

YouGov / Woodland Trust Survey Results

Sample Size: 2012 adults in GB
Fieldwork: 14th - 15th May 2023

	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	
Weighted Sample	2012	658	487	171	709	749	974	1038	211	831	497	473	1147	865	1736	101	175	485	334	243	674	
Unweighted Sample	2012	665	498	181	843	729	888	1124	188	776	491	557	1248	764	1715	113	184	477	334	231	673	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Which of the following words, if any, best describe how you would feel if a large tree in your local area was cut down for new developments?
Please select up to two.

Sad	50	48	58	59	57	47	46	53	44	50	52	49	52	47	51	40	46	49	52	49	52
Angry	40	45	44	44	46	45	37	44	27	36	48	46	42	39	41	41	34	39	40	37	45
Indifferent	12	12	8	10	9	13	14	10	12	14	9	10	12	12	12	9	13	14	10	12	12
Uninterested	8	8	8	7	5	9	11	6	11	10	8	5	8	9	8	13	5	9	8	11	7
Contemptuous	6	5	6	10	7	5	7	5	8	4	6	7	7	4	5	7	8	4	6	6	6
Grateful	2	1	3	3	1	1	2	1	6	2	0	1	2	1	2	4	0	1	2	4	1
Relieved	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	4	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	0	0	3	3	2
None of these	4	4	4	2	4	3	4	3	4	5	3	4	3	4	4	3	7	5	3	4	4
N/A - there are no large trees in my local area/not aware of there being any	9	8	6	4	6	8	8	10	16	9	7	8	8	10	9	8	12	9	10	8	8
TOTAL SAD OR ANGRY	68	71	75	76	75	70	63	72	55	64	74	73	70	65	69	63	61	67	70	65	70

Sample Size: 1212 adults in GB
Fieldwork: 14th - 15th May 2023

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

In the following question, by 'ancient trees', we refer to trees that have cultural, or conservational value due to their old age, size or condition. To what extent, if at all, would you support or oppose the following protections being introduced for ancient trees?

Granting some of the oldest, largest, and most wildlife-rich ancient trees legally protected heritage status

Strongly support	53	53	61	60	58	55	50	56	48	47	63	57	54	52	54	50	53	53	55	51	55
Tend to support	30	35	27	32	30	33	32	29	24	35	24	32	32	29	30	32	31	26	30	33	32
TOTAL SUPPORT	83	88	88	92	88	88	82	85	72	82	87	89	86	81	84	82	84	79	85	84	87
Tend to oppose	4	4	2	4	3	3	5	3	9	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	3	5	3
Strongly oppose	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	4	1	1	0	1
TOTAL OPPOSE	5	5	3	6	5	4	7	4	12	5	4	5	5	5	5	6	7	6	4	5	4
Don't know	11	7	9	3	7	9	10	12	16	14	9	6	8	14	11	12	8	15	10	12	9

Introducing policies to refuse new building developments that would mean removing ancient trees

Strongly support	43	45	45	44	45	48	40	47	34	40	48	48	43	44	43	41	46	42	45	41	44
Tend to support	33	33	35	43	37	31	36	31	36	33	32	32	37	28	33	33	30	31	35	32	35
TOTAL SUPPORT	76	78	80	87	82	79	76	78	70	73	80	80	80	72	76	74	76	73	80	73	79
Tend to oppose	7	8	6	4	7	8	6	6	7	7	6	9	8	7	7	6	9	8	6	9	7
Strongly oppose	3	4	3	4	3	3	5	2	7	3	3	4	3	5	3	3	4	3	2	5	4
TOTAL OPPOSE	10	12	9	8	10	11	13	8	14	10	9	13	11	12	10	9	13	11	8	14	11
Don't know	13	10	11	4	8	11	12	14	17	16	12	7	10	17	13	18	11	16	11	13	11

Introducing government funded land management schemes that aim to support the protection of ancient trees

