

Northern Rock Survey

CATI Fieldwork : February 20th-21st 2008

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

Q.1 If Britain's economy were to face problems in the months or years ahead, who would you most trust to deal with it in the best interests of Britain?

Base: All respondents

	Gender			Age						Social Class				Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Unweighted base	519	231	288	32	84	83	102	108	110	177	101	105	136	137	133	128	73	48
Weighted base	519	249	270	62	82	103	87	77	108	135	151	109	124	136	136	128	73	46
Gordon Brown & the Chancellor of the Exchequer Alistair Darling	196 38%	101 41%	95 35%	26 42%	38 47%	43 41%	28 31%	26 33%	36 33%	54 40%	53 35%	44 40%	46 37%	44 33%	52 38%	61 47%	25 34%	14 31%
David Cameron & the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne	175 34%	82 33%	93 34%	26 42%	20 25%	30 30%	26 30%	26 33%	46 43%	49 36%	51 34%	36 33%	39 32%	61 45%	43 32%	29 23%	23 32%	18 39%
Neither of these	53 10%	32 13%	21 8%	3 5%	5 6%	14 14%	12 14%	9 11%	10 9%	9 7%	17 12%	12 11%	15 12%	9 7%	16 12%	15 11%	6 8%	7 16%
Refused	9 2%	4 2%	5 2%	- -	1 1%	2 2%	- -	2 3%	4 4%	2 2%	3 2%	3 2%	1 1%	2 1%	4 3%	2 1%	1 2%	* 1%
Don't know	85 16%	30 12%	55 21%	7 11%	18 22%	13 13%	21 24%	15 20%	11 10%	20 15%	27 18%	15 14%	24 19%	19 14%	20 15%	22 17%	18 24%	6 14%

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Table 2

Q.2 How much do you think each of the following is to blame for the problems experienced by Northern Rock?

Base: All respondents

	Gender			Age						Social Class				Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Unweighted base	519	231	288	32	84	83	102	108	110	177	101	105	136	137	133	128	73	48
Weighted base	519	249	270	62	82	103	87	77	108	135	151	109	124	136	136	128	73	46
<u>The Labour government</u>																		
NET: At all	305	139	166	32	51	57	51	49	65	87	81	65	71	80	79	76	44	25
	59%	56%	62%	51%	62%	55%	58%	64%	60%	64%	54%	60%	57%	59%	58%	59%	60%	55%
A great deal	110	45	65	15	10	16	16	19	35	22	24	29	35	28	23	32	16	11
	21%	18%	24%	24%	12%	16%	18%	24%	32%	16%	16%	26%	28%	21%	17%	25%	22%	25%
Somewhat	194	94	101	17	41	40	35	30	30	65	57	37	36	52	56	44	28	14
	37%	38%	37%	27%	50%	39%	41%	40%	28%	48%	38%	34%	29%	38%	41%	35%	38%	30%
Not at all	159	93	66	24	22	37	24	19	33	35	51	34	39	38	40	46	17	17
	31%	37%	24%	39%	27%	36%	27%	24%	31%	26%	34%	31%	31%	28%	29%	36%	24%	38%
Refused	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	*	*	-	1	-
	*	1%	*	-	-	-	-	3%	-	1%	1%	-	-	*	*	-	2%	-
Don't know	53	16	37	6	9	9	12	7	10	12	17	10	14	17	16	6	10	3
	10%	7%	14%	10%	11%	8%	14%	9%	9%	9%	11%	9%	12%	13%	12%	5%	14%	7%
<u>Financial problems in the American mortgage market</u>																		
NET: At all	341	176	165	41	48	70	53	56	73	94	99	73	76	90	88	87	49	28
	66%	71%	61%	67%	58%	68%	61%	72%	68%	69%	66%	67%	61%	66%	65%	68%	67%	61%
A great deal	165	101	63	14	19	35	25	30	43	48	46	37	35	38	40	51	24	11
	32%	41%	24%	22%	23%	34%	29%	39%	39%	35%	30%	34%	28%	28%	30%	40%	32%	25%
Somewhat	176	74	102	28	29	35	28	26	31	46	53	37	41	52	47	35	25	16
	34%	30%	38%	45%	35%	34%	32%	33%	29%	34%	35%	34%	33%	38%	35%	27%	34%	36%
Not at all	98	50	48	13	23	21	17	12	13	26	25	22	24	29	26	22	11	10
	19%	20%	18%	22%	27%	21%	19%	16%	12%	19%	17%	20%	20%	22%	19%	17%	15%	21%
Don't know	79	23	56	7	12	11	18	9	22	15	27	13	24	16	22	20	13	8
	15%	9%	21%	12%	15%	11%	20%	12%	20%	11%	18%	12%	20%	12%	16%	15%	18%	18%

