

YouGov Survey Results The Conservative Party

Prepared for Daily Telegraph

Sample Size: 2074

Fieldwork: 1st - 3rd October 2002

	%
If there were a general election tomorrow which party would you vote for?	
Conservative	31
Labour	40
Liberal Democrat	22
Other	7

Which of the following statements comes closer to your own view? a) The Conservatives are ready for power and look like a 'Government in waiting' or The Conservatives are not yet ready for power and need more time to prepare themselves

Are ready for power	10
Need more time	86
Don't know	5

Suppose a Conservative Government were formed under Iain Duncan Smith. Which of these statements comes closest to your own view?

I would be delighted	13
I would be dismayed	51
I wouldn't mind	29
Don't know	7

Do you believe the Conservatives have changed fundamentally since they were led by Margaret Thatcher and John Major, or do you believe they are still much the same party as they were then?

Have changed fundamentally	32
Are still much the same party	63
Don't know	5

Iain Duncan Smith and the Conservatives are saying at the moment that they want to champion the interests of the vulnerable. Do you believe the Conservatives at the moment are or are not championing the interests of the vulnerable?

They are	15
They are not	70
Don't know	15

Here are some reasons people give for not wanting to vote for the Conservatives at the moment. Could you indicate for each of them whether you agree or disagree with the statement? a) The Conservatives are not really interested in public services like the health service and education

Agree	48
Disagree	44
Don't know	8

b) The Conservatives go on too much about Europe

Agree	55
Disagree	38
Don't know	7

c) If the Conservatives were elected, there is a risk prices would go up and people would lose their jobs

Agree	44
Disagree	40
Don't know	17

d) Its hard to know just what the Conservative Party stands for at the moment

Agree	81
Disagree	16
Don't know	4

e) The Conservatives give the impression of being out of touch with modern Britain

Agree	70
Disagree	24
Don't know	7

f) The Conservatives do not have a team of strong leaders

Agree	83
Disagree	12
Don't know	6

g) The Conservatives did not do a good job of governing the country when John Major was in power

Agree	63
Disagree	30
Don't know	7

People often see political parties as being close to, or not close to various sections of society. Thinking of the Conservative Party, could you please indicate how close you see Conservatives as being to each of these kinds of people

a) Women

Very close	3
Fairly close	28
Not very close	42
Not close at all	21
Don't know	6

b) The Rich

Very close	61
Fairly close	34
Not very close	3
Not close at all	0
Don't know	2

c) Gay people

Very close	2
Fairly close	14
Not very close	41
Not close at all	33
Don't know	10

d) Working-class people

Very close	2
Fairly close	19
Not very close	39
Not close at all	38
Don't know	2

e) The poor

Very close	2
Fairly close	13
Not very close	31
Not close at all	52
Don't know	3

f) People who live in the country

Very close	32
Fairly close	48
Not very close	13
Not close at all	4
Don't know	3

g) Middle-class people

Very close	22
Fairly close	62
Not very close	13
Not close at all	1
Don't know	2

h) Members of trade unions

Very close	1
Fairly close	8
Not very close	37
Not close at all	51
Don't know	4

i) City-dwellers

Very close	8
Fairly close	51
Not very close	28
Not close at all	7
Don't know	6

ii) Members of ethnic minorities

Very close	3
Fairly close	21
Not very close	40
Not close at all	30
Don't know	6

As you may know, there is a law at the moment, often called 'Section 28', which forbids local education authorities from 'intentionally promoting homosexuality' and also from 'teaching the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship'. In your view should this law remain on the statute book, or should it be repealed?

Should remain on statute book	58
Should be repealed	38
Don't know	4

Which party do you trust more to deal with the law relating to homosexual behaviour, the Conservative Party or the Labour Party?

Conservative	24
Labour	31
Neither	37
Don't know	8

Thinking of the problems of agriculture and the countryside in general, which political party do you think would handle them best?

Conservative	36
Labour	18
Liberal Democrat	24
None of these	13
Don't know	9

Of the following pairs of phrases which one applies more to Iain Duncan Smith? a)
'Concerned for country as a whole' or 'Concerned only for himself and his party'

Concerned for country as a whole	32
Concerned only for himself and his party	55
Don't know	13

b) 'Caring' or 'Uncaring'

Caring	36
Uncaring	38
Don't know	27

c) 'Tough' or 'Not tough'

Tough	19
Not tough	63
Don't know	18

d) 'Effective' or 'Ineffective'

Effective	14
Ineffective	72
Don't know	15

e) 'Can be trusted' or 'Cannot be trusted'

Can be trusted	32
Cannot be trusted	43
Don't know	25

f) 'Competent' or 'Incompetent'

Competent	31
Incompetent	41
Don't know	29

g) 'A winner' or 'A loser'

A winner	14
A loser	59
Don't know	27

h) 'Firmly in charge' or 'Not really in charge'

Firmly in charge	16
Not really in charge	70
Don't know	14

i) 'Decisive' or 'Indecisive'

Decisive	27
Indecisive	49
Don't know	25

j) 'Likeable as a person' or 'Not likeable as a person'

Likeable as a person	49
Not likeable as a person	27
Don't know	24

k) 'Listens to reason' or 'Does not listen to reason'

Listens to reason	36
Does not listen to reason	25
Don't know	39

l) 'Able to unite the nation' or 'Not able to unite the nation'

Able to unite the nation	13
Not able to unite the nation	69
Don't know	18

In your view is Iain Duncan Smith at the moment providing the Conservative Party with...?

Strong and effective leadership	5
Adequate leadership – but not more	50
Weak and ineffective leadership	41
Don't know	5

a) How likely do you think it is that the Liberal Democrats will overtake the Conservatives in the opinion polls within the next 5 years?

Very likely	11
Quite likely	39
Quite unlikely	30
Very unlikely	18
Don't know	2

b) And how likely do you think it is that the Liberal Democrats will overtake the Conservatives in the opinion polls within the next 10 years?

Very likely	25
Quite likely	33
Quite unlikely	24
Very unlikely	15
Don't know	4

If the Liberal Democrats looked as if they were a major contender for winning the next election, how likely do you think it is that you would vote for them?

Very likely	24
Quite likely	24
Quite unlikely	17
Very unlikely	30
Don't know	5