

YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 1728 adults in GB
Fieldwork: 10th - 12th June 2022

	Vote in 2019 GE				EU Ref 2016		Gender		Age				Social Grade		Region					Non-graduate / Graduate	
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Weighted Sample	1491	532	382	142	528	601	729	763	167	626	350	348	853	639	207	581	287	416	0	1052	439
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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Which party, if any, do you trust the most to deal with the issue of education?

Conservative	19	46	1	3	11	33	20	18	3	12	21	36	20	17	14	21	20	17	0	20	16
Labour	26	5	63	27	38	14	23	28	37	29	26	14	28	22	35	21	20	30	0	22	35
Liberal Democrats	6	2	4	29	11	3	8	4	4	5	8	6	8	3	8	7	4	4	0	5	9
Scottish National Party (SNP)	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
Plaid Cymru	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reform UK	2	4	0	0	0	5	4	1	1	2	2	4	2	3	1	2	2	3	0	2	3
Green	2	0	3	3	4	0	2	2	2	3	3	0	2	2	2	2	2	3	0	2	3
Don't know	44	42	28	37	36	43	42	47	49	48	39	40	38	52	38	45	51	41	0	49	34

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

Generally speaking, how do you think the cost of university education should be funded?

It should be paid for by everybody, through general taxes like income tax, corporation tax or VAT	32	22	49	47	45	24	33	32	41	30	35	30	38	25	39	35	24	32	0	26	47
It should be paid for by the people who go to university, through either tuition fees or a tax paid only by graduates	46	60	33	37	37	56	47	44	35	47	47	47	45	47	40	44	52	46	0	50	36
Not sure	22	18	19	16	18	21	20	24	24	23	18	23	17	28	21	21	23	22	0	24	17

Regardless of whether or not you support or oppose the cost of university degrees being paid through tuition fees, do you think the following costs are good or bad value for university education?

£1,000 a year

Good value	70	69	79	81	80	65	69	71	66	76	68	65	77	61	72	70	68	72	0	64	85
Bad value	7	6	7	8	6	8	8	6	9	6	7	8	7	7	7	7	6	8	0	7	6
Don't know	23	26	14	11	14	27	22	23	25	18	25	27	16	32	21	23	26	20	0	28	9

£3,000 a year

Good value	64	64	70	79	72	59	66	62	69	65	64	59	71	54	65	63	63	64	0	59	76
Bad value	13	11	14	8	14	12	12	13	10	15	10	13	12	13	13	14	11	13	0	12	14
Don't know	23	25	17	13	15	29	22	25	21	20	25	28	17	32	21	23	26	23	0	29	10

£9,250 a year

Good value	19	23	18	17	20	21	23	16	21	18	21	20	20	19	16	21	19	19	0	20	18
Bad value	53	47	63	64	62	48	51	56	53	59	50	46	59	45	63	52	52	52	0	47	69
Don't know	27	30	19	18	18	31	26	28	27	23	28	33	21	36	21	27	29	28	0	33	13

£10,000 a year

Good value	11	13	10	12	11	13	13	9	11	10	12	12	11	12	9	12	12	10	0	12	10
Bad value	63	58	72	74	71	58	62	64	66	68	61	54	70	53	69	64	58	62	0	56	78
Don't know	26	30	18	14	18	30	25	27	23	22	27	34	19	36	22	24	30	28	0	32	12

£12,000 a year

Good value	5	4	5	6	5	6	5	4	6	5	6	4	5	5	2	6	6	4	0	5	5
Bad value	70	65	79	83	79	64	70	70	74	74	67	64	77	60	74	70	66	71	0	64	84
Don't know	25	31	16	11	16	30	25	25	20	22	28	32	18	35	24	24	28	25	0	31	11

£15,000 a year

Good value	3	2	2	6	2	4	3	3	7	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	4	3	0	4	2
Bad value	73	68	84	83	83	67	72	73	74	77	70	67	80	63	74	74	68	73	0	66	87
Don't know	24	30	14	11	15	29	25	24	19	21	27	31	17	34	23	23	28	24	0	30	10

£20,000 a year

Good value	3	2	1	6	2	3	3	3	5	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	3	2
Bad value	74	69	86	83	84	68	73	74	74	78	72	68	81	63	75	75	70	74	0	67	88
Don't know	24	29	13	11	14	29	24	23	21	19	26	30	16	34	22	22	27	23	0	29	10

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

In England, university education is currently funded through a system of tuition fees of up to £9,250 a year. Students receive loans to cover the fees at the time, which they have to start paying back when they earn £27,295 a year (before tax). Any money still outstanding after thirty years is written off.

