

# Voting System Survey

CATI Fieldwork : June 12th-14th 2009

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

**Q.1 Which of these statements best describes your opinion on the present system of governing Britain?****Base: All respondents**

	Gender		Age						Social Grade				Region					
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Midlands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Unweighted base	1006	441	565	73	122	178	203	199	231	334	248	171	253	233	229	273	160	111
Weighted base	1006	483	523	120	160	199	169	149	209	262	292	211	241	264	264	248	142	89
It works extremely well and could not be improved	26 3%	16 3%	9 2%	8 7%	-	6 3%	1 1%	2 1%	8 4%	2 1%	7 2%	9 4%	8 3%	5 2%	6 2%	6 2%	3 2%	7 8%
It could be improved in small ways but mainly works well	226 22%	113 23%	113 22%	45 37%	49 30%	28 14%	36 21%	33 22%	36 17%	63 24%	76 26%	38 18%	49 20%	50 19%	68 26%	60 24%	28 19%	20 22%
It could be improved quite a lot	329 33%	147 31%	182 35%	38 32%	50 31%	78 39%	53 32%	50 34%	60 29%	93 36%	101 35%	64 30%	71 30%	94 36%	69 26%	91 37%	50 36%	25 28%
It needs a great deal of improvement	418 42%	205 42%	213 41%	28 24%	61 38%	88 44%	79 47%	61 41%	101 48%	103 40%	106 36%	99 47%	109 45%	111 42%	119 45%	92 37%	59 42%	37 42%
Don't know	7 1%	1 *	6 1%	-	-	-	-	3 2%	4 2%	*	1 *	2 1%	4 2%	4 2%	1 1%	-	2 1%	*

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Table 2

**Q.2 I am going to read out a number of statements and I would like you to tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each?**

#### **Summary Table**

**Base: All respondents**

		Statements		
		This country should adopt a new voting system that would give parties seats in Parliament in proportion to their share of votes	The voting system produces governments which do not represent the views of most ordinary people	The present system of voting is the only way the country can get strong one-party governments that will get things done
Unweighted base		1006	1006	1006
Weighted base		1006	1006	1006
NET: Agree		630 63%	566 56%	534 53%
Strongly agree	(+2)	375 37%	309 31%	301 30%
Tend to agree	(+1)	255 25%	257 26%	233 23%
Neither agree nor disagree	(0)	133 13%	168 17%	160 16%
Tend to disagree	(-1)	89 9%	127 13%	150 15%
Strongly disagree	(-2)	132 13%	125 12%	143 14%
NET: Disagree		222 22%	252 25%	293 29%
Don't know		21 2%	20 2%	18 2%
Mean		0.66	0.50	0.40
Standard deviation		1.41	1.38	1.42
Standard error		0.04	0.04	0.05











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	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Midlands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Weighted base	1006	483	523	120	160	199	169	149	209	262	292	211	241	264	264	248	142	89
<b>Social Grade</b>																		
AB	262 26%	128 27%	133 25%	21 17%	53 33%	64 32%	47 28%	36 24%	41 19%	262 100%	-	-	-	76 29%	65 25%	63 25%	34 24%	24 27%
C1	292 29%	132 27%	160 31%	47 39%	46 29%	71 35%	46 27%	43 29%	40 19%	-	292 100%	-	-	75 29%	75 28%	80 32%	44 31%	18 20%
C2	211 21%	126 26%	85 16%	29 24%	26 16%	44 22%	47 28%	33 22%	33 16%	-	-	211 100%	-	46 18%	64 24%	43 17%	36 25%	22 25%
DE	241 24%	97 20%	145 28%	23 19%	35 22%	21 10%	30 18%	38 25%	95 46%	-	-	-	241 100%	66 25%	60 23%	63 25%	28 20%	25 28%
<b>Region</b>																		
North	337 33%	164 34%	173 33%	43 36%	61 38%	61 30%	52 31%	52 35%	68 32%	87 33%	98 33%	65 31%	88 36%	-	-	248 100%	-	89 100%
Midlands	316 31%	144 30%	171 33%	28 23%	53 33%	63 31%	52 30%	52 35%	69 33%	72 28%	87 30%	83 39%	74 31%	-	264 100%	-	52 37%	-
South	353 35%	175 36%	178 34%	49 41%	46 29%	76 38%	65 39%	46 30%	72 35%	103 39%	108 37%	63 30%	79 33%	264 100%	-	-	90 63%	-

