

YouGov / Daily Telegraph Survey Results

The European and local elections

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Sample Size: 1928

Fieldwork: 20 - 21 May 2004

%

As you may know, elections for the European Parliament are being held in the UK on June 10 along with local elections in many parts of Britain.

Please think of a scale that runs from 0 to 10, where 0 means very unlikely and 10 means very likely. How likely is it that you will vote in these elections?

0	10
1	3
2	4
3	4
4	3
5	11
6	4
7	6
8	8
9	8
10	39

If you vote in the European elections, which party do you think you will vote for?

Conservative	28
Labour	27
Liberal Democrat	18
United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP)	14
Green	6
British National Party (BNP)	3
Scottish National Party / Plaid Cymru	2
Scottish Socialist	1
Respect	0
Other	1
Don't know	11
Won't vote	9

How interested are you in the elections for the European Parliament?

Very interested	13
Somewhat interested	38
Not very interested	32
Not at all interested	16
Don't know	1

How much do you feel you know about the powers and responsibilities of the European Parliament?

A great deal	3
A fair amount	24
Not very much	56
Nothing at all	15
Don't know	2

From what you know, how much power and influence do you think the European Parliament has within the European Union?

A great deal	18
A fair amount	44
Not very much	22
None at all	2
Don't know	14

If you vote in the European elections, will you be voting mainly to influence the composition of the European Parliament or mainly to express your views about the political scene here in Britain?

Mainly to influence composition of European Parliament	28
Mainly to express my views on the political scene in Britain	50
Don't know	10
Won't vote	11

Do you happen to know the name of the current President of the European Commission in Brussels? Is it ...?

Romano Prodi	23
Silvio Berlusconi	5
Jacques Chirac	3
Jacques Santer	3
Jacques Delors	2
Neil Kinnock	2
Gerhard Schroder	2
Bettino Craxi	1
Chris Patten	1
Willy Brandt	0
Don't know	58

As you probably know, different electoral systems are now used for different elections in the UK. In the elections to the European Parliament, will people be voting for their local Member of the European Parliament or will they be voting for a regional party list?

For local MEP	29
For regional party list	31
Don't know	40

If you do vote in the European elections and the local elections being held in some parts of the UK on the same day, do you expect to vote by post or in person at a polling station?

By post	30
In person at a polling station	55
Will not vote	11
Don't know	4

As you probably know, the 25 member states of the European Union are currently negotiating a new constitution for the EU and Tony Blair has promised to hold a referendum on the issue. If a referendum were held now, how would you vote, in favour or against a new EU constitution?

Would vote in favour	21
Would vote against	47
Would not vote	6
Don't know	26

In the negotiations on a new constitution, the British government has insisted there are a number of 'red lines' – policy fields Do you believe that in connection with issues relating to DEFENCE Britain should, or should not, be prepared to give up its national veto in the interests of further European integration?

Yes, should	12
No, should not	73
Don't know	16

Do you believe that in connection with issues relating to SOCIAL SECURITY Britain should, or should not, be prepared to give up its national veto in the interests of further European integration?

Yes, should	14
No, should not	69
Don't know	17

Do you believe that in connection with issues relating to TAXATION Britain should, or should not, be prepared to give up its national veto in the interests of further European integration?

Yes, should	14
No, should not	68
Don't know	17

Do you believe that in connection with issues relating to the COURTS and CRIMINAL JUSTICE Britain should, or should not, be prepared to give up its national veto in the interests of further European integration?

Yes, should	16
No, should not	67
Don't know	17

Do you believe that in connection with issues relating to FOREIGN POLICY Britain should, or should not, be prepared to give up its national veto in the interests of further European integration?

Yes, should	16
No, should not	65
Don't know	19

The proposed Constitution also contains a CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS. Where it conflicts with British law, which do you think British courts should enforce – British law, or the Charter?

British law	46
The Charter of Fundamental Rights	33
Don't know	21

Turning to local government, there will also be local elections on June 10th in much, but not all, of Britain. If there were local elections in your area, how would you vote?

Conservative	32
Labour	30
Liberal Democrat	22
Other	16

Turning to local government, there will also be local elections on June 10th in much, but not all, of Britain. If there were local elections in your area, how would you vote?

Conservative	32
Labour	30
Liberal Democrat	22
United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP)	5
British National Party (BNP)	4
Green	3
Scottish National Party / Plaid Cymru	3
Respect	0
Scottish Socialist	0
Other	2
Don't know	8
Won't vote	7

How much do you feel you know about the powers and responsibilities of your local council as distinct from those of other authorities, including the UK Government in London?

A great deal	9
A fair amount	45
Not very much	38
Nothing at all	5
Don't know	3

From what you know, how much power and responsibility do you think local councils have?

A great deal	8
A fair amount	52
Not very much	35
None at all	1
Don't know	4

If you vote in the local elections on June 10, will you be voting mainly to influence the way your local council is run or mainly to express your views about the national political scene?

Mainly to influence local scene	54
Mainly to express views on national scene	29
Don't know	8
Won't vote even if there are local elections in my area	6
Won't vote because there are no elections in my area	3

If you do vote in the local elections, which of the following two issues will be most important in deciding how you vote?

The large rise in council tax in your area this year	50
The low quality of local services	31
The failures of Mr Blair's government	30
The good record of my local councillor	19
The high quality of local services	17
The poor record of my local councillor	10
The successes of Mr Blair's government	7
The relatively small rise in council tax in your area this year	5
Don't know	9

If there were a UK general election tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

Conservative	36
Labour	33
Liberal Democrat	19
United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP)	4
British National Party (BNP)	3
Green	2
Scottish National Party / Plaid Cymru	2
Respect	0
Scottish Socialist	0
Other	1
Don't know	10
Won't vote	4