

YouGov / Parthenon Project Survey Results

Sample Size: 2294 adults in GB
Fieldwork: 20th - 21st June 2023



Weighted Sample
Unweighted Sample

	Vote in 2019 GE			EU Ref 2016		Gender		Age				Social Grade		Country			Region in England				
Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Male	Female	18-24	25-49	50-64	65+	ABC1	C2DE	England	Wales	Scotland	North	Midlands	London	Rest of South	
2294	750	555	195	808	854	1110	1184	241	947	567	539	1308	986	1980	115	200	553	381	278	768	
2294	799	563	217	928	927	985	1309	138	911	608	637	1371	923	1982	129	183	546	394	224	818	
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

To what extent would you support or oppose the UK Government introducing new legislation that allows museums in the UK to return artefacts to their country of origin?

Strongly support	26	14	42	27	33	15	25	26	44	26	24	18	29	21	26	22	28	27	23	30	24
Tend to support	35	35	36	44	41	34	32	38	28	34	37	38	35	34	35	31	33	36	36	37	34
TOTAL SUPPORT	61	49	78	71	74	49	57	64	72	60	61	56	64	55	61	53	61	63	59	67	58
Tend to oppose	11	18	7	11	8	17	13	10	7	10	11	17	12	11	12	13	9	9	13	9	14
Strongly oppose	8	15	3	3	4	13	12	4	4	8	9	10	8	8	8	8	7	6	10	10	8
TOTAL OPPOSE	19	33	10	14	12	30	25	14	11	18	20	27	20	19	20	21	16	15	23	19	22
Don't know	20	18	13	16	14	20	17	23	17	22	19	18	16	26	19	26	23	22	18	14	20

4-5
Aug '22

20-21
Jun '23

The British Museum in London houses the Parthenon Sculptures (also known as the Elgin Marbles), a set of classical Greek sculptures removed from the Parthenon in Athens, Greece 200 years ago by Lord Elgin. Some people think Britain should return the Marbles to Greece, while others think they should remain here. Do you personally think Britain should return the Elgin Marbles to Greece or keep them in Britain?

Should keep the Elgin Marbles in Britain	16	15	26	8	11	11	23	21	8	8	14	15	19	15	14	15	11	10	12	17	16	17
Should return the Elgin Marbles to Greece	53	52	38	71	64	65	41	48	56	60	50	56	47	54	49	51	56	55	55	49	53	49
Don't mind either way	24	25	30	17	19	20	30	25	26	16	27	24	28	24	27	25	22	28	24	24	25	27
Don't know	7	8	6	4	6	5	5	6	10	17	9	5	5	6	10	8	12	7	9	10	5	7

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

And if British museums were lent other unique Greek artefacts by Greek Museums in return for returning the Marbles to Greece, would you support or oppose the return of the Elgin Marbles to Greece?

Strongly support	29	19	44	35	39	21	28	30	38	27	32	24	31	26	29	30	30	31	28	30	27
Tend to support	35	37	33	47	36	36	34	35	31	34	36	36	36	33	35	36	35	33	32	39	36
TOTAL SUPPORT	64	56	77	82	75	57	62	65	69	61	68	60	67	59	64	66	65	64	60	69	63
Tend to oppose	7	11	5	4	5	10	9	5	3	6	7	9	6	7	7	4	5	4	8	8	8
Strongly oppose	5	9	3	3	2	8	8	2	4	6	5	5	5	6	5	7	6	5	6	6	4
TOTAL OPPOSE	12	20	8	7	7	18	17	7	7	12	12	14	11	13	12	11	11	9	14	14	12
Don't know	25	24	15	11	18	25	21	28	24	27	20	25	22	29	25	22	25	28	26	18	25

And for which of the following reasons, if any, is the main reason you believe the Elgin Marbles should be returned to Greece?

[Asked to those who believe the Elgin Marbles should be returned to Greece; n=1221]

I believe the sculptures rightfully belong to Greece	83	78	87	83	86	81	80	85	80	85	82	83	84	81	82	89	87	84	77	86	82
It would improve the UK's relationship with Greece	4	4	6	4	5	4	6	3	3	4	6	2	4	4	4	7	3	5	5	4	3
It could increase the amount of art exchanged between Greece and the UK	4	7	3	6	3	5	4	5	6	3	5	5	4	5	5	0	4	4	7	4	5
I don't care about the marbles, so I see no need to keep them here	4	6	2	3	3	5	5	3	7	3	5	4	4	5	4	4	4	2	6	2	5
I believe the sculptures should be seen as one piece of art	2	3	1	2	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	4	2	2	2	0	2	2	3	1	3
Other [See Tab1]	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	3	2	0	2	1	2	2	0	1	3	2	2	0

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

Some national museums, like the British Museum or the V&A, have partnerships with museums in other countries, where artefacts usually displayed in a museum in one country are exhibited in another.

To what extent would you support or oppose museums in the UK making efforts to increase the number of partnerships they have with museums in other countries?

