

## SUNDAY TIMES POLL FOR APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>

Final data - sample 1027, fieldwork April 18-20

*For full figures click here*

**Elections for the Scottish Parliament will be held on May 3rd. On a scale of 0-10, where 0 means you are certain NOT to vote, and 10 means you are absolutely certain you WILL vote, how likely are you to vote in these elections?** %

0	5
1	1
2	1
3	1
4	1
5	4
6	2
7	3
8	7
9	5
10	66
Not sure	3

(To all except 0)

Every elector has **TWO** votes. One vote is for a named candidate standing in your local area, just like in a general election.

The other vote is for a party, and people will be elected from lists depending on how each party performs in your region.

Some people will use both votes to support the same party; other people will use their two votes to support different parties.

The **Scottish Socialist Party, Solidarity (leader Tommy Sheridan) and The Green Party will NOT stand candidates for the local vote and will only stand in the party list.**

Thinking about the local vote, and bearing in mind that the **Scottish Socialist Party, the Green Party and Solidarity are not standing, which party's candidate do you intend to vote for, if you do vote?**

Scottish National Party	<b>37</b>
Labour	<b>30</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>15</b>
Conservative	<b>14</b>
Other	<b>4</b>

Thinking about the separate regional vote, which party list do you intend to vote for, if you do vote?

Scottish National Party	<b>35</b>
Labour	<b>28</b>
Conservative	<b>13</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>13</b>
Some other party	<b>11</b>

(to "some other party")

**Which of these parties would you vote for?**

Green	<b>4</b>
Scottish Socialist Party	<b>1</b>
Solidarity	<b>1</b>
Senior Citizens Unity Party	<b>*</b>
Other	<b>4</b>

To all

**Which political leader would make the better first minister: Alex Salmond, the Scottish National Party leader, Jack McConnell, the Scottish Labour leader, Nicol Stephen, the Scottish Lib Dem leader or Annabel Goldie the Scottish Conservative leader?**

Alex Salmond	<b>35</b>
Jack McConnell	<b>23</b>
Annabel Goldie	<b>11</b>
Nicol Stephen	<b>8</b>
Don't know	<b>23</b>

**Which, if any, of the following qualities do you associate with Jack McConnell? [Please tick all that apply]**

**And which do you associate with Alex Salmond?**

	<b>McConnell</b>	<b>Salmond</b>
Stands up for Scotland	<b>24</b>	<b>55</b>
Likeable	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>
Intelligent	<b>23</b>	<b>33</b>
Honest	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>
Would trust him to look after my wallet	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>
Has the best ideas for improving people's lives	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>
None of these	<b>38</b>	<b>22</b>
Don't know	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>
Not leadership material	<b>31</b>	<b>15</b>
Out of touch with people's concerns	<b>29</b>	<b>12</b>
Dull	<b>28</b>	<b>14</b>
Patronising	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>
Arrogant	<b>27</b>	<b>33</b>
Past his sell by date	<b>26</b>	<b>16</b>
Weak	<b>23</b>	<b>6</b>
Conceited	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>
Disingenuous	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>
Sexist	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
None of these	<b>24</b>	<b>32</b>
Don't know	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>

**Labour politicians have alleged that an independent Scotland would have a £12bn black hole, equivalent to a £5,000 tax rise per household, that border posts would be erected and Scotland would become more vulnerable to a terrorist attack.**

**Are such claims about independence more or less likely to make you vote Labour?**

More	<b>10</b>
Less	<b>18</b>
Make no difference – I would vote Labour anyway	<b>19</b>
Make no difference – I would NOT vote Labour anyway	<b>42</b>
Don't know	<b>12</b>

**Thinking of constitutional change which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion:**

I support Scotland becoming an independent country	<b>26</b>
I support the Scottish Parliament being given more powers, short of independence	<b>37</b>
I support things remaining as they are	<b>17</b>
I support the abolition of the Scottish parliament	<b>12</b>
Don't know	<b>8</b>

***(To those who back independence, or extra powers)* Here are some reasons why different people think Scotland should have more powers, or become independent. [Please tick all that you agree with]**

Scotland's economy, like that of other similarly-sized countries, would be stronger if we had more control over it	<b>70</b>
English MPs don't understand Scotland's needs	<b>63</b>
The English have always exploited Scotland	<b>38</b>
We have more in common with other countries in Europe than with England	<b>26</b>
I have a personal dislike of English people	<b>4</b>
None of these	<b>10</b>

**The Scottish National Party wants Scotland to become an independent country, as do some of Scotland’s smaller parties, while the Lib Dems want the Scottish parliament to be given more powers short of independence. Do you believe Scottish voters should be able to take part in a multi-option referendum within the next four years including the options of independence, more powers short of independence and keeping things as they are at present?**

