

YouGov / Channel 4 News Survey Results

Sample Size: 2005 electors in in 60 seats where Labour's majority (on the new boundaries) was 6-14% over the Conservatives.

Fieldwork: 30th January - 3rd February 2009

For full details, [click here](#)

%

Headline Voting Intention

[Excluding Don't Knows and Woudn't Vote]

| | |
|---------|----|
| Con | 43 |
| Lab | 36 |
| Lib Dem | 13 |
| Other | 8 |

Non Voters

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Would Not Vote | 8 |
| Don't know | 15 |

How would you rate Gordon Brown's overall performance as Prime Minister?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Excellent | 2 |
| Good | 14 |
| Fair | 30 |
| TOTAL EXCELLENT / GOOD / FAIR | 46 |
| Poor | 19 |
| Bad | 8 |
| Dreadful | 22 |
| TOTAL POOR / BAD / DREADFUL | 49 |
| Not sure | 5 |

How would you rate David Cameron's overall performance as leader of the Conservative Party?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Excellent | 3 |
| Good | 22 |
| Fair | 35 |
| TOTAL EXCELLENT / GOOD / FAIR | 60 |
| Poor | 16 |
| Bad | 6 |
| Dreadful | 7 |
| TOTAL POOR / BAD / DREADFUL | 29 |
| Not sure | 11 |

Do you think David Cameron is...

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| A heavyweight politician | 20 |
| A lightweight politician | 57 |
| Don't know | 23 |

Which one of these do you blame most for Britain's current economic problems?

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| General international conditions in the food and energy markets | 7 |
| Banks in America and elsewhere lending irresponsibly | 63 |
| The British government's policies on tax and spending | 22 |
| Don't know | 8 |

Right now IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS, putting aside your party preference, which of these do you feel would make the better Prime Minister?

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Gordon Brown | 34 |
| David Cameron | 28 |
| Neither | 26 |
| Don't know | 12 |

And after the next general election, putting aside your party preference, who do you feel would make the better Prime Minister?

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Gordon Brown | 27 |
| David Cameron | 34 |
| Neither | 26 |
| Don't know | 13 |

Which of the following statements come closest to your opinion?

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| The current crisis proves Gordon Brown was wrong to talk about 'an end to boom and bust' | 43 |
| The present crisis is so extraordinary, and affects so many countries, that Gordon Brown can't be blamed for a return to 'boom and bust' | 45 |
| Don't know | 12 |

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

'Gordon Brown is refusing to acknowledge the full depth of the economic crisis'

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Strongly agree | 23 |
| Tend to agree | 35 |
| TOTAL AGREE | 58 |
| Tend to disagree | 25 |
| Strongly disagree | 8 |
| TOTAL DISAGREE | 33 |
| Don't know | 9 |

'David Cameron is talking the economy down for political purposes and risks making things worse by damaging confidence'

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Strongly agree | 17 |
| Tend to agree | 36 |
| TOTAL AGREE | 53 |
| Tend to disagree | 21 |
| Strongly disagree | 9 |
| TOTAL DISAGREE | 30 |
| Don't know | 17 |

'In the 1980s, when unemployment climbed to three million, the Tories did little or nothing to help the victims of recession'

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Strongly agree | 32 |
| Tend to agree | 28 |
| TOTAL AGREE | 60 |
| Tend to disagree | 13 |
| Strongly disagree | 3 |
| TOTAL DISAGREE | 17 |
| Don't know | 24 |

'A Conservative government led by David Cameron, would do far more to help the victims of recession than Margaret Thatcher's government did in the Eighties'

[Put to those who agreed with the previous statement, BASE, n=1190]

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Strongly agree | 6 |
| Tend to agree | 36 |
| TOTAL AGREE | 42 |
| Tend to disagree | 26 |
| Strongly disagree | 17 |
| TOTAL DISAGREE | 43 |
| Don't know | 15 |

Which of these comes closest to your opinion?

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| The government's predictions are about right and the British economy will probably turn round and start coming out of recession before the end of this year | 14 |
| The government's predictions are wrong and the British economy will probably not come out of recession until 2010 | 41 |
| The economy is heading for a longer, deeper recession and will last beyond 2010 before it starts to turn round | 32 |
| Don't know | 14 |

The government has announced a number of measures to reduce the impact of the economic downturn and save some jobs. These include a temporary cut VAT and loan guarantees to business and banks.

Do you think these measures will make a difference or not?

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Yes, they will make a big difference | 2 |
| Yes, they will make a small difference and are worth the money | 23 |
| Yes, they will make a small difference, but not enough to justify the money spent on them | 35 |
| No they will make little or no difference | 29 |
| Don't know | 11 |

Over the next 12 months do you expect the value of your home to rise fall or stay about the same?

[Excluding those who don't live in an owner-occupied house, BASE, n=1645]

| | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Rise | 1 |
| Stay about the same | 15 |
| Fall slightly - less than 10% | 48 |
| Fall a lot - more than 10% | 31 |
| Don't know | 5 |

Which if any of the following applies to you? [Please tick all that apply]

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| I have lost my job as a result of the recession | 3 |
| One or more members of my family have lost their job as a result of the recession | 11 |
| One or more of my work-colleagues have lost their job as a result of the recession | 9 |
| One or more other close friends have lost their job as a result of the recession | 20 |
| None of these applies | 62 |
| Not sure | 3 |

How worried are you that you personally will lose your job because of the recession?

[Excluding those who don't currently work, BASE, n=1314]

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| I am seriously worried | 8 |
| I am fairly worried | 23 |
| TOTAL WORRIED | 31 |
| I am not very worried | 35 |
| I am not at all worried | 29 |
| TOTAL NOT WORRIED | 64 |
| Not sure | 5 |

And how worried are you that you will lose your home because of the recession?

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| I am seriously worried | 3 |
| I am fairly worried | 9 |
| TOTAL WORRIED | 12 |
| I am not very worried | 21 |
| I am not at all worried | 37 |
| TOTAL NOT WORRIED | 59 |
| Not applicable | 27 |
| Not sure | 3 |

There have been major government initiatives since October 2008 trying to support the banks, improve bank lending, support companies needing loans, and so on.

Which of the following statements best represents your view of these initiatives?

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Government ministers have responded well to the crisis and there is no real alternative to the strategy they have adopted | 12 |
| The Government's measures are steps in the right direction, but they could have acted faster and more effectively | 32 |
| The Government is trying to take the right steps to tackle the crisis, but their strategy is wrong and likely to end up doing more harm than good | 18 |
| Government ministers are behaving like headless chickens, and taking panic measures without any clear strategy for tackling the crisis | 26 |
| Don't know | 13 |

The government has increased public borrowing so that it can spend money now on the economy to reduce the impact of recession. It is generally agreed that borrowing will have to fall when the economy recovers.

Which of these statements comes closest to your view?

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| As the economy grows, government borrowing will tend to fall naturally; there will be no need for cuts in public spending and/or further increases in taxes in future years to bring borrowing down to affordable levels | 9 |
| As the economy grows, government borrowing will tend to fall to some extent, but some cuts in public spending and/or further increases in taxes will be needed in future years to bring borrowing down to affordable levels | 32 |
| Government borrowing won't fall fast enough: big cuts in public spending and/or further big increases in taxes will be needed in future years to bring borrowing down to affordable levels | 40 |
| Don't know | 19 |

If the Conservatives won the next general election, who would make the better Chancellor of the Exchequer?

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| George Osborne, the current shadow Chancellor | 15 |
| Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor in the Nineties and current shadow Business secretary | 39 |
| Don't know | 46 |