

YouGov Survey / Fabian Society Results

Sample Size: 2001 GB Adults

Fieldwork: 1st - 3rd July 2009

	Voting intention			Gender		Age			Social Grade		Region					Lost Labour Voters	Which of these systems is your first preference?					
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Male	Female	18 to 34	35 to 54	55 +	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North		Scotland	FPTP	AV	PR	Don't know	
Weighted Sample	2001	629	419	304	961	1040	582	720	700	1100	900	256	650	428	494	174	290	502	505	680	314	
Unweighted Sample	2001	648	429	300	949	1052	518	663	820	1259	741	327	644	385	475	170	300	517	507	695	282	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Headline Voting Intention

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

Con	39	100	0	0	36	41	37	34	44	43	33	45	45	38	34	16	31	53	36	26	46
Lab	26	0	100	0	27	25	27	30	20	25	27	26	21	25	30	35	0	29	27	23	23
Lib Dem	19	0	0	100	21	16	23	19	16	18	19	15	19	22	19	13	33	8	21	26	18
Other	17	0	0	0	16	18	14	17	20	14	21	15	15	15	17	36	36	9	17	25	13

Other Parties Voting Intention

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

UKIP	6	0	0	0	5	8	3	6	9	6	7	4	7	7	7	1	13	5	6	8	5
Green	4	0	0	0	2	5	4	5	2	3	5	5	4	3	3	1	7	1	5	5	2
SNP / PCY	3	0	0	0	4	3	3	2	5	3	3	2	0	2	0	30	6	3	2	5	2
BNP	3	0	0	0	4	2	3	2	3	2	4	2	2	2	4	2	7	1	2	5	3
Respect	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	3	0	1	2	1

Non Voters

Would Not Vote	7	0	0	0	5	9	10	6	4	6	7	5	6	7	9	6	13	4	5	7	15
Don't know	12	0	0	0	8	14	12	12	11	10	13	14	10	11	13	12	26	8	10	10	23

How likely is it that you could change your mind for who to vote for between now and the next general election?

0 – Most likely WILL change my vote	3	0	2	2	3	4	3	4	2	3	4	4	3	3	4	4	8	3	4	3	3
1	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2
2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	2	2	4	2	3	2	1
3	3	2	2	2	3	3	4	3	2	4	2	2	2	3	4	4	6	4	4	3	2
4	4	2	3	9	4	4	7	6	1	4	4	4	4	5	6	2	9	2	7	5	3
5	12	8	11	15	10	14	16	12	10	12	13	11	13	14	12	8	18	9	13	13	16
6	4	4	6	4	5	4	7	4	2	4	4	3	3	6	6	1	3	3	5	5	4
7	8	7	9	14	9	8	8	10	7	10	7	9	8	9	7	11	11	7	9	10	6
8	12	13	14	17	13	11	15	12	11	12	12	16	13	14	9	9	10	11	16	11	11
9	9	13	9	9	9	9	9	10	9	8	10	11	11	7	8	7	4	11	8	8	10
10 – Most likely WILL NOT change my vote	34	48	40	21	37	30	22	30	47	36	31	33	34	28	33	46	12	44	27	35	24
Don't know	6	2	2	4	4	9	8	7	4	5	9	5	6	7	8	4	15	4	4	4	19

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

How satisfied are you with the way democracy works in the UK?

Very satisfied	4	3	8	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	2	4	5	4	4	2	7	4	3	3	
Fairly satisfied	42	44	68	39	44	40	42	46	38	44	39	45	40	42	40	33	56	44	35	31	
TOTAL SATISFIED	46	47	76	43	48	44	46	50	41	48	43	47	43	47	45	35	63	48	38	34	
Not very satisfied	33	36	18	38	32	34	31	33	35	34	33	34	38	33	28	37	22	38	39	31	
Not at all satisfied	17	15	4	17	18	16	15	13	22	15	18	14	15	16	22	21	14	13	22	16	
TOTAL NOT SATISFIED	50	52	22	56	50	50	46	46	57	49	51	49	53	50	39	58	36	51	61	46	
Don't know	4	2	3	2	2	7	8	4	2	3	6	4	4	4	5	6	7	1	2	2	20

There is a debate about how much political reform is needed so as to address the revelations of the last few months about MPs expenses.

Which ONE of the following statements comes closer to your own view?

This is a once-in-a-generation chance for a major overhaul to improve our democracy	54	53	48	61	55	54	46	56	59	55	53	46	58	51	58	49	56	40	58	68	41
The British constitution is tried and tested - whatever its problems, we should be careful about changing too much too quickly	27	35	35	22	30	25	26	25	30	29	25	32	28	30	23	26	21	44	27	18	21
Neither of these	12	9	10	11	12	12	17	11	8	11	13	14	9	11	13	19	15	11	10	11	15
Don't know	7	4	7	5	4	10	11	7	3	5	9	8	5	9	7	6	8	5	4	2	23

Some people have argued that the political crisis over expenses demonstrates the need for constitutional reform.