Strongly support	43	41	50	47	48	42	40	44	39	39	49	44	43	41	43	41	39	44	42	41	44
Tend to support	37	41	34	44	38	39	38	36	35	39	34	38	40	34	36	37	46	34	39	36	37
TOTAL SUPPORT	80	82	84	91	86	81	78	80	74	78	83	82	83	75	79	78	85	78	81	77	81
Tend to oppose	4	6	3	2	3	5	5	3	6	3	3	7	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	6	5
Strongly oppose	2	3	1	3	1	2	4	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	4	1	2	2	2
TOTAL OPPOSE	6	9	4	5	4	7	9	4	8	5	5	9	7	7	6	6	8	4	6	8	7
Don't know	14	10	12	4	9	12	13	15	18	17	12	9	11	18	14	17	8	18	14	14	12

Allowing local councils to identify trees that have particular conservational or cultural value and use legal protections that mean permission is required from the council before a tree is removed

Strongly support	47	48	52	59	53	48	44	50	41	41	54	53	49	44	47	45	47	45	49	44	49
Tend to support	34	36	34	35	34	35	36	33	36	36	31	34	35	33	34	35	35	32	36	35	35
TOTAL SUPPORT	81	84	86	94	87	83	80	83	77	77	85	87	84	77	81	80	82	77	85	79	84
Tend to oppose	6	8	3	1	4	7	7	4	11	6	3	6	5	6	5	5	7	6	3	6	6
Strongly oppose	2	3	2	2	2	2	4	1	2	3	3	1	2	2	2	1	5	2	1	4	2
TOTAL OPPOSE	8	11	5	3	6	9	11	5	13	9	6	7	7	8	7	6	12	8	4	10	8
Don't know	11	5	9	2	7	8	9	12	11	14	8	6	7	15	11	15	6	14	11	12	8

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

How much responsibility, if any, do you think the following institutions should have for ensuring the protection of 'ancient trees'?

National government and government agencies (e.g. Natural England, Environment Agency)

A lot of responsibility	55	54	63	65	60	55	55	54	47	51	58	60	56	53	55	46	50	57	52	56	56
A fair amount of responsibility	30	34	27	26	29	32	28	32	28	31	29	32	31	29	29	36	37	27	32	27	31
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	85	88	90	91	89	87	83	86	75	82	87	92	87	82	84	82	87	84	84	83	87
Not very much responsibility	5	6	3	6	5	4	7	4	8	7	3	4	6	5	6	5	5	5	7	5	6
No responsibility	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	3	2	2
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	7	7	4	8	6	6	9	5	12	9	4	5	8	7	8	6	7	6	10	7	8
Don't know	8	5	6	1	4	7	8	8	13	9	8	3	5	12	8	11	6	11	7	10	6

Local councils

A lot of responsibility	53	55	55	63	57	55	52	54	40	49	57	60	54	51	54	47	48	55	53	52	53
A fair amount of responsibility	33	33	32	30	33	32	31	34	34	34	31	31	33	32	32	29	36	29	32	31	35
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	86	88	87	93	90	87	83	88	74	83	88	91	87	83	86	76	84	84	85	83	88
Not very much responsibility	6	6	6	4	5	6	7	4	8	6	5	4	6	6	5	14	6	6	5	6	4
No responsibility	2	2	3	1	2	2	4	1	6	2	1	2	3	1	2	1	4	1	3	4	2
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	8	8	9	5	7	8	11	5	14	8	6	6	9	7	7	15	10	7	8	10	6
Don't know	7	4	5	2	3	6	7	7	13	8	7	2	5	10	7	8	6	9	6	7	6

Land owners

A lot of responsibility	51	54	58	58	58	56	50	52	36	45	59	61	52	50	52	53	47	56	51	42	52
A fair amount of responsibility	33	34	32	34	33	32	34	33	35	37	29	32	34	33	33	34	38	32	34	36	32
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	84	88	90	92	91	88	84	85	71	82	88	93	86	83	85	87	85	88	85	78	84
Not very much responsibility	6	6	4	4	5	5	7	5	12	7	5	4	7	5	6	2	5	3	6	10	8
No responsibility	2	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	6	2	1	1	3	1	2	4	3	1	1	4	2
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	8	8	5	6	6	6	10	6	18	9	6	5	10	6	8	6	8	4	7	14	10
Don't know	7	5	5	2	3	7	7	8	12	10	6	2	5	10	7	8	7	8	8	9	6

