	46
Don't know	13

**Why do you think that some young people take part in organisations that campaign on single issues such as climate change, homelessness, poverty or a war that they see as wrong?**

They want to have an impact on their community or on wider issues	46
They want to help others	42
They are interested in political issues	41
It looks good on a UCAS form or a CV	36
They are interested in a career in politics	18
They want to develop their participation skills, for instance debating or speaking in public	17
It's fun – and they meet people with similar interests	16
Their parents encourage them to take part	14
Their friends encourage them to take part	13
They want to show off their abilities	12
Other reasons	6
Don't know	12

%

**Which of the following do you think young people are MOST likely to be interested in campaigning on?**

International issues (such as climate change, poverty in developing countries or the UK's involvement in wars overseas)	35
Local issues (such as health service provision or public transport in a particular area)	25
National issues (such as the minimum wage or ID cards)	22
European issues (such as Britain's relationship with Europe)	3
None of these	3
Don't know	11

**Which of the following people's opinions and beliefs do you think are most similar to your own?**

A campaigner that I admire in a single-issue pressure group or charity that I support	12
Somebody who is active as a volunteer in my local community	10
A member of the Youth Parliament or of the local Youth Council	6
My local MP or MEP	5
The Prime Minister	5
My local councillor	2
None of these	35
Don't know	26

**Which, if any, of the following TV shows have you voted on?**

X Factor	19
Big Brother	10
I'm a Celebrity - Get Me Out of Here!	8
Strictly Come Dancing	7
The Eurovision Song Contest	9
Other	2
Not applicable, I have never voted on a TV show	67

**Which, if any, of the following are reasons why you have voted on TV shows?**

**(Please tick all that apply.)**

*[All who have voted on a TV show]*

It's fun	44
Because I care about the outcome	41
Because I want to voice my opinion	31
It gives me a chance to take part in the show	26
My vote has some influence	25
It's easy to do	18
Because I get to see fairly instant results	12
Because my friends and/or family do	9
Other reasons	3
Don't know	3

%

**Have you ever called, emailed or texted into a TV or Radio show to express your views on a particular subject (e.g. political, celebrity, sports etc.)?**

Yes, I have **22**  
No, I have not **78**

**Would it make a difference to your likelihood to vote in a General Election if you were able to do it in any of the following ways?**

**By Phone**

Yes, I would be much more likely to vote **13**  
Yes, I would be a little more likely to vote **17**

**TOTAL MORE LIKELY 29**

Yes, I would be a little less likely to vote **4**  
Yes, I would be much less likely to vote **3**

**TOTAL LESS LIKELY 6**

No, it would make no difference **57**  
Don't know **8**

**By Text Message**

Yes, I would be much more likely to vote **22**  
Yes, I would be a little more likely to vote **18**

**TOTAL MORE LIKELY 40**

Yes, I would be a little less likely to vote **3**  
Yes, I would be much less likely to vote **3**

**TOTAL LESS LIKELY 6**

No, it would make no difference **47**  
Don't know **7**

**Online**

Yes, I would be much more likely to vote **36**  
Yes, I would be a little more likely to vote **18**

**TOTAL MORE LIKELY 54**

Yes, I would be a little less likely to vote **3**  
Yes, I would be much less likely to vote **2**

**TOTAL LESS LIKELY 4**

No, it would make no difference **36**  
Don't know **6**

	%
<b>Are you in favour of lowering the voting age from 18 to 16?</b>	
Yes, I am	<b>31</b>
No, I am not	<b>54</b>
Don't know	<b>15</b>

<b>Do you think the lowering of the voting age would have an impact on how young people view politics and politicians?</b>	
Yes, it would	<b>43</b>
No, it would not	<b>44</b>
Don't know	<b>13</b>

<b>Which TWO or THREE, if any, of the following do you think are the MOST useful ways in which someone can participate in local or national politics?</b>	
Voting at elections	<b>59</b>
Supporting or working for a political party	<b>34</b>
Signing a petition	<b>28</b>
Raising money for a charity	<b>20</b>
Supporting or Working for a pressure group	<b>19</b>
Attending a protest march	<b>17</b>
Writing to a newspaper	<b>17</b>
Door to door canvassing	<b>10</b>
Other	<b>2</b>
Not applicable, I do not think there are useful ways in which someone can participate in politics	<b>5</b>
Don't know	<b>12</b>

<b>Who has most influence in a political party?</b>	
The party leader	<b>35</b>
The MPs, MEPs or councillors who make up that party	<b>29</b>
The wider members of the party	<b>8</b>
The voting public	<b>14</b>
Don't know	<b>15</b>

