

YouGov / Daily Telegraph Survey in Scotland: Results

Sample Size: 1085

Fieldwork: 23rd - 28th March 2007

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%

Local Vote (*excl don't knows, would not vote*)

SNP	35
Lab	29
Lib	14
Con	13
Other	9

Regional Vote (*excl don't knows, would not vote*)

SNP	33
Lab	27
Con	15
Lib	12
Other	14

Breakdown of 'others'

Green	6
SSP	2
Solidarity	2
Respect	0
Other	3

The election system used to elect Scotland's Parliament means that it is unlikely that any single party can win a majority. If a coalition is formed, which of these alternatives do you think would be best for Scotland?

Labour / Liberal Democrat	19
SNP / Liberal Democrat	17
SNP / Liberal Democrat / Green	13
Labour / Liberal Democrat / Green	10
SNP / Conservative	9
Conservative / Labour / Liberal Democrat	5
Labour / Conservative	3
Don't know	23

Which two or three of the following should be the main priorities of the Scottish Executive and Parliament after May's elections? [Please tick up to three options]

Scrapping the early-release scheme for prisoners, so that everyone sent to jail serves the full sentence imposed at their trial	47
Refusing to site in Scotland any new nuclear power stations, or any replacement of the Trident nuclear missile system	31
Helping to fight climate change by setting targets for Scotland to reduce its emissions of carbon dioxide, and giving help to families and companies that play their part by recycling, insulating etc.	30
Making all school meals free to children, and all prescription charge free to NHS patients	30
Keeping down income tax by NOT using the power to raise income tax by up to 3p in the pound	28
Scrapping the scheme giving heroin addicts methadone, and using the money to establish a full-scale drugs rehabilitation programme	28
Insisting on receiving all the income from the taxes from North Sea Oil off Scotland's coast	27
Holding a referendum on whether Scotland should become completely independent	23
Giving parents more choice over which school to send their children	8
Don't know	8

Suppose that after the May elections the SNP emerges as the largest single party at Holyrood but without an overall majority. What would you personally like to see happen immediately afterwards?

As the largest party, the SNP should be given the first opportunity to see if it can create a coalition group with a majority in the new Scottish Parliament	59
The current Labour-Liberal Democrat coalition should be given the first opportunity to see if it can continue running the Scottish Executive	20
Don't know	21

Again supposing that after the May elections the SNP emerges as the largest single party at Holyrood but without an overall majority. Which of these eventual outcomes do you think would be best for Scotland?

The present Labour-Liberal Democrat coalition continuing to form the Scottish Executive	18
The installation of a purely SNP Executive, which would then have to rely in Parliament on the votes of other parties	10
The formation of a new Executive, with the SNP in a coalition with other parties	47
Not sure	24

If the SNP were to lead or form some part of a coalition Executive, what line would you like to see the SNP take?

It should continue to cooperate with the Government in London in order to create stability and increase the chances of Scotland obtaining financial and other support from the Westminster Government	24
It should generally co-operate with the Government in London, but not co-operate at all on those policies where Scotland's interests are damaged	43
It should adopt a policy of outright opposition to the Government in London in order to obtain a better deal for Scotland and greater powers for the Scottish Parliament, with a view to separating Scotland from the UK as soon as possible	14
Don't know	18

There has been much debate on whether Scotland should be independent. The SNP has proposed calling a referendum on this issue. Leaving aside your own views on whether or not Scotland should be independent, would you support or oppose a referendum being held?

I support holding a referendum on independence	64
I oppose holding such a referendum	24
Don't know	12

If there were a referendum on whether to retain the Scottish Parliament and Executive in more or less their present form or to establish Scotland as a completely separate state outside the United Kingdom but inside the European Union, how would you vote?

In favour of retaining the present Scottish Parliament	51
In favour of a completely separate state outside the UK	28
Would not vote	4
Don't know	18

Do you approve or disapprove of the Scottish Executive's record to date?

Approve	34
Disapprove	39
Don't know	28

Do you approve or disapprove of the record to date of the Scottish Parliament as a whole?