Do you think this is a fair or unfair way of funding university education?

Very fair	15	21	8	7	12	18	16	14	11	15	17	15	13	18	10	15	17	17	0	16	12
Somewhat fair	37	43	32	44	36	42	37	38	37	37	33	42	39	35	34	37	40	37	0	38	36
TOTAL FAIR	52	64	40	51	48	60	53	52	48	52	50	57	52	53	44	52	57	54	0	54	48
Somewhat unfair	21	15	29	27	29	16	19	23	23	21	23	18	25	17	21	23	17	22	0	18	29
Very unfair	14	10	23	15	17	12	14	14	11	14	16	14	16	11	22	15	10	12	0	12	19
TOTAL UNFAIR	35	25	52	42	46	28	33	37	34	35	39	32	41	28	43	38	27	34	0	30	48
Don't know	12	10	8	7	6	12	13	12	19	12	11	11	7	19	14	10	16	12	0	16	3

The maximum tuition fee for undergraduates studying at British universities is currently £9,250 a year.

Regardless of how much you paid, do you believe that paying £9,250 a year for the university tuition **you personally received** would be good or bad value for money?

[Asked to those who attended university to study an undergraduate degree; n=619]

Good value	23	30	22	22	22	28	28	19	28	17	27	37	23	24	21	23	30	21	0	20	25
Bad value	64	60	69	63	64	64	59	68	56	72	59	47	63	65	56	67	60	66	0	66	62
Don't know	13	10	9	15	14	9	13	13	16	11	14	17	14	11	22	9	10	14	0	14	13

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

With tuition fees of £9,250, a three year university course will leave the average student at an English university with debt of £27,750, plus living costs during their time at university. However, graduates can normally expect higher salaries over the rest of their working lives. Thinking about the cost of university and graduates' earnings, which of the following best reflects your view?

Most graduates will still end up better off in the long term, as their increased earnings will outweigh the cost of going to university	41	52	31	44	37	46	44	39	41	37	43	47	41	42	31	44	42	42	0	43	37
Most graduates will end up worse off in the long term, as their increased earnings will be outweighed by the cost of going to university	32	27	42	35	40	28	32	33	26	37	33	26	37	26	42	32	29	30	0	27	44
Not sure	27	21	27	21	22	25	25	28	33	26	24	27	23	32	27	24	29	28	0	30	19

When, if at all, do you think people who go to university should start to pay back their student loans?

As soon as they start earning – regardless of their salary	19	29	10	8	11	26	20	17	11	18	20	22	17	20	14	19	23	17	0	22	10
Once they start to earn above a certain salary	61	57	64	79	69	57	58	63	61	62	59	60	65	55	67	60	54	63	0	56	71
Other [See Tab 1]	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	1	2
Never	10	6	17	8	12	9	9	10	8	8	13	11	10	8	9	10	9	9	0	9	12
Don't know	10	7	7	5	7	7	12	8	19	11	7	7	6	15	9	9	13	10	0	12	5

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

At what salary, if any, should those who went to university start to pay back their student loans?

[Asked to those who said people who go to university should start to pay back their student loans once they start to earn above a certain salary;
n=908]

Once they earn over £10,000 (before tax)	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	3	0	1	1	2	1	1	4	0	0	2	0
Once they earn over £20,000 (before tax)	18	19	16	15	15	21	23	11	16	20	21	15	22	14	15	22	20	0	19	14
Once they earn over £30,000 (before tax)	52	55	54	59	53	53	48	50	53	52	49	54	48	41	55	53	52	0	50	56
Once they earn over £40,000 (before tax)	16	14	16	13	18	12	15	23	15	14	16	16	16	24	14	12	16	0	15	17
Once they earn over £50,000 (before tax)	6	4	9	3	7	4	6	3	8	7	4	7	5	11	6	4	5	0	5	8
Other [See Tab2]	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	0	2	1	2	2	0	1	0	1	2
Don't know	6	7	3	8	6	7	5	9	4	5	8	6	6	7	6	5	5	0	7	3

The government is proposing changes to the way student loans will be repaid for students taking out new loans in the future. The annual salary threshold at which student loans are repaid will be reduced from £27,295 (before tax) to £25,000, the repayment term will be extended from 30 to 40 years and the interest rate will be lowered from above inflation rate to below the inflation rate.