Charities (e.g. Woodland Trust, National Trust, English Heritage)

A lot of responsibility	44	49	45	51	46	49	39	48	25	37	51	58	43	45	44	48	41	48	40	41	44
A fair amount of responsibility	39	39	41	42	42	37	41	38	46	42	36	33	41	37	39	39	39	34	44	38	41
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	83	88	86	93	88	86	80	86	71	79	87	91	84	82	83	87	80	82	84	79	85
Not very much responsibility	7	6	6	5	7	5	10	4	13	9	4	4	9	4	7	2	11	6	5	8	8
No responsibility	2	1	3	2	1	2	3	2	3	3	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	4	2
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	9	7	9	7	8	7	13	6	16	12	5	5	11	6	9	3	13	8	7	12	10
Don't know	8	5	6	1	4	7	7	8	12	9	8	3	5	11	8	10	7	9	8	10	6

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

Individuals

A lot of responsibility	20	25	21	21	21	25	23	18	12	14	28	27	20	21	21	21	11	21	21	23	20
A fair amount of responsibility	39	40	41	48	43	38	37	41	30	39	42	40	40	38	38	46	43	40	37	35	39
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	59	65	62	69	64	63	60	59	42	53	70	67	60	59	59	67	54	61	58	58	59
Not very much responsibility	24	23	27	20	25	23	25	24	36	27	18	22	27	20	24	17	28	20	28	23	26
No responsibility	6	6	4	7	5	5	7	5	8	7	3	5	6	5	6	5	7	5	3	8	6
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	30	29	31	27	30	28	32	29	44	34	21	27	33	25	30	22	35	25	31	31	32
Don't know	11	6	8	3	6	9	9	12	14	13	9	7	7	16	11	11	11	13	11	12	8

In the following question, by 'ancient woodlands', we refer to woodlands for which there is evidence they have existed for many centuries and which have developed irreplaceable, complex ecosystems. Generally speaking, to what extent do you think it is acceptable or unacceptable to build new road infrastructure that involves the damage or destruction of ancient woodland?

Always acceptable	3	3	2	5	3	3	5	2	8	2	4	3	3	4	3	0	2	4	2	4	4
Usually acceptable, with some exemptions	10	11	11	8	9	11	12	8	14	11	7	10	11	8	10	12	11	10	9	11	9
TOTAL USUALLY / ALWAYS ACCEPTABLE	13	14	13	13	12	14	17	10	22	13	11	13	14	12	13	12	13	14	11	15	13
Usually unacceptable, with some exemptions	47	47	48	56	50	42	48	45	49	47	46	46	51	41	46	51	51	42	45	44	50
Always unacceptable	34	34	37	29	34	40	29	38	19	32	38	39	31	38	34	33	31	35	38	31	32
TOTAL USUALLY / ALWAYS UNACCEPTABLE	81	81	85	85	84	82	77	83	68	79	84	85	82	79	80	84	82	77	83	75	82
Don't know	7	4	3	2	4	5	6	8	10	9	6	2	5	9	7	4	5	9	7	10	5

How much responsibility, if any, do you think each of the following should have for reducing carbon emissions associated with road vehicles?

