

YouGov / Daily Telegraph Survey Results

YouGov questioned 1303 adults aged 18+ throughout Britain online between 16th - 17th March 2005. The results have been weighted to the profile of all adults.

For further information about YouGov's methodology, [click here](#)

	Party ID			Gender		Age			Region					Social Grade		
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Male	Female	18 to 34	35 to 54	55 +	Ldn	Rest of South	Mids / Wales	North	Scot	ABC1	C2DE
Weighted N	1317	308	429	132	633	684	376	476	466	165	375	336	323	118	710	607
Unweighted N	1303	263	443	143	651	652	348	534	421	221	272	314	340	156	731	572
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Who do you think is doing a better job?

Tony Blair as Prime Minister	17	7	33	9	18	16	20	18	13	13	17	17	19	14	16	19
Gordon Brown as Chancellor	52	57	54	62	55	50	43	49	63	53	51	53	49	66	56	48
Don't know	31	36	12	29	27	34	37	33	24	34	32	30	32	20	28	33

Which of the two would you prefer to see as Prime Minister?

Tony Blair	30	17	50	26	32	28	34	30	26	27	30	29	34	24	29	31
Gordon Brown	40	45	40	48	40	40	31	42	45	41	38	41	35	57	41	39
Don't know	30	38	11	26	28	32	35	28	28	32	32	30	31	19	30	30

Do you think that Tony Blair is an asset or a liability to the Labour Party?

He is an asset	34	16	60	28	38	31	41	35	29	32	34	31	40	33	33	36
He is a liability	48	78	27	52	48	47	34	48	59	51	48	48	43	52	51	43
Don't know	18	6	13	20	14	22	25	18	12	17	19	21	16	15	16	21

Do you think that Gordon Brown is an asset or a liability to the Labour Party?

He is an asset	63	52	80	68	66	59	59	59	69	62	61	60	62	80	66	59
He is a liability	16	32	7	16	18	15	12	18	18	16	15	18	18	8	16	16
Don't know	21	16	13	16	16	26	29	23	13	22	24	22	20	13	18	25

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

Do you think that Gordon Brown is doing a good job or a bad job as Chancellor of the Exchequer?

Good job	61	41	86	68	64	58	57	62	64	57	57	59	64	80	61	62
Bad job	19	40	5	17	21	17	15	18	22	17	20	22	18	9	21	16
Don't know	20	19	9	15	15	25	28	20	13	25	23	19	18	11	18	22

Do you think this week's Budget is a fair one or not?

Yes, is fair	44	24	70	46	45	43	44	38	51	38	41	43	45	62	45	43
No, is not	29	56	11	26	31	27	23	30	32	29	26	34	29	21	31	26
Don't know	27	20	19	28	24	30	33	32	17	33	34	23	26	16	24	31

Thinking first of the country as a whole, do you think the Budget will leave the country:

A lot better off	1	0	4	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	3	1	2	1
A little better off	25	9	46	20	26	24	27	21	28	21	23	25	25	39	23	27
A little worse off	16	28	8	18	19	14	16	18	15	16	16	19	14	11	17	16
A lot worse off	7	15	1	4	7	7	6	7	8	8	7	5	9	6	7	7
Not make much difference	38	41	31	47	37	40	32	41	41	39	40	39	35	37	40	36
Don't know	12	7	9	10	9	14	18	12	6	14	13	10	13	6	10	13

Thinking now of you and your family, do you think the Budget will leave you and your family:

A lot better off	1	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	1
A little better off	18	14	30	14	17	19	15	12	27	13	17	19	21	22	20	16
A little worse off	22	30	16	23	26	19	19	25	21	18	25	23	21	19	23	21
A lot worse off	7	12	3	4	8	6	5	9	7	8	6	6	10	4	6	8
Not make much difference	41	39	39	51	39	42	41	41	41	46	38	43	35	46	41	40
Don't know	11	5	9	8	9	13	19	12	3	14	14	8	10	9	9	13

Weighted N
Unweighted N

Total	Party ID			Gender		Age			Region					Social Grade	
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%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Some people are saying that there is now, or soon will be, a 'black hole' in the public finances, so that the Chancellor will soon have drastically to cut spending, raise taxes or increase borrowing. From what you know, do you think there is, or soon will be, such a black hole or not?