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	Gender			Age						Social Class				Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Weighted base	519	249	270	62	82	103	87	77	108	135	151	109	124	136	136	128	73	46
<u>The management of Northern Rock</u>																		
NET: At all	396	199	197	48	61	79	62	65	81	114	123	76	84	106	103	97	55	35
	76%	80%	73%	77%	74%	77%	71%	84%	75%	84%	82%	69%	67%	78%	76%	76%	75%	77%
A great deal	266	139	127	30	33	47	42	44	70	69	90	54	53	71	71	63	35	26
	51%	56%	47%	49%	40%	46%	48%	57%	65%	51%	60%	50%	42%	52%	52%	49%	47%	58%
Somewhat	130	60	70	18	28	32	20	21	11	45	33	21	31	34	32	34	20	9
	25%	24%	26%	28%	34%	31%	23%	28%	11%	33%	22%	20%	25%	25%	24%	27%	28%	19%
Not at all	68	33	35	11	12	15	13	6	11	12	12	21	24	13	20	22	6	6
	13%	13%	13%	18%	14%	14%	15%	8%	10%	9%	8%	19%	19%	10%	15%	17%	8%	14%
Don't know	55	17	38	3	9	9	13	6	16	10	16	12	17	17	13	9	12	4
	11%	7%	14%	5%	11%	8%	14%	8%	14%	7%	10%	11%	14%	13%	9%	7%	16%	9%
<u>The Bank of England and City authorities</u>																		
NET: At all	334	148	186	42	53	62	52	55	69	88	94	71	80	86	87	92	45	24
	64%	59%	69%	67%	65%	61%	59%	71%	64%	65%	63%	65%	65%	63%	64%	72%	61%	52%
A great deal	95	54	41	12	11	16	13	16	27	23	21	25	25	19	26	31	15	4
	18%	22%	15%	20%	13%	16%	15%	21%	25%	17%	14%	23%	20%	14%	19%	24%	21%	9%
Somewhat	238	94	145	29	42	46	39	39	42	64	73	46	55	68	61	61	29	19
	46%	38%	54%	47%	51%	45%	45%	51%	39%	48%	48%	42%	44%	50%	45%	47%	40%	43%
Not at all	122	82	41	17	17	31	20	14	23	35	35	29	22	30	34	27	15	16
	24%	33%	15%	28%	21%	30%	22%	18%	21%	26%	23%	27%	18%	22%	25%	21%	20%	35%
Don't know	63	20	43	3	12	9	16	8	16	12	21	9	22	20	14	9	14	6
	12%	8%	16%	5%	14%	9%	18%	10%	15%	9%	14%	8%	17%	15%	11%	7%	19%	14%

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Base: All respondents

	Gender			Age						Social Class				Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Weighted base	519	249	270	62	82	103	87	77	108	135	151	109	124	136	136	128	73	46
<u>Other banks & financial institutions</u>																		
NET: At all	317	149	168	31	51	65	50	50	70	83	95	61	78	76	81	83	51	27
	61%	60%	62%	51%	62%	63%	58%	65%	65%	62%	63%	56%	62%	56%	59%	65%	70%	59%
A great deal	87	53	34	10	14	16	12	12	24	18	26	26	17	25	20	25	12	4
	17%	21%	13%	16%	17%	16%	13%	16%	23%	13%	17%	24%	14%	18%	15%	20%	17%	10%
Somewhat	230	95	134	21	37	49	39	38	45	65	69	35	60	51	60	58	39	23
	44%	38%	50%	35%	45%	48%	44%	50%	42%	48%	46%	32%	48%	37%	44%	45%	53%	49%
Not at all	145	86	60	28	23	29	23	19	23	38	41	36	30	44	40	33	14	14
	28%	34%	22%	45%	28%	29%	27%	25%	21%	28%	27%	33%	24%	32%	29%	26%	19%	31%
Refused	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-
	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	1%	-	*	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-
Don't know	56	15	42	3	9	8	14	7	16	13	15	11	17	16	15	12	8	4
	11%	6%	15%	5%	11%	8%	16%	9%	14%	10%	10%	10%	14%	12%	11%	10%	11%	9%

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Table 3

Q.3 The government announced earlier this week that National Rock would be nationalised. It argues that this is the best way to protect the loans and guarantees given to the Bank since it got into trouble last autumn. The Government had tried to find a private sector buyer for the Bank but says that the offers they received did not guarantee that the taxpayer would be repaid for the loans that have been made. The Government now plans to sell the Bank at some point in the future. Please say whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