National government

A lot of responsibility	58	51	72	71	70	51	57	59	54	59	58	59	62	52	57	66	61	52	55	60	61
A fair amount of responsibility	27	32	21	21	23	31	25	29	23	25	27	31	26	28	27	17	29	29	30	23	26
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	85	83	93	92	93	82	82	88	77	84	85	90	88	80	84	83	90	81	85	83	87
Not very much responsibility	4	7	2	3	2	6	6	3	7	4	4	4	5	4	5	3	2	4	4	9	4
No responsibility	3	5	1	1	2	5	5	2	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	5	1	4
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	7	12	3	4	4	11	11	5	11	7	8	7	8	7	8	6	6	7	9	10	8
Don't know	7	4	3	3	3	7	7	8	13	9	7	3	4	13	8	12	4	11	6	8	5

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Unweighted Sample	2012	665	498	181	843	729	888	1124	188	776	491	557	1248	764	1715	113	184	477	334	231	673
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Government Agencies e.g. National Highways																					
A lot of responsibility	48	42	56	62	57	44	46	49	39	47	50	51	53	41	48	51	47	46	47	47	49
A fair amount of responsibility	33	37	33	28	31	34	32	35	36	33	31	36	32	35	34	25	37	33	37	30	33
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	81	79	89	90	88	78	78	84	75	80	81	87	85	76	82	76	84	79	84	77	82
Not very much responsibility	7	10	5	5	5	9	9	5	11	7	6	5	7	6	7	6	6	6	4	9	9
No responsibility	4	6	1	3	3	5	6	2	1	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	6	3	2
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	11	16	6	8	8	14	15	7	12	11	11	9	11	10	11	10	11	10	10	12	11
Don't know	8	5	5	2	4	8	7	9	12	9	8	4	5	13	8	13	6	11	7	11	6
Contractors who build roads																					
A lot of responsibility	33	32	38	38	39	31	31	35	24	31	36	36	36	29	34	32	28	32	38	36	32
A fair amount of responsibility	33	34	35	32	32	32	33	31	31	32	35	33	32	32	32	31	36	33	32	32	32
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	66	66	73	70	71	63	63	68	55	62	68	71	69	61	66	63	64	65	70	68	64
Not very much responsibility	17	19	15	20	18	17	19	15	19	19	13	16	17	16	17	13	19	18	15	12	19
No responsibility	8	10	5	6	6	10	10	6	11	7	8	8	8	7	8	11	7	5	7	8	9
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	25	29	20	26	24	27	29	21	30	26	21	24	25	23	25	24	26	23	22	20	28
Don't know	10	6	7	4	5	9	8	11	14	11	10	5	5	16	10	13	10	13	8	11	7
Local councils																					
A lot of responsibility	35	31	39	38	40	33	32	37	26	35	35	37	37	32	35	33	28	33	39	38	34
A fair amount of responsibility	41	40	47	43	45	38	39	44	45	41	40	42	44	39	40	43	51	43	35	37	42
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	76	71	86	81	85	71	81	81	71	76	75	79	81	71	75	76	79	76	74	75	76
Not very much responsibility	11	14	8	16	9	13	15	8	14	11	11	11	11	12	12	9	8	9	12	14	13
No responsibility	5	9	1	1	3	8	8	2	3	3	7	6	5	5	5	6	6	4	6	3	5
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	16	23	9	17	12	21	23	10	17	14	18	17	16	17	17	15	14	13	18	17	18
Don't know	8	5	5	2	4	7	7	9	12	9	7	4	4	13	8	9	7	12	7	8	5
Road users																					
A lot of responsibility	27	26	30	37	34	26	26	28	18	23	30	34	28	25	28	19	23	28	29	25	28
A fair amount of responsibility	44	47	46	40	46	43	41	46	36	45	43	45	45	41	43	52	48	40	42	47	44
TOTAL A LOT / FAIR AMOUNT	71	73	76	77	80	69	67	74	54	68	73	79	73	66	71	71	71	68	71	72	72
Not very much responsibility	16	16	17	17	13	17	19	14	25	17	14	12	17	15	16	13	16	15	17	15	18
No responsibility	6	7	3	2	4	7	8	4	6	6	6	5	6	6	6	6	7	6	6	4	6
TOTAL NOT VERY MUCH / NONE AT ALL	22	23	20	19	17	24	27	18	31	23	20	17	23	21	22	19	23	21	23	19	24
Don't know	8	5	4	3	3	7	7	8	15	8	8	3	4	13	8	10	7	11	7	10	5

*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.