Strongly support	38	30	54	54	51	30	37	40	42	40	41	30	44	31	38	38	37	38	33	45	39
Tend to support	39	50	32	38	37	47	40	38	30	36	40	49	39	40	40	36	36	37	41	38	42
TOTAL SUPPORT	77	80	86	92	88	77	77	78	72	76	81	79	83	71	78	74	73	75	74	83	81
Tend to oppose	2	2	1	0	1	3	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	3	1	2
Strongly oppose	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	2	1
TOTAL OPPOSE	3	3	2	0	2	4	5	2	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	3	1	2	5	3	3
Don't know	19	17	11	8	11	18	19	20	25	20	17	18	14	26	18	22	25	22	20	14	16

Have you ever visited the Elgin Marbles that are currently on display in the British Museum?

Yes	23	22	29	40	32	20	22	23	13	21	27	24	28	15	24	10	11	15	17	46	27
No	77	78	71	60	68	80	78	77	87	79	73	76	72	85	76	90	89	85	83	54	73

And when you went to see the Elgin Marbles, had you planned your visit to the British Museum at least in part to see the marbles?

[Asked to those who have visited the Elgin Marbles; n=556]

Yes – The marbles were the only reason I planned to go to the museum	2	1	0	2	0	2	2	1	11	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	2	3	1
Yes – The marbles were one of the main things I wanted to see when I planned to go to the museum	24	25	24	29	28	21	28	22	28	23	26	24	24	25	25	14	16	19	24	24	28
No – Seeing the marbles was not a consideration when I planned to go to the museum	68	64	70	66	67	68	63	72	57	70	63	71	69	64	66	82	84	75	68	67	62
Don't know / can't remember	6	10	6	4	4	8	7	5	4	6	9	4	5	9	7	5	0	6	6	5	8

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

And if museums in the UK were to make efforts to increase the number of partnerships they have with museums in other countries, what impact, if any, do you think this would have on the relationship between the UK and other countries?

Very positive	22	19	30	29	27	20	22	22	25	23	24	19	23	22	23	24	16	24	22	27	21
Somewhat positive	46	46	50	56	53	43	46	47	44	49	46	43	51	40	46	42	54	42	45	45	49
TOTAL POSITIVE	68	65	80	85	80	63	68	69	69	72	70	62	74	62	69	66	70	66	67	72	70
No impact at all	14	18	8	9	8	20	16	12	12	9	17	19	12	16	13	17	14	15	14	12	13
Somewhat negative	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	0
Very negative	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1
TOTAL NEGATIVE	2	2	1	0	0	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	0	2	1	1
Don't know	17	15	11	6	11	16	14	19	17	18	13	17	13	22	17	15	15	18	16	16	16

And how interested, if at all, would you be in seeing ancient Greek artefacts if they were exhibited in the British Museum?

Very interested	13	10	16	20	18	10	13	13	17	14	15	9	14	12	14	10	10	12	12	22	13
Somewhat interested	40	38	44	53	44	38	37	42	46	38	42	39	43	36	40	41	35	38	41	41	41
TOTAL INTERESTED	53	48	60	73	62	48	50	55	63	52	57	48	57	48	54	51	45	50	53	63	54
Not very interested	23	30	20	18	23	27	24	22	15	23	23	27	23	24	23	22	29	23	23	19	23
Not at all interested	13	13	10	6	8	15	16	11	12	12	14	17	11	16	13	19	17	14	13	10	13
TOTAL NOT INTERESTED	36	43	30	24	31	42	40	33	27	35	37	44	34	40	36	41	46	37	36	29	36
Don't know	10	9	10	3	6	10	10	11	11	14	7	8	9	13	11	8	9	13	12	9	9

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

If the Elgin Marbles were to be returned to Greece, and replaced with other artefacts from Greece, would this make you more or less interested in visiting the British Museum, if at all?

Much more interested	3	2	4	4	3	2	3	3	9	2	3	3	4	2	3	2	3	4	2	8	2
Somewhat more interested	9	6	14	14	13	8	9	9	7	9	12	9	10	8	9	11	8	8	9	13	9
TOTAL MORE INTERESTED	12	8	18	18	16	10	12	12	16	11	15	12	14	10	12	13	11	12	11	21	11
It would not have an impact – I would be interested anyway	37	36	43	51	43	34	34	40	38	36	40	34	40	32	38	35	28	37	37	38	40
It would not have an impact – I wouldn't be interested anyway	32	38	28	19	28	37	35	29	22	33	28	39	30	35	30	35	45	32	30	25	32
TOTAL NO IMPACT	69	74	71	70	71	71	69	69	60	69	68	73	70	67	68	70	73	69	67	63	72
Somewhat less interested	2	4	1	1	2	4	4	1	4	1	4	2	2	3	2	3	3	1	3	3	3
Much less interested	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	1	2	4	2	1	2
TOTAL LESS INTERESTED	4	6	2	2	3	6	6	3	6	3	6	4	3	6	4	4	5	5	5	4	5
Don't know	14	13	9	9	11	13	13	15	18	16	11	11	12	17	14	14	12	16	18	11	12

*Any percentages calculated on bases fewer than 100 respondents do not represent a wide enough cross-section of the target population to be considered statistically reliable. These figures should not be used.