Yes, there is or soon will be	44	80	22	42	48	40	38	43	50	43	50	46	40	33	49	38
No, there is not	18	4	36	16	20	16	17	18	20	15	17	17	19	25	17	20
Don't know	38	16	42	42	32	43	46	39	30	42	34	37	41	42	35	42

The Chancellor says the British economy is now reasonably strong and the public finances under control. As a result he seems confident that the Government will be able to go on increasing spending on public services over the next few years without having greatly to increase either taxes or government borrowing. From what you know, do you think the Chancellor is right, or wrong, to be as confident as he is?

His confidence is probably well placed	37	10	69	36	39	34	34	35	40	32	33	34	39	55	33	41
His confidence is probably not well placed	45	81	20	45	47	43	40	42	52	46	48	50	42	31	51	38
Don't know	18	9	11	20	14	23	26	22	8	22	19	16	19	14	17	21

The Chancellor often says that one of his main aims is to bring stability to the British economy and to break out of the old cycle of 'boom and bust' and 'stop and go'. Do you think that he has, or has not, been broadly successful in achieving this aim?

Yes, he has broadly succeeded	56	45	79	65	64	48	45	54	67	55	55	54	55	70	58	53
No, he has not	21	36	9	17	20	21	21	21	20	24	17	24	23	13	21	21
Don't know	23	20	12	18	15	30	34	24	13	22	28	22	23	17	20	26

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

Weighted N

Unweighted N

How do you think the financial situation of your household will change over the next 12 months?

Get a lot better	3	3	4	4	4	2	8	1	1	3	3	2	4	2	2	4
Get a little better	22	10	34	24	23	21	29	18	21	20	21	22	22	30	24	20
Stay the same	34	28	35	31	33	34	32	37	32	35	33	36	30	37	29	39
Get a little worse	32	47	21	34	30	33	21	33	39	29	36	30	32	24	36	27
Get a lot worse	7	11	3	6	7	6	6	8	6	9	5	7	9	4	6	8
Don't know	3	1	1	1	2	3	4	3	1	4	2	2	3	3	2	3

The Chancellor said in his speech that the country faced a choice between tax cuts and continuing rises in investment and public services. Which would you personally prefer...?

Tax cuts	41	65	25	32	41	42	46	42	36	44	43	43	39	29	44	38
Rise in investment in public services	49	28	69	58	52	46	42	46	57	48	48	45	50	62	48	49
Don't know	10	6	7	9	8	13	12	12	7	8	9	12	12	9	8	13

There will probably be a general election sometime within the next few months and some people are saying that the Chancellor is not putting up taxes now in order to pay for his spending plans but that he will put up taxes as soon as the election is over if Labour wins. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own view?

The Chancellor genuinely believes he can fund his spending plans without major increases in taxes	24	5	50	20	26	21	20	22	28	22	18	21	28	39	22	26
The Chancellor knows taxes will have to go up in order to fund his spending plans but is putting off any increases till after the election is over	63	91	39	70	64	62	60	66	63	65	69	64	60	49	67	59
Don't know	13	4	11	10	9	17	19	12	9	13	14	14	12	12	11	16

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Here are some measures that the Chancellor announced in his Budget. In each case, he could have spent the money differently – or used the money to reduce taxes. Bearing this in mind, do you approve or disapprove of each of the following measures?