Approve	39
Disapprove	39
Don't know	23

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with Jack McConnell as Scotland's First Minister?

Satisfied	30
Dissatisfied	50
Don't know	21

Which of the following would make the best First Minister?

Alex Salmond	31
Jack McConnell	18
Annabel Goldie	7
Tommy Sheridan	6
Nicol Stephen	3
Don't know	36

Leaving aside your views on who would make the best First Minister, which of these do you regard as generally trustworthy? [Please tick all that apply]

Alex Salmond	34
Annabel Goldie	22
Jack McConnell	22
Nicol Stephen	17
Tommy Sheridan	13
Don't know	18
None of the above	21

And which do you consider to be generally untrustworthy? [Please tick all that apply]

Tommy Sheridan	51
Jack McConnell	35
Alex Salmond	26
Annabel Goldie	19
Nicol Stephen	18
Don't know	21
None of the above	7

Taking everything into account, how well do you think having a coalition Executive, involving people from both the Labour and the Liberal Democrat parties, has worked?

Very well	5
Fairly well	47
Not very well	25
Not at all well	9
Don't know	14

On balance, do you think that because of devolution Scotland is a better place or a worse place in which to live than it would have been if it had not had devolution?

A better place in which to live	41
A worse place in which to live	10
Devolution has not made much difference either way	38
Don't know	11

Should the Scottish Parliament have more powers? For instance, should the Scottish Parliament be given greater power to raise its own revenues?

Yes, it should	60
No, it shouldn't	24
Don't know	16

As you probably know, the Scottish Parliament already has the power, although it has not yet used it, to raise or lower the basic rate of income tax by 3p. What do you think the Scottish Parliament should do?

Raise the rate by up to 3p and increase spending	10
Lower the rate by up to 3p and reduce spending	20
Leave the rate as it is	55
Don't know	14

If Scotland were to become independent, taxes would have to rise, or public spending would have to be cut, or both things would happen

Agree	51
Disagree	28
Don't know	21

The Council Tax should be scrapped, and replaced by a local income tax (which would be additional to normal income tax)

Agree	58
Disagree	22
Don't know	21

Scotland should allow new nuclear power stations to be built within the country, in order to help tackle climate change

Agree	36
Disagree	43
Don't know	21

Scotland should refuse to allow any successor to the Trident nuclear missile system to be based in Scotland.

Agree	52
Disagree	28
Don't know	20

Leaving aside your own view on whether you support or oppose the ambition of independence for Scotland, which of these statements comes closer to your view?

Plenty of countries smaller than Scotland survive perfectly well on their own; Scotland's economy would prosper if the country were independent	43
Scotland's economy is bound up so closely with that of the rest of the United Kingdom, that it would face serious problems if it became independent	44
Don't know	13

And which of these statements comes closer to your view?

At the moment, Scotland's public spending is subsidised by English taxpayers	20
The tax revenues from North Sea Oil belong to Scotland; when these are taken into account, Scotland subsidises the rest of the UK	53
Don't know	27

The former chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland, Sir George Mathewson, has said he supports the Scottish National Party. Does this make you more likely or less likely to vote for the SNP?

More likely to vote SNP	11
Less likely to vote SNP	5
It makes no difference – I shall vote SNP anyway	25
It makes no difference – I shall NOT vote SNP anyway	45
Don't know	15

Brian Souter, the chief executive of Stagecoach, has donated £500,000 to the SNP's election campaign. Does this make you more likely or less likely to vote for the SNP?

More likely to vote SNP	7
Less likely to vote SNP	11
It makes no difference – I shall vote SNP anyway	25
It makes no difference – I shall NOT vote SNP anyway	43
Don't know	15

David Murray, the businessman and chairman of Rangers FC has reportedly attacked the SNP for supporting independence and 'intimidating' Scottish business leaders on this issue. Does this make you more likely or less likely to vote for the SNP?

More likely to vote SNP	11
Less likely to vote SNP	6
It makes no difference – I shall vote SNP anyway	25
It makes no difference – I shall NOT vote SNP anyway	43
Don't know	16