	%
<b>Which TWO or THREE of these groups do you think the Labour Party most wants to help? (Please select up to three answer options.)</b>	
The unemployed and those on benefits	<b>33</b>
Immigrants and non-white Britons	<b>25</b>
Single parent families	<b>22</b>
Poor people	<b>19</b>
White working class people	<b>15</b>
"Traditional" families - married couples with children	<b>15</b>
Elderly people	<b>13</b>
Rich people	<b>11</b>
Young people	<b>7</b>
Unmarried couples with children	<b>7</b>
None of these	<b>7</b>
Don't know	<b>26</b>

<b>Which TWO or THREE of these groups do you think the Conservative Party most wants to help? (Please select up to three answer options.)</b>	
"Traditional" families - married couples with children	<b>48</b>
Rich people	<b>42</b>
Elderly people	<b>16</b>
White working class people	<b>15</b>
Young people	<b>9</b>
The unemployed and those on benefits	<b>7</b>
Single parent families	<b>6</b>
Poor people	<b>6</b>
Immigrants and non-white Britons	<b>5</b>
Unmarried couples with children	<b>4</b>
None of these	<b>4</b>
Don't know	<b>27</b>

<b>Which TWO or THREE of these groups do you think the Liberal Democrat Party most wants to help? (Please select up to three answer options.)</b>	
Young people	<b>15</b>
Poor people	<b>15</b>
The unemployed and those on benefits	<b>13</b>
Single parent families	<b>11</b>
Immigrants and non-white Britons	<b>11</b>
Elderly people	<b>10</b>
"Traditional" families - married couples with children	<b>10</b>
White working class people	<b>8</b>
Unmarried couples with children	<b>7</b>
Rich people	<b>4</b>
None of these	<b>5</b>
Don't know	<b>52</b>

**And which TWO or THREE groups do you think Britain's government SHOULD help the most? (Please select up to three answer options.)**

	%
Poor people	45
Young people	38
Elderly people	36
"Traditional" families - married couples with children	26
Single parent families	25
The unemployed and those on benefits	24
White working class people	21
Immigrants and non-white Britons	10
Unmarried couples with children	6
Rich people	2
None of these	2
Don't know	11

**Which THREE or FOUR of the following do you think are priorities for the Labour Party? (Please select up to four answer options.)**

Reducing unemployment	31
Investing in the NHS	24
Investing in education	21
Raising taxes	20
Investing in the welfare state	20
Reducing spending on public services	16
Promoting equal opportunities	15
Tackling climate change	15
Being tough on criminals	12
Reducing immigration	12
Supporting elderly people	9
Supporting young people	8
Lowering taxes	6
None of these	6
Don't know	28

Which **THREE** or **FOUR** of the following do you think are priorities for the Conservative Party? (Please select up to four answer options.)

	%
Reducing immigration	29
Reducing spending on public services	27
Being tough on criminals	25
Reducing unemployment	21
Lowering taxes	19
Raising taxes	16
Investing in education	13
Investing in the NHS	10
Tackling climate change	8
Supporting elderly people	8
Supporting young people	6
Promoting equal opportunities	5
Investing in the welfare state	4
None of these	4
Don't know	35

Which **THREE** or **FOUR** of the following do you think are priorities for the Liberal Democrat Party? (Please select up to four answer options.)

Tackling climate change	17
Promoting equal opportunities	15
Investing in education	14
Reducing unemployment	13
Supporting young people	12
Investing in the NHS	11
Investing in the welfare state	10
Supporting elderly people	9
Raising taxes	8
Lowering taxes	7
Reducing spending on public services	5
Reducing immigration	5
Being tough on criminals	5
None of these	4
Don't know	54

Which **THREE** or **FOUR** of the following do you think **SHOULD** be priorities for Britain's government? (Please select up to four answer options.)

	%
Reducing unemployment	50
Investing in the NHS	38
Investing in education	37
Being tough on criminals	32
Tackling climate change	30
Reducing immigration	27
Supporting young people	25
Lowering taxes	21
Supporting elderly people	17
Promoting equal opportunities	14
Investing in the welfare state	11
Reducing spending on public services	9
Raising taxes	4
None of these	1
Don't know	11

Have you ever joined a campaigning group in your local community?

Yes, I have	9
No, I have not	85
Not sure	6

And how much of a difference do you think campaigning groups in your local community make on the issues that they campaign about?

A great deal of difference	3
A fair amount of difference	31
<b>TOTAL DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>34</b>
Not very much difference	40
No difference at all	10
<b>TOTAL NO DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>50</b>
Don't know	16

Have you every joined an online group on a social networking site (e.g. Facebook, Myspace, bebo etc.) that was set up to promote or discuss a political issue or campaign?

	%
Yes, I have	42
No, I have not	51
Not sure	7

And how much difference do you think groups on social networking sites, designed to promote/ discuss a political issue or campaign make?

