

## YouGov-Cambridge Survey Results

Office for Fair Access

Sample Size: 2657

Fieldwork: 2nd - 3rd August 2011

	Voting intention			2010 Vote			Gender		Age				Social Grade		Region					
	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Lid Dem	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland	
<b>Weighted Sample</b>	<b>2657</b>	745	905	216	812	714	559	1291	1366	321	678	909	749	1514	1143	340	864	569	654	231
<b>Unweighted Sample</b>	<b>2657</b>	755	847	209	818	682	561	1255	1402	202	695	1027	733	1683	974	443	859	508	607	240
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

### Have you heard of the Office for Fair Access?

Definitely	5	6	6	7	6	5	5	7	4	8	6	5	4	6	4	7	5	4	6	5
Possibly	17	17	19	22	17	19	18	17	17	16	17	17	17	17	16	14	18	17	18	15
No	78	77	75	71	77	75	76	76	79	76	77	78	79	76	80	79	77	79	76	80

### Do you know what the Office for Fair Access does?

Definitely	3	3	3	5	3	3	3	4	1	6	2	3	1	3	2	4	3	2	3	3
Possibly	12	13	13	20	13	13	15	14	10	15	12	11	13	13	11	11	13	13	12	10
No	85	83	85	75	85	84	82	82	88	79	86	86	86	84	87	85	84	85	85	87

The Office for Fair Access (OFFA) is an independent public body that was set up in to promote and monitor access to England's universities and colleges. By university access we mean how broad a section of the population goes to university of college.

### Are you aware that this body now exists?

Definitely	17	17	17	22	17	18	18	20	14	28	16	15	14	19	14	16	17	13	19	19
Possibly	25	25	26	30	26	25	28	24	27	33	25	22	26	27	23	25	26	28	23	20
No	58	58	56	48	57	56	54	56	59	39	59	63	60	54	64	59	56	59	58	61

### Are you aware of how the role of the Office for Fair Access has changed in the past year?

Definitely	2	2	2	3	1	2	3	2	1	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2
Possibly	9	7	10	14	7	11	9	9	8	15	9	8	6	9	8	7	9	9	9	8
No	90	91	88	84	91	87	88	89	90	82	88	91	93	88	91	91	90	89	89	90

### Do you think access to universities is:

Currently about right	17	22	16	17	20	15	16	19	15	21	19	14	17	19	14	17	15	15	20	22
Needs to be widened	33	20	44	35	22	43	37	33	32	34	38	33	26	30	36	31	32	34	34	30
Is too wide	24	35	16	29	32	16	23	25	22	25	16	23	30	27	19	24	26	22	22	22
Don't know	27	23	24	20	25	26	23	22	31	19	26	30	27	23	32	28	26	29	25	27

	Voting intention			2010 Vote			Gender		Age				Social Grade		Region						
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Lid Dem	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland	
<b>Weighted Sample</b>	<b>2657</b>	745	905	216	812	714	559	1291	1366	321	678	909	749	1514	1143	340	864	569	654	231	
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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

The following are statements people have made about the Office for Fair Access. In each case please say how far you agree or disagree.

The Office for Fair Access is an effective means of ensuring universities and colleges do more to widen access.

Strongly agree	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	2	2	4	2	1	1	2	2	3	1	2	3	3
Somewhat agree	18	17	20	19	16	22	18	16	20	24	19	16	17	19	16	17	16	20	20	18
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>21</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	30	31	30	29	32	30	27	29	31	27	31	29	31	29	31	26	31	29	32	29
Somewhat disagree	11	12	11	13	12	10	15	11	11	12	8	11	14	13	9	14	11	10	11	10
Strongly disagree	6	6	6	4	6	5	6	8	4	5	5	6	6	7	4	4	6	5	7	4
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>
Don't know	33	32	31	32	32	32	33	33	33	27	34	36	31	30	38	36	35	34	27	36

The Office For Fair Access will be unable to make universities and colleges change their access policies.

Strongly agree	6	5	7	3	5	7	5	7	5	6	6	5	7	6	5	8	5	6	8	2
Somewhat agree	24	24	26	27	24	25	28	24	24	21	24	25	25	26	21	26	21	26	24	26
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	27	30	25	23	29	26	22	26	27	24	28	26	26	25	28	22	29	25	28	26
Somewhat disagree	10	10	11	17	9	11	12	10	10	19	10	9	9	12	9	10	10	8	12	11
Strongly disagree	2	1	2	0	2	2	1	2	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	1
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>
Don't know	31	30	29	30	30	29	31	30	33	27	31	33	32	28	36	33	33	32	27	34

Universities and colleges already do enough to widen access.

Strongly agree	8	12	6	6	11	5	7	8	7	13	6	6	8	10	5	10	7	6	8	9
Somewhat agree	18	26	15	21	23	15	17	19	18	23	17	15	21	21	14	17	17	20	18	21
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	26	25	24	27	27	27	24	26	26	23	27	25	27	24	28	21	26	27	28	26
Somewhat disagree	18	12	24	20	13	22	22	17	19	21	19	19	15	17	19	18	19	17	19	14
Strongly disagree	7	4	11	6	4	11	7	9	6	2	8	9	7	8	7	9	6	7	8	10
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>
Don't know	23	20	20	19	21	20	23	22	24	17	24	25	22	20	27	26	25	24	19	20

	Voting intention			2010 Vote			Gender		Age				Social Grade		Region					
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Lid Dem	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland
<b>Weighted Sample</b>	<b>2657</b>	745	905	216	812	714	559	1291	1366	321	678	909	749	1514	1143	340	864	569	654	231
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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

The Office for Fair Access is a good start but it is important that the government does even more to widen access.

