

THE ECONOMY 2 (tackling the deficit and recession)

Thinking about the government's economic policies, which of the following best reflects your view?

The government should stick to its current strategy of reducing the deficit, even if this means growth remains slow

The government should change its strategy to concentrate on growth, even if this means the deficit stays longer or gets worse

	Stick to current strategy	Change strategy	Neither	Not sure
2013	%	%	%	%
May 30-31	31	42	7	20
April 25-26	33	38	8	21
March 21-22	32	41	9	18
February 21-22	31	41	8	20
2012				
December 6-7	36	37	10	18
August 23-24	29	42	9	20
July 26-27	28	45	6	21
July 19-20	31	43	8	18
June 28-29	30	38	10	22
May 17-18	33	39	8	21
May 10-11	32	40	9	19
May 3-4	30	41	8	21
April 26-27	33	41	9	17
April 19-20	33	37	9	21
March 1-2	38	34	7	21
2011				
Nov 17-18	36	37	8	19
Sept 29-30	36	38	8	18

Thinking about how the government is cutting public spending, do you think the government should cut spending less, cut spending more, or are they getting the balance about right?

	Cut spending more	Cut spending less	Balance is right	Don't know
2012				
May 3-4	11	49	23	16
April 19-20	13	48	24	15
March 1-2	15	43	27	16

Who would you trust more to run the economy?

	Cameron and Osborne	Miliband and Balls	Not sure
February 24-25 2013	35	29	37
December 6-7 2012	37	26	37
July 26-27 2012	34	31	35
April 26-27 2012	36	28	35
March 24-25 2011	39	30	31

Do you think George Osborne is doing a good job or a bad job as Chancellor of the Exchequer?

	Good job	Bad job	Not sure
2013			
June 26-27	25	52	23
March 20-21	22	50	28
2012			
December 5-6	24	53	23
September 9-10	13	60	27
August 23-24	14	57	29
July 19-20	15	55	30
June 28-29	15	56	29
May 31 - June 1	17	61	21
April 19-20	18	58	24
March 22-23	22	53	25
March 18-19	24	50	26
2011			
Nov 29-30	24	49	27
March 23-24	34	40	27
March 20-21	27	46	27
2010			
June 22-23	43	24	33

In 2009 a new top rate of income tax of 50p in the pound was introduced for earnings over £150,000. Previously the top rate of income tax had been 40p in the pound

Do you think George Osborne should or should not abolish the 50p top rate of income tax on those earning over £150,000, meaning the top rate would be 40p?

	Abolish	Don't abolish	Don't know
2012			
March 15-16	27	60	13
Jan 26-27	19	68	13
Sept 8-9 2011	27	60	13

How likely do you think it is that Britain will go back into recession during the next 12 months?

	Likely	Not Likely	Don't know
2012			
Jan 26-27	74	15	11
2011			
Nov 10-11	72	15	13
Sept 22-23	73	17	11
Feb 17-18	59	28	13
27 - 28 Jan	57	28	15
20-21 Jan	52	32	16
2010			
Sept 2-3	55	31	15