

Sky News / YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 2014

Fieldwork: 4th - 5th November 2005

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Which of these statements comes closer to your view?	%
The threat to people in Britain from terrorism has fundamentally changed, partly because some terrorists are willing to commit suicide during their attacks, and partly because of the way they use modern technology - such as mobile phones and the internet	71
Terrorism is nothing new, and the task of preventing attacks and catching and prosecuting people suspected of terrorist offences is not fundamentally different from the task that the police and intelligence services have faced in the past	24
Don't know	4

Currently suspected terrorists can be held by Britain's police for up to 14 days. After that they must either be charged with an offence, or released. The police want to extend this time to 90 days, because it can take up to three months to analyse material such as computer files in order to obtain the evidence needed to charge suspects. Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

The police genuinely believe that the current 14-day rule is not enough to protect Britain from terrorist attacks	76
The police don't really need the extra time; they are simply using the debate about terrorism to extend their powers to hold people without being charged.	16
Don't know	8

Critics of the 90 day proposal say that it would be bad for civil liberties, and won't in practice help the task of catching, arresting and convicting suspected terrorists. Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

Critics of the police are genuinely concerned with the need both to protect civil liberties and also reduce the threat from terrorism	31
The critics are more concerned with the civil liberties of suspected terrorists than the rights of everyone else to be protected from terrorism.	61
Don't know	8

Which of these options would you personally support most?	%
The present 14-day limit for holding suspected terrorists without charge should be increased to 90 days.	31
The 14-day limit should be increased to 90 days - but only in those cases where the police can persuade a senior judge that the time is needed to gather evidence against the suspect(s).	41
ALL SUPPORTING 90-DAY DETENTION	72
The present 14-day limit should be extended, but only to 28 days.	16
The present 14-day limit should be kept as it is	5
The present 14-day limit should be reduced to 7 days	1
ALL OPPOSING 90-DAY DETENTION	22
Don't know	6