

# YouGov Survey Results

## The Conservatives

*Prepared for The Daily Telegraph / Sky News*

**Sample Size: 2441**

**Fieldwork: 31st September - 2nd October 2003**

		%
<b>Voting Intention</b>	Con	<b>33</b>
	Lab	<b>33</b>
	Lib Dem	<b>28</b>
	Other	<b>6</b>
	SNP / PCY	<b>2</b>
	Geen	<b>1</b>
	UKIP	<b>1</b>
	BNP	<b>3</b>
	Would Not Vote	<b>8</b>
	Don't know	<b>12</b>

**Here is a list of problems facing the country. Could you tell me for each of them which political party you personally think would handle the problem best?**

<b>Inflation and prices...</b>	Conservative	<b>28</b>
	Labour	<b>34</b>
	Liberal Democrat	<b>10</b>
	Other	<b>2</b>
	None of them	<b>15</b>
	Don't know	<b>12</b>

<b>Unemployment...</b>	Conservative	<b>21</b>
	Labour	<b>35</b>
	Liberal Democrat	<b>15</b>
	Other	<b>2</b>
	None of them	<b>14</b>
	Don't know	<b>13</b>

<b>Britain's defence...</b>	Conservative	<b>35</b>
	Labour	<b>23</b>
	Liberal Democrat	<b>10</b>
	Other	<b>2</b>
	None of them	<b>13</b>
	Don't know	<b>16</b>

<b>The National Health Service...</b>	Conservative	<b>21</b>
	Labour	<b>25</b>
	Liberal Democrat	<b>23</b>
	Other	<b>2</b>
	None of them	<b>18</b>
	Don't know	<b>12</b>

**Education and schools...**

Conservative	<b>25</b>
Labour	<b>23</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>23</b>
Other	<b>2</b>
None of them	<b>13</b>
Don't know	<b>14</b>

**Law and order...**

Conservative	<b>34</b>
Labour	<b>21</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>13</b>
Other	<b>3</b>
None of them	<b>15</b>
Don't know	<b>15</b>

**Public transport: railways and buses...**

Conservative	<b>17</b>
Labour	<b>17</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>20</b>
Other	<b>3</b>
None of them	<b>26</b>
Don't know	<b>17</b>

**Europe...**

Conservative	<b>28</b>
Labour	<b>20</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>15</b>
Other	<b>4</b>
None of them	<b>16</b>
Don't know	<b>17</b>

**Taxation...**

Conservative	<b>30</b>
Labour	<b>21</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>17</b>
Other	<b>2</b>
None of them	<b>18</b>
Don't know	<b>14</b>

**Immigration and asylum-seekers...**

Conservative	<b>31</b>
Labour	<b>16</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>13</b>
Other	<b>6</b>
None of them	<b>20</b>
Don't know	<b>16</b>

**Agriculture and the countryside...**

Conservative	<b>28</b>
Labour	<b>16</b>
Liberal Democrat	<b>19</b>
Other	<b>4</b>
None of them	<b>12</b>
Don't know	<b>21</b>

**The situation in Iraq...**

Conservative	18
Labour	23
Liberal Democrat	15
Other	3
None of them	22
Don't know	20

**Which TWO of these issues are most important when you are deciding which party to vote for at a general election?:Crime**

Crime	33
Education	27
The euro	17
Iraq	5
Taxation	29
Asylum-seekers	25
NHS	47
Transport	8
Don't know	4

**People often see political parties as being close, or not close, to various sections of society. How close do you see the Conservatives being to each of these kinds of people?  
Working-class people...**

Very close	2
Fairly close	18
Not very close	37
Not at all close	39
Don't know	4

**Women...**

Very close	4
Fairly close	30
Not very close	41
Not at all close	17
Don't know	9

**The rich...**

Very close	66
Fairly close	29
Not very close	1
Not at all close	1
Don't know	3

**City-dwellers...**

Very close	20
Fairly close	45
Not very close	21
Not at all close	5
Don't know	9

**Professional and business people...**

Very close	51
Fairly close	39
Not very close	4
Not at all close	2
Don't know	4

**Gay people...**

Very close	<b>4</b>
Fairly close	<b>14</b>
Not very close	<b>35</b>
Not at all close	<b>29</b>
Don't know	<b>19</b>

**The poor...**

Very close	<b>2</b>
Fairly close	<b>10</b>
Not very close	<b>30</b>
Not at all close	<b>53</b>
Don't know	<b>4</b>