	Gender			Age						Social Class				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	519	231	288	32	84	83	102	108	110	177	101	105	136	137	133	128	73	48
Weighted base	519	249	270	62	82	103	87	77	108	135	151	109	124	136	136	128	73	46
<u>The government is right to nationalise Northern Rock</u>																		
Agree	253 49%	139 56%	114 42%	34 55%	45 54%	53 51%	40 46%	35 46%	47 44%	66 49%	77 51%	54 50%	56 45%	61 45%	71 52%	70 54%	30 41%	23 50%
Disagree	210 40%	98 39%	111 41%	23 37%	25 30%	42 41%	37 42%	34 44%	49 45%	56 41%	54 36%	47 43%	52 42%	63 46%	58 42%	41 32%	27 37%	21 46%
Refused	* *	* *	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	* 1%	- -	* *	- -	- -	- -	- -	* *	- -	- -	- -
Don't know	55 11%	11 5%	44 16%	5 9%	13 15%	8 8%	11 12%	7 9%	12 11%	13 9%	19 13%	7 7%	16 13%	13 9%	7 5%	17 13%	16 22%	2 4%
<u>The government should have tried harder to find a private sector buyer for Northern Rock</u>																		
Agree	359 69%	156 63%	202 75%	38 62%	60 73%	73 71%	52 60%	56 73%	78 72%	87 64%	107 71%	76 70%	88 71%	93 69%	98 72%	79 61%	53 72%	36 79%
Disagree	127 24%	82 33%	44 16%	20 33%	13 15%	25 24%	27 31%	18 23%	24 22%	40 30%	33 22%	27 25%	27 22%	29 22%	31 23%	42 32%	16 22%	9 19%
Refused	* *	* *	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	* 1%	- -	* *	- -	- -	- -	- -	* *	- -	- -	- -
Don't know	33 6%	10 4%	23 9%	3 5%	9 11%	5 5%	8 9%	3 3%	6 6%	8 6%	11 7%	5 5%	10 8%	13 10%	7 5%	8 6%	5 6%	1 2%

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Q.3 The government announced earlier this week that National Rock would be nationalised. It argues that this is the best way to protect the loans and guarantees given to the Bank since it got into trouble last autumn. The Government had tried to find a private sector buyer for the Bank but says that the offers they received did not guarantee that the taxpayer would be repaid for the loans that have been made. The Government now plans to sell the Bank at some point in the future. Please say whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

	Gender		Age						Social Class				Region					
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Weighted base	519	249	270	62	82	103	87	77	108	135	151	109	124	136	136	128	73	46
<u>The government should not have provided funding to keep Northern Rock operating as a going concern</u>																		
Agree	252 49%	122 49%	130 48%	30 48%	39 47%	49 48%	40 46%	37 49%	58 53%	63 46%	72 48%	52 48%	66 53%	55 41%	70 52%	68 53%	37 51%	22 47%
Disagree	230 44%	120 48%	110 41%	29 47%	33 40%	51 49%	39 45%	36 46%	42 39%	61 45%	71 47%	52 48%	45 36%	70 51%	58 43%	48 38%	30 41%	23 51%
Refused	* *	* *	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	* 1%	- -	* *	- -	- -	- -	- -	* *	- -	- -	- -
Don't know	36 7%	7 3%	30 11%	3 5%	11 13%	3 3%	8 9%	3 4%	9 8%	11 8%	7 5%	5 4%	14 11%	11 8%	7 5%	12 9%	6 8%	1 2%

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Table 4

Q.4 The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Alistair Darling, has been criticised in recent weeks for his changes of policy over the taxation of capital gains and foreigners working in Britain as well as for his handling of Northern Rock. Some people have suggested that he should resign. Do you agree or disagree that Alistair Darling should resign as Chancellor?

Base: All respondents

	Gender			Age						Social Class				Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Unweighted base	519	231	288	32	84	83	102	108	110	177	101	105	136	137	133	128	73	48
Weighted base	519	249	270	62	82	103	87	77	108	135	151	109	124	136	136	128	73	46
Agree	200 38%	95 38%	105 39%	24 38%	23 28%	37 36%	37 43%	28 36%	50 47%	45 34%	48 32%	53 48%	53 43%	47 34%	58 43%	52 41%	23 32%	19 43%
Disagree	258 50%	131 52%	127 47%	31 51%	45 55%	50 49%	35 40%	44 57%	52 49%	80 59%	85 56%	41 38%	52 42%	69 50%	67 49%	61 47%	37 51%	24 53%
Refused	2 *	2 1%	* *	- -	- -	- -	1 1%	1 1%	- -	1 1%	- -	1 1%	- -	- -	2 2%	- -	- -	- -
Don't know	59 11%	22 9%	37 14%	7 11%	14 17%	16 15%	14 16%	5 6%	5 5%	9 7%	17 11%	14 13%	19 15%	20 15%	9 7%	15 12%	13 18%	2 4%