A great deal of difference	3
A fair amount of difference	23
<b>TOTAL DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>26</b>
Not very much difference	46
No difference at all	19
<b>TOTAL NO DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>65</b>
Don't know	9

Are you a member of any of the organisations or associations listed below?  
(Please tick all that apply.)

A Facebook group, concerned with any of the above, or similar online group	38
A sports club or association	22
A hobbies group or club	20
A religious organisation or community	11
A cultural organisation or an organisation concerned with the arts	8
A pressure group	7
Not applicable, I am not a member of any of these kinds of organisation, group or association	31
Don't know	8

**If you are concerned with a political issue, what do you think are the best ways to make a difference online?**

	%
Email your MP	52
Email a local councillor	37
Start an online petition	35
Start a Facebook group and get others to join	18
Join a Facebook group	15
Tweet about an issue	6
Follow people on Twitter who are also concerned about the issue	5
Other	4
Not applicable, there are no good ways to make a difference online	12
Don't know	14

**Which, THREE, if any, of the following do you regard as having the greatest power in UK society? (Please select up to three answer options.)**

Politicians	56
Big corporations	51
Bankers	31
Newspaper journalists	30
Celebrities (including sportsmen and women)	26
Television producers	18
Trade Unionists	11
Lawyers	8
Political activists and campaigners (including those who work for charities)	6
Teachers and lecturers	4
Other	2
Don't know	11

**Which, THREE, of the following do you regard as having the greatest influence on government decision-making? (Please select up to three answer options.)**

	%
The media	<b>53</b>
Businesses	<b>43</b>
The public	<b>28</b>
Trade unions (e.g. National Union of Teachers, UNITE etc.)	<b>27</b>
Think tanks (e.g. Fabian Society, Reform etc.)	<b>19</b>
International pressure groups (e.g. Amnesty international, Greenpeace etc.)	<b>12</b>
National pressure groups (e.g. Stop the War Coalition, Electoral Reform Society etc.)	<b>12</b>
Religious groups	<b>8</b>
Community based or organisations (such as tenants associations)	<b>3</b>
Charities	<b>2</b>
Other	<b>4</b>
Don't know	<b>20</b>

**Which, THREE, of the following do you believe SHOULD have the greatest influence on government decision-making? (Please select up to three answer options.)**

The public	<b>72</b>
Community based or organisations (such as tenants associations)	<b>23</b>
Trade unions (e.g. National Union of Teachers, UNITE etc.)	<b>18</b>
National pressure groups (e.g. Stop the War Coalition, Electoral Reform Society etc.)	<b>18</b>
Charities	<b>16</b>
Think tanks (e.g. Fabian Society, Reform etc.)	<b>15</b>
International pressure groups (e.g. Amnesty international, Greenpeace etc.)	<b>15</b>
Businesses	<b>15</b>
The media	<b>6</b>
Religious groups	<b>5</b>
Other	<b>5</b>
Don't know	<b>16</b>

On a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 is “No say at all” and 10 is “Total say”, how much of a say do you feel you have over what you do - and what happens to you - in your day-to-day life?

	%
10 – Total say	3
9	7
8	18
7	18
6	14
5	13
4	6
3	6
2	3
1	2
0 – No say at all	3
Don't know	6

How much of a say do you think you have over decisions made by your local council?

10 – Total say	0
9	1
8	1
7	4
6	6
5	10
4	11
3	14
2	13
1	9
0 – No say at all	22
Don't know	9

How much of a say do you think you have over decisions made by national government?

10 – Total say	1
9	1
8	2
7	2
6	5
5	8
4	9
3	12
2	15
1	11
0 – No say at all	28
Don't know	8

	%
<b>How much of a say do you think you have over decisions made by the European Parliament or by international bodies like the United Nations?</b>	
10 – Total say	1
9	1
8	1
7	2
6	3
5	5
4	5
3	9
2	10
1	13
0 – No say at all	44
Don't know	8

**Which, if any, of the following people do you think have a POSITIVE influence on your behaviour? (Please tick all that apply.)**

Friends	71
Parents and other members of my family	69
Teachers or lecturers	53
Work colleagues	27
Employers	20
Celebrities I admire	16
Police Officers	14
Members of my local community	12
Activists and campaigners	11
Religious leaders	10
MPs and MEPs	4
Local councillors	3
None of these positively influence the way I behave	4
Don't know	7

**Which, if any, of the following people do you think have a NEGATIVE influence on your behaviour? (Please tick all that apply.)**

Religious leaders	17
MPs and MEPs	15
Celebrities I admire	13
Friends	9
Activists and campaigners	9
Police Officers	9
Local councillors	8
Employers	6
Members of my local community	5
Work colleagues	4
Teachers or lecturers	4
Parents and other members of my family	4
None of these negatively influence the way I behave	36
Don't know	16