How much, if at all, do you support or oppose this package?

Strongly support	9	14	4	7	6	12	10	9	6	9	11	10	9	10	4	10	13	9	0	11	6
Somewhat support	32	40	25	30	31	36	35	29	24	33	31	35	32	31	28	33	33	32	0	33	29
TOTAL SUPPORT	41	54	29	37	37	48	45	38	30	42	42	45	41	41	32	43	46	41	0	44	35
Somewhat oppose	16	14	21	26	21	14	16	16	18	17	15	14	19	11	18	18	13	14	0	12	26
Strongly oppose	18	10	31	19	23	14	18	19	25	18	21	12	21	14	22	18	12	20	0	16	24
TOTAL OPPOSE	34	24	52	45	44	28	34	35	43	35	36	26	40	25	40	36	25	34	0	28	50
Don't know	25	22	19	18	19	24	22	28	27	24	22	28	19	33	27	21	29	25	0	29	15

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

As a reminder, the government is proposing changes to the way student loans will be repaid for students taking out new loans in the future. The annual salary threshold at which student loans are repaid will be reduced from £27,295 (before tax) to £25,000, the repayment term will be extended from 30 to 40 years and the interest rate will be lowered from above inflation rate to below the inflation rate.

From what you understand, do you think most students will end up re-paying more or less under these new plans, or will it make no real difference?

More	35	29	45	42	41	29	35	34	46	38	36	22	40	28	34	34	31	40	0	30	47
Less	10	13	7	10	9	13	9	10	11	8	10	11	10	9	11	10	9	9	0	10	8
No real difference	28	34	27	28	29	32	29	26	11	28	29	34	28	27	27	30	27	25	0	28	26
Don't know	28	25	21	21	21	26	26	29	31	25	25	33	22	35	28	26	33	26	0	31	19

How much do you support or oppose the awarding of bursaries, which will contribute to the cost of student fees, to the following groups of people who intend to go to university?

Those who achieve the highest grades at college/school

Strongly support	20	21	20	22	24	18	21	20	19	22	17	21	24	16	25	20	19	20	0	18	26
Tend to support	36	39	37	40	36	40	35	36	28	34	42	37	38	33	28	36	39	37	0	35	38
TOTAL SUPPORT	56	60	57	62	60	58	56	56	47	56	59	58	62	49	53	56	58	57	0	53	64
Tend to oppose	15	14	17	13	16	12	16	14	25	14	11	15	16	13	15	17	11	14	0	15	16
Strongly oppose	5	4	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	6	5	4	6	4	5	5	4	7	0	5	6
TOTAL OPPOSE	20	18	24	20	22	17	21	19	29	20	16	19	22	17	20	22	15	21	0	20	22
Don't know	24	22	19	17	18	25	22	25	23	24	25	23	17	34	27	22	27	23	0	28	14

Those who largely exceed their predicted grades

Strongly support	18	17	19	15	17	18	16	19	14	19	17	18	18	16	15	19	18	17	0	16	21
Tend to support	35	39	34	40	38	36	34	36	31	33	36	38	37	32	33	36	36	33	0	34	37
TOTAL SUPPORT	53	56	53	55	55	54	50	55	45	52	53	56	55	48	48	55	54	50	0	50	58
Tend to oppose	14	16	15	13	16	15	16	13	18	13	14	16	16	12	14	16	10	15	0	14	16
Strongly oppose	6	5	9	8	8	5	7	6	6	7	6	4	7	5	8	6	4	7	0	5	8
TOTAL OPPOSE	20	21	24	21	24	20	23	19	24	20	20	20	23	17	22	22	14	22	0	19	24
Don't know	27	23	23	24	21	27	27	27	30	28	26	24	21	35	29	23	32	28	0	30	19