Yes, there should be a multi-option referendum	<b>50</b>
No, there should be a simply for-or-against-independence referendum	<b>19</b>
No, there should be no referendum	<b>18</b>
Don’t know	<b>12</b>

**If the SNP leads the next Scottish government after May it intends to hold a referendum on Scottish independence. The wording of the referendum question will be very similar to this. “The Scottish parliament should negotiate a new settlement with the British government so that Scotland becomes a sovereign and independent state”. The responses would be “Yes I agree” or “No I disagree”. On balance how would you be likely to respond?**

Yes I agree	<b>33</b>
No I disagree	<b>50</b>
Don’t know	<b>17</b>

**If Scotland becomes independent would you prefer having the UK monarch, currently Elizabeth II, or an elected leader as the head of state in an independent Scotland?**

Would prefer having the monarch as head of state	<b>40</b>
Would prefer elected head of state	<b>41</b>
Not sure	<b>19</b>

As a result of the voting system it is likely that a coalition government will be formed after the election on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Which of the following type of coalition is the option you most prefer?

*To all except not sure:*

And which is your second preference?

1st choice      2nd choice

Labour/ Liberal Democrat	25	15
SNP/ Liberal Democrat	29	15
Labour/ Conservative	6	13
SNP/ Conservative	8	14
Labour/ SNP	9	21
Not sure	23	23

How do you feel about the following statement? 'After May 3<sup>rd</sup> if Labour no longer has the biggest group of MSPs in the Scottish parliament then the Lib Dems should not attempt to form a coalition with Labour but should try to form a coalition with the biggest party.'

Agree strongly	15
Tend to agree	29
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>44</b>
Tend to disagree	16
Disagree strongly	12
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>28</b>
Don't know	28

Do you think Gordon Brown would be a good or bad Prime Minister for Britain as a whole?

Do you think David Cameron would be a good or bad Prime Minister for Britain as a whole?

Brown      Cameron

Good	38	22
Bad	37	44
Not sure	26	34

Do you think Gordon Brown would be a good or bad Prime Minister for Scotland?

Do you think David Cameron would be a good or bad Prime Minister for Scotland?

Good	35	13
Bad	40	55
Not sure	26	33

**Gordon Brown says he wants England to win the world cup and by urging people to plant Union Jack flags in their garden.**

**Would these comments make you more or less likely to vote for a Brown-led Labour party at the general election?"**

More	3
Less	25
Make no difference – I would vote Labour anyway	23
Make no difference – I would NOT vote Labour anyway	38
Don't know	11

**Who do you tend to support when England are playing an overseas team at sport?**

England	25
England's opponents	34
Not sure / don't care	42

**Do you agree or disagree with this statement: 'It would be unacceptable for a Scot to be Prime Minister of the rest of the United Kingdom if Scotland votes for independence.'**

Agree strongly	10
Tend to agree	23
<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>	<b>33</b>
Tend to disagree	27
Disagree strongly	23
<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>	<b>50</b>
Unsure	17

**Thinking of the qualities of English people which, if any, of the following statements do you tend to agree with? (please tick all that apply)**

English people tend to be more arrogant than Scots	40
English people tend to be less warm and friendly than Scots	35
English people tend to be less polite than Scots	27
English people tend to be more racist/xenophobic than Scots	25
English people tend to be more right-wing than Scots	23
English people tend to be more likely to whinge about things than Scots	17
None of these apply	28
Not sure	8

**Do you consider yourself to be:**

British first and Scottish second	16
Scottish first, British second	62
Equally British and Scottish	15
Neither British nor Scottish	7

**The next general election could be up to three years away. How do you think you would vote if the leaders of the three main parties were Gordon Brown (Labour), David Cameron (Conservative) and Sir Menzies Campbell (Liberal Democrat)?**

**Now suppose that Tony Blair were to remain Prime Minister and lead Labour into the next election, while David Cameron and Sir Menzies Campbell also remain leaders of their parties. How would you vote then?**

**Brown etc    Blair etc**

Labour	36	31
Scottish National Party	27	29
Conservative	21	21
Liberal Democrat	12	14
Some other party	6	6

**Would you prefer the next leader of the UK Labour Party to be...**

Elected without a contest	11
Elected with a contest	68
Don't know	18

**Do you think most Scots would be better or worse off if Scotland was independent?**

Better off	26
Worse off	42
It would make little difference	15
Don't know	17

**Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

**Agree    Disagree    Unsure**

<b>'Taxes would rise in Scotland if Scotland became independent'</b>	68	18	14
<b>'Scotland would be more vulnerable to a terrorist attack if it became independent'</b>	16	70	13
<b>'An independent Scotland would erect border posts at the border with England'</b>	16	70	14