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Weighted base	1006	483	523	120	160	199	169	149	209	262	292	211	241	264	264	248	142	89
<b>Working status</b>																		
Full-time	453 45%	279 58%	174 33%	43 36%	108 67%	142 71%	109 64%	46 31%	6 3%	156 60%	149 51%	107 51%	41 17%	131 50%	119 45%	107 43%	54 38%	41 46%
Part-time	121 12%	33 7%	87 17%	22 18%	14 9%	27 14%	25 15%	24 16%	8 4%	29 11%	49 17%	29 14%	14 6%	21 8%	34 13%	31 12%	25 18%	10 11%
Not working but seeking work or temporarily unemployed/sick	67 7%	34 7%	33 6%	21 18%	12 8%	10 5%	10 6%	13 9%	1 *	6 2%	13 5%	13 6%	35 14%	18 7%	19 7%	20 8%	7 5%	4 4%
Not working/not seeking work	69 7%	16 3%	53 10%	11 9%	20 12%	10 5%	15 9%	12 8%	2 1%	6 2%	15 5%	11 5%	37 15%	21 8%	17 7%	14 6%	6 4%	10 12%
Retired	252 25%	96 20%	156 30%	-	-	4 2%	9 5%	50 33%	189 91%	53 20%	48 16%	39 19%	112 47%	61 23%	66 25%	66 27%	41 29%	17 20%
Student	30 3%	18 4%	12 2%	21 18%	4 2%	3 2%	1 1%	1 *	-	8 3%	13 4%	10 5%	-	8 3%	4 1%	8 3%	8 5%	3 3%
Refused	14 1%	6 1%	9 2%	2 1%	2 1%	1 *	4 3%	4 2%	4 2%	5 2%	3 1%	2 1%	4 1%	4 1%	3 1%	1 *	3 4%	

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Weighted base	1006	483	523	120	160	199	169	149	209	262	292	211	241	264	264	248	142	89
<b>Tenure</b>																		
Own outright	328 33%	161 33%	167 32%	17 14%	11 7%	33 16%	37 22%	82 55%	149 71%	95 36%	93 32%	61 29%	79 33%	76 29%	97 37%	84 34%	48 34%	24 27%
Own with a mortgage	389 39%	201 42%	188 36%	42 35%	82 51%	119 60%	101 59%	35 23%	11 5%	132 50%	124 42%	100 47%	33 14%	99 38%	106 40%	98 39%	56 39%	30 34%
Council	129 13%	50 10%	79 15%	34 29%	17 10%	18 9%	17 10%	12 8%	31 15%	4 2%	17 6%	27 13%	81 34%	38 15%	29 11%	33 13%	14 10%	14 16%
Housing Assoc.	40 4%	13 3%	27 5%	4 4%	7 4%	9 4%	4 2%	8 5%	9 4%	4 2%	11 4%	4 2%	21 9%	17 7%	11 4%	5 2%	4 3%	3 3%
Rented from someone else	87 9%	43 9%	44 8%	18 15%	38 24%	16 8%	7 4%	5 4%	4 2%	19 7%	34 12%	15 7%	19 8%	25 9%	12 5%	20 8%	18 13%	12 13%
Rent free	12 1%	5 1%	7 1%	1 1%	2 1%	3 1%	3 2%	3 2%	-	2 1%	7 2%	*	2 1%	5 2%	1 *	3 1%	1 1%	2 2%
Refused	20 2%	9 2%	12 2%	3 2%	3 2%	2 1%	2 1%	5 3%	6 3%	6 2%	7 2%	3 2%	5 2%	4 1%	8 3%	5 2%	1 1%	3 4%

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Weighted base	1006	483	523	120	160	199	169	149	209	262	292	211	241	264	264	248	142	89
<b>Foreign Holiday in last 3 years</b>																		
Yes	604 60%	303 63%	301 58%	66 55%	123 77%	128 64%	100 59%	90 60%	97 46%	206 79%	197 67%	120 57%	82 34%	161 61%	161 61%	142 57%	91 64%	49 55%
No	402 40%	180 37%	222 42%	54 45%	37 23%	71 36%	69 41%	59 40%	112 54%	56 21%	95 33%	92 43%	159 66%	103 39%	103 39%	106 43%	51 36%	39 45%
<b>Number of cars</b>																		
None	209 21%	75 15%	135 26%	23 19%	36 23%	26 13%	25 15%	30 20%	70 33%	29 11%	44 15%	18 8%	118 49%	71 27%	43 16%	55 22%	22 16%	18 20%
1	418 42%	193 40%	226 43%	44 36%	59 37%	83 41%	60 36%	73 49%	100 48%	101 38%	135 46%	94 44%	89 37%	102 39%	101 38%	107 43%	65 45%	44 49%
2	289 29%	158 33%	130 25%	30 25%	55 35%	81 40%	55 32%	34 23%	34 16%	104 40%	84 29%	73 35%	28 12%	68 26%	87 33%	75 30%	37 26%	21 24%
3+	90 9%	57 12%	33 6%	23 19%	10 6%	10 5%	29 17%	12 8%	5 3%	28 11%	29 10%	27 13%	5 2%	22 8%	32 12%	11 5%	18 13%	6 6%