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Those from low economic backgrounds																					
Strongly support	41	30	56	52	53	31	36	45	47	43	41	35	45	35	50	41	33	41	0	35	54
Tend to support	33	41	26	36	32	38	36	30	21	32	33	39	35	30	27	34	34	33	0	33	33
TOTAL SUPPORT	74	71	82	88	85	69	72	75	68	75	74	74	80	65	77	75	67	74	0	68	87
Tend to oppose	5	8	3	3	3	8	6	4	7	4	6	6	5	5	3	5	7	5	0	5	4
Strongly oppose	3	4	4	0	2	4	4	3	4	4	3	2	3	3	3	4	3	3	0	3	3
TOTAL OPPOSE	8	12	7	3	5	12	10	7	11	8	9	8	8	8	6	9	10	8	0	8	7
Don't know	18	17	11	9	10	19	18	18	22	18	17	18	12	27	18	17	23	17	0	23	7
Those who do well in sports i.e. scholarships																					
Strongly support	10	10	10	9	10	9	8	12	8	12	10	7	11	9	10	10	9	11	0	9	12
Tend to support	29	30	29	28	30	27	29	29	32	29	30	27	29	28	32	29	33	25	0	29	29
TOTAL SUPPORT	39	40	39	37	40	36	37	41	40	41	40	34	40	37	42	39	42	36	0	38	41
Tend to oppose	25	30	25	27	27	27	27	24	22	23	29	27	28	21	18	28	21	28	0	24	29
Strongly oppose	12	9	17	18	15	12	14	10	13	11	12	14	15	8	16	11	9	14	0	10	17
TOTAL OPPOSE	37	39	42	45	42	39	41	34	35	34	41	41	43	29	34	39	30	42	0	34	46
Don't know	24	21	19	18	17	25	23	25	25	25	20	25	17	33	24	22	28	23	0	28	13
Those who pursue higher education in a particular field or profession																					
Strongly support	24	24	28	27	30	23	21	28	19	26	23	25	28	19	25	24	24	24	0	21	31
Tend to support	41	43	44	47	45	41	42	40	37	39	44	45	43	39	37	45	39	40	0	40	45
TOTAL SUPPORT	65	67	72	74	75	64	63	68	56	65	67	70	71	58	62	69	63	64	0	61	76
Tend to oppose	9	10	8	8	6	9	10	7	15	8	7	7	9	8	7	8	9	10	0	8	9
Strongly oppose	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	2	3	4	2	2	3	3	5	2	2	3	0	3	2
TOTAL OPPOSE	12	13	11	9	9	12	13	9	18	12	9	9	12	11	12	10	11	13	0	11	11
Don't know	23	20	18	16	17	24	23	23	25	24	24	21	17	32	26	21	26	22	0	27	13
Which of the following comes closest to your view?																					
There should be no minimum qualification requirements to go to university, and universities should be able to offer places to anyone they choose, regardless of qualification	21	14	23	25	20	19	21	22	29	25	17	16	20	24	20	24	19	20	0	23	18
There should be a minimum qualification requirement to go to university, and universities should not be able to offer places to people who do not have a minimal number of A-Levels, GCSEs or equivalents	65	78	63	70	70	70	65	65	51	60	71	75	73	55	67	66	63	65	0	61	76
Don't know	13	8	14	5	10	10	14	13	20	15	11	9	8	21	13	10	18	16	0	17	6

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

Do you think it would be fair or unfair for people to be charged different interest rates on their student loan repayments based on their income i.e. higher earners paying a higher rate of interest?

Fair	33	32	38	31	34	31	36	29	33	33	33	32	33	32	35	35	30	30	0	33	33
Unfair	48	54	44	53	50	53	45	50	38	49	47	51	52	42	43	48	46	52	0	46	53
Don't know	19	14	18	16	16	15	19	20	29	19	19	16	15	26	23	17	23	18	0	22	14

Which of the following do you think would be the best way of funding university education?

An additional tax paid by people who have gone to university	11	12	9	14	10	12	13	9	11	10	13	11	12	9	10	10	13	10	0	12	8
Charging fees to students, payable through a loan system that people repay once they have left university	42	56	27	34	35	52	42	41	27	43	39	48	40	43	37	42	44	42	0	43	38
General taxes, paid for by everyone	26	16	43	36	38	17	27	26	33	24	30	23	33	18	31	27	19	27	0	20	40
Not sure	21	17	21	17	17	19	19	24	29	23	18	18	15	30	22	20	24	21	0	25	14