Increase the council tax refund given to pensioner households from £50 a year to £200 a year

Approve	79	76	85	78	78	80	71	79	85	81	76	78	82	78	77	80
Disapprove	14	18	10	16	16	12	18	15	10	12	16	15	13	14	17	11
Don't know	7	6	5	7	6	8	11	6	5	6	8	7	5	8	6	9

Increase child tax credit payments to families on average and below average earnings

Approve	66	47	78	74	61	71	63	68	66	67	67	62	66	72	62	71
Disapprove	26	43	17	21	31	20	26	25	26	25	26	28	26	19	31	20
Don't know	8	10	6	5	8	9	11	7	8	9	7	10	8	9	8	9

Spend more on nurseries and rebuilding and refurbishing primary schools

Approve	80	72	88	83	78	82	82	79	79	80	78	82	79	87	79	81
Disapprove	12	19	7	9	14	11	9	15	13	13	15	12	11	6	14	10
Don't know	8	9	5	8	7	8	10	6	8	7	7	5	10	7	7	8

Double the threshold for stamp duty on buying a home, so that no stamp duty is payable on any home costing up to £120,000

Approve	78	83	80	79	76	79	74	74	85	76	80	81	76	75	81	74
Disapprove	12	11	10	14	15	10	13	16	8	12	12	10	14	11	11	14
Don't know	10	6	10	7	8	11	13	10	8	12	8	9	10	14	8	12

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

Weighted N
Unweighted N

Leave the duty on petrol unchanged, instead of increasing it in line with inflation

Approve	78	86	80	67	78	78	69	81	82	67	78	84	77	82	75	81
Disapprove	16	10	16	28	17	14	21	14	14	24	16	12	16	12	20	11
Don't know	6	4	4	6	5	8	10	5	4	9	7	4	7	6	5	8

Give all pensioners free off-peak travel on local buses

Approve	82	76	90	84	82	81	73	86	84	85	80	81	82	85	82	82
Disapprove	11	16	6	10	11	11	15	10	10	9	13	9	12	12	12	11
Don't know	7	8	3	6	7	7	12	4	6	6	7	10	5	4	7	8

The Chancellor announced that income tax allowances will rise in line with inflation, but not by any more. Do you think he should have increased tax allowances by more, and reduced government spending; or should he have left tax allowances unchanged, and spent more on public services, or did he get the balance about right?

Should have increased tax allowances more and reduced government spending	30	56	16	27	34	26	21	30	37	28	32	31	28	26	36	23
Should not have increased tax allowances and instead spent more on public services	18	17	17	24	18	18	19	16	19	18	16	19	19	19	17	18
Got balance about right	36	17	57	39	36	37	33	38	38	35	39	33	37	38	35	38
Don't know	16	10	11	10	12	19	27	16	6	19	12	17	17	17	12	20

Overall, the Budget has been criticised as a 'vote now, pay later' electioneering Budget. Do you think this is a fair or an unfair criticism of the Budget?

Fair criticism	56	89	32	58	60	52	50	59	58	57	59	58	54	48	61	51
Unfair criticism	25	5	51	17	26	24	21	23	29	24	19	24	28	36	23	27
Don't know	19	6	17	26	14	24	28	18	13	19	21	18	18	17	16	23

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

Weighted N

Unweighted N

Taking everything into account, do you think the Chancellor's Budget will help Labour win more support at the coming election than it would have done otherwise, cause Labour to lose support, or not make much difference either way?

Help Labour win more support	35	26	49	31	40	31	36	34	36	33	35	32	38	39	33	37
Cause Labour to lose support	6	10	4	5	7	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	7
Not make much difference	51	60	41	60	48	54	45	52	55	49	53	53	48	50	56	45
Don't know	8	4	6	4	6	11	15	8	3	12	6	8	9	6	6	11

YouGov Weighting Data

In addition to weighting by age, gender, social class and region (weighted and unweighted figures shown in the tables), YouGov also weighted its raw data by newspaper readership and past vote:

Recalled vote in 2001:	Unweighted no.	Weighted no.
Labour	564	550
Conservative	214	277
Liberal Democrat	149	132
Scottish / Welsh Nationalist	30	20
Other	32	7
Did not vote	314	332

Newspaper readership:	Unweighted no.	Weighted no.
Express / Mail	206	211
Sun / Star	240	289
Mirror / Record	213	209
Guardian/ Independent	90	54
Financial Times / Times / Telegraph	104	125
Other paper	141	165
No paper	309	264

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