

YouGov / Sunday Times Survey Results

Sample Size: 1118

Fieldwork: 15th - 17th August 2007

For full results click here

Sunday Times

All Scottish people

Unweighted Sample

Total	
1117	
1116	
%	

If there were a UK general election tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

(excluding Don't Knows and Wouldn't Votes)

Con	14
Lab	40
Lib Dem	11
SNP	31
Other	4

Other Parties UK Voting Intention

Green	2
UKIP	1
BNP	1
Respect	0
Other	1

How likely are you to vote in the next Scottish Parliament election?

Very likely to vote	73
Fairly likely	15
Not very likely	4
Very unlikely	2
Will not vote	4
Don't know	2

Sunday Times

All Scottish people
Unweighted Sample

Total	1117
	1116
	%

As you may know, every voter in the Scottish Parliament elections will be given TWO votes. One is for the local vote, for which candidates from the main political parties will stand (as is the case in the UK general election). The other is for the regional vote, in which you vote for the party rather than the candidate, who are then selected from a 'party list' dependent on how well the party does in that area.

Bearing in mind the fact that only the MAIN political parties will stand in the local vote, if you were to vote, which party's candidate would you vote for?

(all those except those who answered 'Will not vote')

Con	12
Lab	32
Lib	12
SNP	32
Other	12

Thinking now about the regional vote, if you were to vote, which party would you vote for?

Con	13
Lab	32
Lib Dem	12
SNP	35
Other	7

Sunday Times

All Scottish people

Unweighted Sample

Total	1117
	1116
	%

On the basis of what you know, would you say that First Minister Alex Salmond is doing well or badly as leader of the Scottish government since his party's election in May 2007?

Very well	20
Fairly well	45
Fairly badly	13
Very badly	5
Don't know	16

And would you say that the new government, the Scottish National Party, is doing well or badly since its election in May 2007?

Very well	16
Fairly well	48
Fairly badly	14
Very badly	6
Don't know	17

And in Westminster would you say that Gordon Brown is doing well or badly as Prime Minister of the UK?

Very well	27
Fairly well	49
Fairly badly	10
Very badly	4
Don't know	11

And who do you think is doing a better job as leader: Gordon Brown or Alex Salmond?

Gordon Brown	40
Alex Salmond	26
They're both about the same	26
Don't know	8

Sunday Times

All Scottish people
Unweighted Sample

Total	1117
	1116
	%

Under the current devolution settlement, Scotland receives around 20% more in public spending than England and Wales, which works out at around £1,500 extra per Scottish head per year. This money has enabled the Scottish government to give Scottish people benefits not available in England and Wales, such as free personal care for the elderly and free higher education.

Do you think it would be fair or unfair to now reduce Scotland's share of UK spending to bring it in line with spending levels in England and Wales?

Fair to now reduce spending in Scotland	16
Unfair to now reduce	73
Don't know	12

Thinking about Scotland's role in the economic and cultural make-up of the UK, do you think people in England and Wales fully appreciate the contribution that Scotland makes?

Yes, they fully appreciate Scotland's contribution	3
Yes, they appreciate it to a degree	11
No, they don't really appreciate it	50
No, they don't appreciate it at all	29
Don't know	9

In relation to this, do you think that people in Scotland are generally better off or worse off as a result of being part of the UK?

Better off as part of the UK	39
Worse off as part of the UK	25
It makes little difference	28
Don't know	9

Sunday Times

All Scottish people
Unweighted Sample

Total	1117
	1116
	%

Thinking now about Scotland's constitutional future...

underway about whether or not people in Scotland should be given the opportunity to vote in a referendum that finds out about public opinion in relation to the future of the Scottish Parliament. This referendum is likely to be a multi-option referendum, which looks at public support for stronger devolved powers for the Scottish Parliament from Westminster, as well as the possibility of Scotland's independence. Irrespective of how you would vote in such a referendum, do you think...

There should be a multi-option referendum to find out about Scottish independence as well as powers for the Parliament	44
There should be a referendum to find out ONLY whether the public supports Scottish independence from the UK	30
There should be NO referendum	16
Don't know	10

And imagine now that such a referendum were held tomorrow...

Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

Scotland should become an independent country'	23
The Scottish Parliament should be given more powers, rather than Scotland becoming independent'	39
Things in Scotland should remain as they are'	20
The Scottish Parliament should be abolished'	9
None of these	1
Don't know	8

Sunday Times

All Scottish people
Unweighted Sample

Total	1117
	1116
	%

would you consider supporting Scottish independence in any of the following circumstances: [please tick all that apply] (all except those who answered 'Scotland should become an independent country')

Yes, if the Conservatives win the next UK general election	12
Yes, if the Labour Party is elected again in the next UK general election	3
Yes, if Alex Salmond really impresses me as First Minister for Scotland	13
Yes, if Gordon Brown were to reduce the share of the public expenditure Scotland currently receives	10
I would consider supporting Scottish independence but not for these reasons	12
Don't know	13
No, I would NOT support Scottish Independence under these or any circumstances	51

Sunday Times

All Scottish people

Unweighted Sample

Total	1117
	1116
	%

Now imagine that Scotland becomes an independent country, separate from the United Kingdom, tomorrow...

If that were to happen, do you think it would be fair on the rest of the UK to have a Scottish Prime Minister?

Yes, it would be fair on people in the UK to have a Scottish Prime Minister even if Scotland was no longer in the UK	52
No, it would not be fair on people in the UK to have a Scottish Prime Minister	35
Don't know	13

And how do you think Scottish independence would affect people in Scotland in terms of their wealth?

Scottish people would be poorer	35
Scottish people would be richer	15
Independence would make no different to people's wealth	14
Difficult to say	30
Don't know	5

Moving onto leadership...

Out of the following, who (if any) would you MOST like to see as leader of the Scottish government?

Alex Salmond, current First Minister for Scotland	38
Annabel Goldie, leader of the Scottish Conservative Party	7
Jack McConnell, former leader of the Scottish Labour Party	10
Nicol Stephen, leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats	5
Wendy Alexander, former Enterprise Minister	7
None of these	17
Don't know	16

Sunday Times

All Scottish people

Unweighted Sample

Total	1117
	1116
	%

For each of the following people, please indicate which qualities you would associate with them most:

Alex Salmond

Friendly	19
Unfriendly	1
Humble	1
Arrogant	24
Has good ideas for Scotland	32
Has bad ideas for Scotland	10
None of these	2
Don't know	12

Wendy Alexander

Friendly	12
Unfriendly	6
Humble	3
Arrogant	16
Has good ideas for Scotland	9
Has bad ideas for Scotland	5
None of these	5
Don't know	44

Jack McConnell

Friendly	16
Unfriendly	3
Humble	4
Arrogant	26
Has good ideas for Scotland	15
Has bad ideas for Scotland	10
None of these	8
Don't know	18

And for these...

Alex Salmond

Honest	26
Dishonest	4
Patronising	27
Weak	3
Strong	23
None of these	4
Don't know	14

Sunday Times

All Scottish people
Unweighted Sample

Total	
1117	
1116	
	%

Wendy Alexander

Honest	11
Dishonest	3
Patronising	21
Weak	9
Strong	9
None of these	5
Don't know	42

Jack McConnell

Honest	15
Dishonest	10
Patronising	21
Weak	19
Strong	10
None of these	7
Don't know	19

And finally...

All things considered (and irrespective of whether or not you agree with the idea of an independent Scotland) do you think, if Scotland were to become independent, that it would be as successful as Ireland has been in recent years?

Yes, as successful	49
No, not as successful	31
Don't know	21

Sunday Times

All Scottish people

Unweighted Sample

Total	1117
	1116
	%

In your view, do you believe that Scotland is likely to become independent in the future?

Yes, within five years	6
Yes, within five to ten years	16
Yes, within ten to twenty years	19
Yes, but probably NOT within twenty years	19
No, probably never	29
Don't know	12

And who, out of the following, do you most closely identify with?

The Americans	4
The English	26
The French	3
The Germans	2
The Irish	37
The Welsh	6
None of these	15
Don't know	8