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Weighted base	1006	483	523	120	160	199	169	149	209	262	292	211	241	264	264	248	142	89
<b><u>Internet Access</u></b>																		
At all	810 80%	409 85%	401 77%	115 96%	150 94%	184 92%	156 92%	115 77%	90 43%	243 93%	258 88%	175 83%	134 56%	219 83%	213 81%	194 78%	116 82%	68 76%
At home (net)	750 75%	384 80%	366 70%	110 92%	138 87%	175 88%	142 84%	105 70%	81 39%	230 88%	236 81%	165 78%	119 49%	205 78%	198 75%	171 69%	113 80%	63 71%
At work (net)	361 36%	196 41%	165 31%	39 32%	83 52%	116 58%	75 44%	36 24%	12 6%	157 60%	142 49%	48 23%	13 6%	102 39%	95 36%	85 34%	47 33%	31 35%
At home	427 42%	204 42%	223 43%	76 64%	63 39%	68 34%	75 44%	74 49%	72 34%	84 32%	113 39%	122 58%	107 44%	110 42%	113 43%	101 41%	67 47%	35 39%
At work	37 4%	16 3%	21 4%	5 4%	7 5%	8 4%	8 5%	5 3%	3 1%	11 4%	19 6%	6 3%	2 1%	8 3%	10 4%	15 6%	1 1%	3 3%
Both at home and at work	323 32%	180 37%	143 27%	33 28%	76 47%	107 54%	66 39%	32 21%	9 4%	146 56%	123 42%	43 20%	12 5%	95 36%	85 32%	70 28%	46 32%	28 32%
Somewhere else	23 2%	9 2%	14 3%	-	5 3%	1 1%	6 3%	5 4%	6 3%	2 1%	3 1%	4 2%	13 6%	6 2%	4 2%	8 3%	2 1%	2 2%
Not at all	196 20%	74 15%	122 23%	5 4%	9 6%	15 8%	14 8%	34 23%	119 57%	18 7%	34 12%	37 17%	107 44%	45 17%	51 19%	54 22%	26 18%	21 24%

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Weighted base	1006	483	523	120	160	199	169	149	209	262	292	211	241	264	264	248	142	89
<b>What is the highest educational level that you have achieved to date?</b>																		
Secondary/ high school/ NVQ 1-3	508 51%	241 50%	267 51%	75 63%	73 46%	95 48%	81 48%	75 50%	109 52%	77 29%	137 47%	144 68%	150 62%	124 47%	132 50%	135 54%	71 50%	46 51%
University degree or equivalent professional qualification/ NVQ4	285 28%	146 30%	139 27%	31 26%	52 33%	66 33%	52 30%	47 31%	39 18%	117 45%	101 35%	35 16%	33 13%	83 32%	75 28%	70 28%	37 26%	21 24%
Higher university degree/ Doctorate/ MBA/ NVQ 5 or equivalent	91 9%	46 10%	44 9%	4 4%	22 14%	25 13%	22 13%	7 5%	10 5%	54 21%	27 9%	5 2%	5 2%	25 9%	27 10%	17 7%	14 10%	8 9%
No formal education	103 10%	42 9%	61 12%	8 6%	11 7%	10 5%	13 8%	17 12%	44 21%	8 3%	19 7%	25 12%	51 21%	27 10%	25 9%	24 10%	17 12%	10 12%
None of these	3 *	1 *	2 *	-	-	-	-	1 *	2 1%	1 *	1 *	-	1 1%	-	1 *	-	2 1%	1 1%
Refused	15 2%	6 1%	9 2%	2 1%	2 1%	2 1%	2 1%	3 2%	5 2%	4 2%	6 2%	3 1%	2 1%	5 2%	4 1%	2 1%	1 1%	3 4%



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Weighted base	1006	483	523	120	160	199	169	149	209	262	292	211	241	264	264	248	142	89
<b>Grocery shopping status</b>																		
Yes - do half or more	779	304	475	73	124	151	131	125	175	187	233	158	201	208	201	197	105	68
	77%	63%	91%	61%	77%	76%	77%	84%	84%	71%	80%	75%	83%	79%	76%	74%	77%	
No - do less than half	218	177	41	47	34	46	38	23	30	72	56	52	38	52	61	50	37	19
	22%	37%	8%	39%	21%	23%	22%	15%	15%	28%	19%	25%	16%	20%	23%	20%	26%	21%
Refused	9	2	7	-	2	2	1	1	3	3	3	2	1	4	2	1	-	2
	1%	*	1%	-	1%	1%	*	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%