Which ONE of the following statements comes closer to your view?

We should set up a 'citizen's convention' and involve people from all walks of life in deliberating on how to improve the way the UK is governed	52	47	52	50	53	51	46	55	53	50	54	45	54	47	58	48	54	39	56	62	42
MPs should hold a special session of parliament to come up with a reform package	19	21	24	20	20	18	18	17	21	20	17	17	21	20	16	20	22	24	20	17	13
Neither of these	19	24	15	21	21	18	22	18	17	22	15	24	16	20	17	25	12	28	18	16	15
Don't know	10	8	10	9	7	14	14	9	9	8	14	13	9	12	10	7	12	9	6	5	31

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

Which two or three if any of the following reforms do you MOST agree with? [Please tick up to three options]

Rather than the prime minister choosing the date of the next general election we need regular fixed dates	59	70	50	57	59	59	58	58	61	63	55	60	65	56	56	55	53	63	61	59	50
We need an electoral system that is more representative of the actual votes cast	50	43	48	64	48	52	45	49	56	50	50	52	51	50	49	49	47	27	54	72	33
Constituents should be able to sack their MP by holding a new election to choose an MP between elections if 10 percent of them want it	36	41	28	31	38	35	27	38	43	36	37	33	38	38	39	24	36	36	39	37	31
We should make parliament more democratic by replacing the House of Lords with an elected second chamber	33	31	46	34	38	29	28	32	38	35	31	27	30	35	34	47	38	35	36	36	18
We should clean up our messy and informal constitution and draw up a single written constitution like that of the United States	24	23	22	26	28	21	21	23	28	22	26	26	22	22	27	25	36	21	26	27	20
We should replace the monarchy with an elected President as head of state	11	5	20	7	14	8	13	12	8	11	11	8	9	9	12	21	12	9	12	13	7
None of these	4	5	4	4	4	4	5	4	3	3	5	4	5	5	2	5	3	9	2	1	6
Don't know	5	3	3	3	3	7	10	4	2	4	7	6	3	6	7	7	6	2	3	1	25

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

At present we elect MPs by 'first-past-the-post'. Candidates compete to represent local constituencies. The candidate who wins the biggest number of votes is the winner, even if s/he obtains fewer than half of all votes cast.

Some people suggest we should change our voting system move towards the 'alternative vote', whereby MPs still represent individual constituencies, but voters indicate their first, second and third choices. When votes are counted, the least popular candidates are eliminated, and the second (and, if necessary subsequent) preferences of their supporters are counted, until one candidate achieves an overall majority and is declared the winner.

This system keeps the link between MPs and their constituencies but, like the present system, does NOT ensure that parties are represented in Parliament according to their overall national support.

Other people suggest that we should move away from a pure constituency system to one of proportional representation, so that parties are represented in Parliament according to their overall level of support. Such a system would make it easier for small-to-medium sized parties to win seats, but much harder for either Labour or Conservative to win a general election outright.

Which of these systems is your first preference?

The present system - first-past-the-post	25	38	31	12	28	23	23	25	27	26	25	26	24	29	24	26	20	100	0	0	0
The Alternative Vote	25	24	28	29	29	22	26	25	25	27	23	26	26	22	28	21	26	0	100	0	0
Proportional Representation	34	24	31	48	34	34	30	34	38	34	34	32	33	33	35	41	34	0	0	100	0
Don't know	16	14	11	12	9	22	22	16	11	13	19	16	18	17	14	12	20	0	0	0	100

And which one is your second preference?

The present system - first-past-the-post	24	25	30	23	25	24	25	25	23	26	22	25	26	25	21	24	21	0	46	26	0
The Alternative Vote	37	33	30	46	38	36	37	33	40	37	37	33	38	39	34	41	37	41	0	61	0
Proportional Representation	25	25	29	20	26	24	27	25	23	25	24	27	24	23	28	22	31	36	47	0	0
Don't know	14	17	12	11	12	17	12	17	14	12	17	15	12	13	18	14	11	23	7	13	0

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.
Age and Gender		
Male 18 to 24	59	120
Male 25 to 39	246	260
Male 40 to 54	239	261
Male 55 +	405	320
Female 18 to 24	103	121
Female 25 to 39	303	260
Female 40 to 54	231	280
Female 55 +	415	380
Region		
London	327	256
Rest of South	644	650
Midlands and Wales	385	428
North	475	494
Scotland	170	174
Social Grade		
ABC1	1259	1100
C2DE	741	900
Newspaper Type		
Express / Mail	536	320
Sun / Star	273	440
Mirror / Record	180	320
Guardian / Independent	127	80
FT / Times / Telegraph	219	191
Other Paper	266	250
No Paper	399	400
Political Party Identification		
Lab	671	642
Con	503	520
Lib Dem	215	240
Others	105	60
None	442	490
Don't know	65	50