Strongly agree	10	6	16	9	7	15	9	10	10	9	12	10	10	10	10	12	9	10	11	12
Somewhat agree	26	19	30	31	21	32	28	24	27	31	30	23	23	27	23	25	25	27	26	24
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	22	24	21	17	24	21	20	21	22	19	22	23	21	20	24	20	21	22	23	23
Somewhat disagree	11	17	7	18	14	7	13	10	11	12	8	10	14	13	9	11	12	8	11	9
Strongly disagree	7	12	4	8	12	4	6	10	5	9	5	8	9	9	5	7	8	6	9	5
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>
Don't know	24	23	22	17	23	21	24	25	24	20	24	27	23	20	29	25	25	27	20	26

The following are statements people have made about the Office for Fair Access. In each case please say how far you agree or disagree.

Government involvement in university and college admissions will mean that they have less ability to take only the best students, which will make our universities and colleges worse.

Strongly agree	12	17	9	9	18	9	12	13	11	10	8	11	18	13	10	12	14	9	12	10
Somewhat agree	25	33	21	30	32	21	26	25	25	29	20	24	28	27	22	25	25	24	26	22
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>32</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	25	20	28	21	21	28	25	23	28	23	30	25	23	23	28	23	25	24	28	26
Somewhat disagree	14	12	16	20	11	17	14	14	13	17	14	14	12	15	12	15	13	15	12	13
Strongly disagree	5	3	7	7	3	8	6	7	4	6	7	5	4	6	4	7	4	5	5	8
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>
Don't know	19	14	18	12	16	18	17	18	20	15	21	21	16	16	23	19	18	22	17	22

Universities and Colleges should have their freedom preserved so they can concentrate on studies and academics.

Strongly agree	18	23	16	14	23	14	16	20	16	12	12	17	26	20	15	17	19	17	18	15
Somewhat agree	34	41	34	38	38	35	37	34	35	41	34	32	35	36	32	34	33	35	35	37
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>52</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	21	18	21	21	19	22	19	21	21	20	23	23	18	19	23	21	23	18	21	23
Somewhat disagree	9	6	10	14	6	10	11	8	10	7	10	10	7	9	8	10	9	7	9	8
Strongly disagree	2	1	3	3	1	2	2	2	1	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	2
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
Don't know	16	11	16	10	13	16	14	16	17	16	19	17	13	13	20	16	15	19	15	16

	Voting intention			2010 Vote			Gender		Age				Social Grade		Region						
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Lid Dem	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland	
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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Some students are disadvantaged by their background when applying for higher education and without government involvement we can't expect all universities and colleges to be able to deal with this.

Strongly agree	15	10	19	15	10	17	15	16	13	14	15	14	15	15	14	14	13	15	17	15
Somewhat agree	34	33	35	40	34	37	35	32	35	38	32	34	33	34	32	33	33	33	34	37
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	18	23	16	12	21	16	16	19	18	17	20	18	18	17	20	19	17	21	18	16
Somewhat disagree	12	17	10	16	16	10	15	11	13	12	10	13	13	14	10	12	15	10	11	11
Strongly disagree	5	6	4	7	6	5	5	6	4	5	4	5	7	6	4	5	6	4	6	3
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>
Don't know	16	11	15	10	13	15	14	16	17	14	19	16	14	14	19	17	15	18	15	19

The government has promised to take less of a role in managing things that don't need government control so it should not involve itself in university access.

Strongly agree	13	18	12	10	19	9	13	15	11	10	7	13	20	15	11	15	13	12	14	11
Somewhat agree	27	39	23	25	35	23	27	26	27	24	24	25	32	29	24	23	27	29	27	26
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	24	21	24	25	21	26	21	23	24	26	26	24	20	21	28	24	25	23	24	23
Somewhat disagree	12	8	13	20	9	13	15	11	13	11	15	12	10	14	9	13	10	11	14	14
Strongly disagree	4	2	7	5	2	8	5	6	3	6	4	4	4	6	3	4	4	4	4	5
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
Don't know	20	13	21	15	15	21	18	19	22	22	23	22	15	17	25	20	22	21	17	21

The current economic climate means English universities and colleges will struggle to keep up their standards.

Strongly agree	11	10	15	8	12	14	11	11	12	8	9	10	17	12	11	11	12	11	12	9
Somewhat agree	34	38	34	41	36	34	39	32	36	35	29	36	37	37	30	34	33	33	36	33
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>42</b>
Neither agree nor disagree	21	22	19	18	22	20	17	23	20	17	24	22	20	18	25	22	22	19	21	22
Somewhat disagree	12	15	13	15	13	14	12	13	11	17	15	9	11	14	10	11	12	11	13	14
Strongly disagree	3	3	4	5	3	3	4	5	2	5	4	4	2	4	3	4	4	4	2	4
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>
Don't know	18	12	16	13	14	15	17	17	19	17	21	19	14	15	21	18	17	21	15	19