**Members of ethnic minorities...**

Very close	<b>4</b>
Fairly close	<b>21</b>
Not very close	<b>37</b>
Not at all close	<b>27</b>
Don't know	<b>11</b>

**Trade union members...**

Very close	<b>2</b>
Fairly close	<b>10</b>
Not very close	<b>32</b>
Not at all close	<b>49</b>
Don't know	<b>8</b>

**People who live in the country...**

Very close	<b>23</b>
Fairly close	<b>45</b>
Not very close	<b>17</b>
Not at all close	<b>7</b>
Don't know	<b>9</b>

**Old people...**

Very close	<b>5</b>
Fairly close	<b>27</b>
Not very close	<b>36</b>
Not at all close	<b>24</b>
Don't know	<b>9</b>

**Which of these statements comes closest to your view?**

'The Conservatives are ready for power and look like a 'Government in waiting'.'	<b>12</b>
'The Conservatives are not ready for power and need more time to prepare themselves.'	<b>76</b>
Don't know	<b>12</b>

**Here are some reasons people give for not voting Conservative at the moment. Please indicate for each of them whether you personally sympathise with it or not...**

**The Conservatives are not really interested in public services such as education and the health service...**

Yes, do sympathise	<b>40</b>
No, do not sympathise	<b>43</b>
Don't know	<b>17</b>

**It is hard to know just what the Conservatives stand for at the moment...**

Yes, do sympathise	<b>70</b>
No, do not sympathise	<b>21</b>
Don't know	<b>9</b>

**They did not do a good job of governing the country when John Major was Prime Minister...**

Yes, do sympathise	<b>53</b>
No, do not sympathise	<b>37</b>
Don't know	<b>11</b>

**The Conservatives are irrelevant: they just seem 'out of it'...**

Yes, do sympathise	<b>53</b>
No, do not sympathise	<b>32</b>
Don't know	<b>15</b>

**They are not providing the Blair Government with a strong opposition...**

Yes, do sympathise	<b>71</b>
No, do not sympathise	<b>18</b>
Don't know	<b>11</b>

**Is Iain Duncan Smith at the moment providing the Conservative Party with...**

Strong and effective leadership	<b>3</b>
Adequate leadership - but not more	<b>41</b>
Weak and ineffectual leadership	<b>47</b>
Don't know	<b>10</b>

**Bearing in mind that the next general election may be two years away, which of these statements applies to you?**

I shall definitely vote Conservative	<b>20</b>
I might consider voting Conservative if the party changed for the better	<b>24</b>
I shall definitely not vote Conservative	<b>46</b>
Don't know	<b>10</b>

**Who would make the best Prime Minister?**

Tony Blair	<b>35</b>
Iain Duncan Smith	<b>14</b>
Charles Kennedy	<b>22</b>
Don't know	<b>30</b>

**Who do you trust more?**

Tony Blair	<b>26</b>
Iain Duncan Smith	<b>25</b>
Do not trust either	<b>42</b>
Don't know	<b>7</b>

**Is the Conservative Party in a better or worse condition now than it was in 1997?**

Better condition	<b>15</b>
Worse condition	<b>44</b>
Not changed much either way	<b>33</b>
Don't know	<b>8</b>

**Is Iain Duncan Smith the right person to lead the Conservative party?**

Right person	<b>12</b>
Wrong person	<b>57</b>
Don't know	<b>31</b>

**Would the Conservatives under Iain Duncan Smith provide a competent government?**

Would provide a competent government	<b>20</b>
Would not	<b>53</b>
Don't know	<b>27</b>

**Would you be more or less likely to vote Conservative if they replaced Iain Duncan Smith as leader with Michael Howard, the shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer?**

More likely to vote Conservative	<b>13</b>
Less likely	<b>11</b>
Make no difference	<b>66</b>
Don't know	<b>10</b>

**Would you be more or less likely to vote Conservative if they replaced Iain Duncan Smith as leader with Michael Portillo, the former Defence Secretary?**

More likely to vote Conservative	<b>14</b>
Less likely	<b>26</b>
Make no difference	<b>51</b>
Don't know	<b>9</b>

**Would you be more or less likely to vote Conservative if they replaced Iain Duncan Smith as leader with Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer?**

More likely to vote Conservative	<b>24</b>
Less likely	<b>15</b>
Make no difference	<b>51</b>
Don't know	<b>10</b>

**Should the Conservatives have supported or opposed the war against Iraq?**

Supported	<b>47</b>
Opposed	<b>35</b>
Don't know	<b>18</b>