

YouGov / Daily Telegraph Survey Results

Sample Size: 1757

Fieldwork: 22nd - 24th August 2006

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Taking everything into account, how do you rate the government's handling so far of terrorism and the terrorist threat to Britain?

Excellent	4
Good	23
Fair	32
Poor	20
Very poor	18
Don't know	3

Who do you believe should be in charge of security in UK airports?

The Government	42
The Airport Authorities	43
Don't know	15

As a result of the recent plot to blow up trans-Atlantic airliners, are you more nervous about flying than you were before?

Yes, I'm a lot more nervous	11
Yes, I'm a little more nervous	31
No, I'm no more nervous than I was before	48
I never fly anyway	10
Don't know	1

Have you by any chance decided not to fly again?

Yes, I'm not going to fly again if I can avoid it	6
No, I still intend to fly	80
I have never flown but would still be prepared to	5
I had already decided never to fly	5
Don't know	4

Has the discovery of the alleged plot made you more inclined to take your holidays in Britain?

Yes, it has: I will probably take my holidays in Britain from now on	8
No, it hasn't: I still expect to travel abroad	72
No, it hasn't: I always take my holidays in Britain anyway	15
Don't know	5

%

As you probably know, there is a good deal of controversy at the moment about security checks at airports. Which ONE of the following statements comes closest to your own view?

All passengers should be subject to the same new security checks: the terrorists can always recruit people who don't look or act like terrorists	75
Only those who look or act suspiciously, or about whom the authorities have intelligence information, should be subject to the new security checks	8
All of those, but only those, who appear to be of Middle Eastern or Asian origin should be subject to the new security checks	6
The new security checks are excessive, and the old levels of security should be reinstated as soon as possible	8
Don't know	4

Irrespective of who was seeking to carry it out, do you think there actually was a plot to blow up trans-Atlantic airliners?

Yes, there was	72
No, there wasn't	6
Don't know	22

Irrespective of the authenticity of the threat (to bomb aircraft), do you think there has been an overreaction on this occasion or was the response justified?

There has been a gross overreaction	6
There has been some overreaction	20
The response to the perceived threat was justified	70
Don't know	4

If there was a plot, who do you think was behind it?

Islamic extremists in this country with assistance from terrorist groups in other countries	67
Islamic extremists in this country acting on their own without outside assistance	5
The American or Israeli governments, seeking to distract attention from what is going on in the Middle East	3
The Blair Government, seeking to distract attention from its current difficulties	3
Left-wing political extremists	0
Right-wing political extremists	0
Don't know	21

%

Still thinking about the recent plot to blow up trans-Atlantic airliners, from what you know, how well do you think the...? [Please select one option from each row]

Police, MI5 and the other security services have performed during the current emergency

Very well	44
Fairly well	42
Not very well	5
Not at all well	2
Don't know	7

Major airlines have performed during the current emergency

Very well	22
Fairly well	52
Not very well	15
Not at all well	5
Don't know	6

BAA and the other airport authorities have performed during the current emergency

Very well	19
Fairly well	44
Not very well	20
Not at all well	10
Don't know	6

Have you yourself flown from a British airport to any destination since the alleged plot to blow up aircrafts was revealed?

Yes, I have	5
No, I haven't	95

(To those who had flown from a British airport) Given the circumstances, how well do you think you were treated by the airport authorities and your airline(s)?

Very well	37
Fairly well	44
Fairly badly	15
Very badly	4
Don't know	0

%

(To all) How would you rate the chances of you or a member of your family or a good friend being killed or wounded in a terrorist attack? Do you think the chances are...?

Very high	2
Fairly high	6
Fairly low	29
Very low	30
Almost non-existent	25
Don't know	10

Which ONE of the following statements about British Muslims comes closest to your own view?

Practically all British Muslims are peaceful, law-abiding citizens who deplore acts of terrorism as much as everyone else	16
The great majority are peaceful and law-abiding citizens but there is a dangerous minority who feel no sense of loyalty to this country and are prepared to carry out, or at least to condone, acts of terrorism	61
A large proportion of British Muslims feel no sense of loyalty to this country and are prepared to condone or even carry out acts of terrorism	18
Don't know	5

Should Britain's security services now focus their intelligence-gathering and terrorism-prevention efforts on Muslims living in this country and Muslims seeking to enter this country?

Yes, they should: although most Muslims are not terrorists, most terrorists who threaten this country are Muslims	65
No, they should not: nothing should be done that divides this country and threatens to alienate decent and law-abiding Muslims	23
Don't know	12

Do you feel that Islam – as distinct from Islamic fundamentalist groups – poses a threat to Western liberal democracy?

Yes, Islam poses a major threat	23
Yes, it poses some threat	30
No, it does not pose much of a threat	21
No, it poses no threat at all	13
Don't know	12