

Opinion Poll

Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

Q.2 Many people currently say that they probably won't vote at all at the next general election, while others say they would definitely vote. How likely are you, personally, to vote at the next election?

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention				
	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	Con-ser-vative	Labour	Lib-eral Dem-o-crats	Swing Voters	
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373	
Absolutely certain to vote	(10)	465 46%	237 48%	228 44%	21 19%	70 36%	73 38%	83 48%	77 58%	141 70%	124 44%	82 39%	135 49%	116 43%	107 41%	123 49%	70 51%	50 55%	133 69%	161 56%	65 46%	125 33%	
	(9)	48 5%	32 6%	16 3%	2 1%	13 7%	14 7%	12 7%	3 3%	4 2%	18 8%	13 5%	8 4%	9 3%	16 6%	15 6%	9 3%	5 3%	3 3%	12 6%	16 6%	11 8%	16 4%
	(8)	85 8%	45 9%	40 8%	17 15%	16 8%	21 11%	12 7%	8 6%	11 5%	18 8%	26 9%	21 10%	20 7%	26 10%	18 7%	10 7%	5 6%	17 9%	19 7%	22 16%	38 10%	
	(7)	49 5%	28 6%	21 4%	5 5%	11 6%	12 6%	11 6%	6 4%	4 2%	12 5%	10 4%	11 5%	16 6%	13 5%	10 4%	15 6%	8 6%	2 3%	7 4%	7 2%	10 7%	24 7%
	(6)	48 5%	17 4%	31 6%	12 11%	14 7%	9 5%	8 5%	2 1%	3 1%	12 5%	18 6%	10 5%	8 3%	20 7%	11 4%	13 5%	2 1%	3 3%	6 3%	14 5%	7 5%	28 7%
	(5)	109 11%	45 9%	64 13%	15 14%	33 17%	19 10%	14 8%	13 10%	15 7%	20 8%	31 11%	30 14%	28 10%	36 14%	27 11%	19 14%	7 8%	13 7%	27 10%	16 11%	74 20%	
	(4)	24 2%	8 2%	16 3%	4 4%	3 2%	7 4%	6 3%	* *	3 2%	7 3%	7 3%	3 1%	8 3%	7 3%	9 1%	3 2%	2 4%	- -	10 3%	2 2%	12 3%	
	(3)	29 3%	13 3%	16 3%	7 6%	8 4%	7 4%	3 2%	4 3%	- -	7 3%	10 3%	8 4%	5 2%	10 4%	4 2%	5 4%	4 4%	1 1%	5 2%	2 2%	10 3%	
	(2)	19 2%	7 1%	12 2%	4 4%	5 2%	3 2%	1 1%	5 4%	1 1%	4 1%	7 2%	6 3%	3 1%	2 1%	9 4%	4 1%	1 1%	3 3%	- -	1 *	- -	11 3%
Definitely would not vote	(1)	107 11%	53 11%	54 11%	19 17%	14 7%	24 12%	19 11%	13 9%	18 9%	15 6%	26 9%	27 13%	39 14%	32 12%	21 8%	30 12%	13 10%	10 11%	4 2%	21 7%	2 2%	27 7%
Not registered		9 1%	2 *	7 1%	3 3%	4 2%	1 1%	- -	1 1%	- -	1 1%	5 2%	- -	3 1%	2 1%	2 1%	4 2%	1 1%	- -	1 *	3 1%	1 1%	3 1%
Refused		2 *	1 *	1 *	- -	- -	1 *	1 1%	- -	- -	- -	1 1%	- -	1 1%	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Don't know		10 1%	4 1%	6 1%	2 1%	1 1%	2 1%	2 1%	1 *	3 1%	1 *	1 1%	4 2%	4 2%	5 2%	2 1%	2 1%	1 1%	- -	- -	3 1%	1 1%	5 1%
Mean		7.39	7.59	7.19	5.75	7.12	7.06	7.56	7.78	8.43	7.93	7.35	6.90	7.32	7.38	7.21	7.45	7.55	7.50	8.96	8.02	8.23	6.93
Standard deviation		3.16	3.11	3.20	3.17	2.95	3.21	3.12	3.20	2.88	2.82	3.12	3.27	3.33	3.15	3.10	3.20	3.12	3.34	1.97	2.87	2.17	2.90
Standard error		0.10	0.14	0.14	0.34	0.22	0.22	0.23	0.28	0.21	0.16	0.21	0.24	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.20	0.27	0.35	0.14	0.17	0.18	0.15

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Table 2

Q.3/4 On the basis of your view of the parties at the moment, if there were a general election tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

Base: All respondents expressing an intention to vote (excluding those saying 1-5 or Don't know at Q.2)

Weighting: Past Vote Weights (Base Weight System)

This table has been weighted on the basis of past voting to be politically representative of the UK population as a whole and including only those most likely to vote

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention			
	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	Con-ser-vative	Labour	Lib-eral Democ-rat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	557	293	264	44	107	97	101	73	134	143	155	104	155	161	129	147	74	46	187	197	123	154
Conservative	187 33%	97 33%	90 34%	7 15%	32 29%	27 27%	38 37%	26 36%	58 43%	56 39%	50 32%	30 29%	51 33%	60 37%	46 36%	44 30%	29 40%	6 14%	187 100%	-	-	40 26%
Labour	197 35%	99 34%	98 37%	14 32%	36 34%	36 37%	26 25%	29 39%	56 42%	44 30%	46 29%	41 39%	67 43%	51 32%	50 38%	60 41%	18 24%	18 39%	-	197 100%	-	40 26%
Liberal	123 22%	70 24%	52 20%	17 38%	32 30%	23 24%	25 24%	13 17%	14 10%	36 25%	42 27%	21 20%	24 16%	39 24%	27 21%	33 23%	20 27%	4 8%	-	-	123 100%	52 34%
SNP	21 4%	12 4%	8 3%	1 3%	4 3%	3 4%	5 5%	3 4%	4 3%	3 2%	5 3%	7 7%	6 4%	1 1%	-	2 1%	-	18 39%	-	-	-	6 4%
Plaid Cymru	7 1%	4 1%	3 1%	-	1 1%	3 3%	4 4%	-	-	-	3 2%	2 2%	3 2%	-	-	-	7 9%	-	-	-	-	2 1%
The Green Party	11 2%	4 1%	6 2%	3 6%	2 2%	2 2%	1 1%	1 2%	1 1%	4 3%	6 4%	1 1%	-	5 3%	2 1%	4 3%	-	-	-	-	-	6 4%
The United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP)	3 1%	2 1%	2 1%	2 4%	-	2 2%	-	-	-	-	2 1%	-	2 1%	2 1%	2 1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 1%
The British National Party (BNP)	4 1%	3 1%	1 *	-	-	-	3 3%	1 2%	-	-	3 2%	1 1%	-	2 1%	1 1%	1 1%	-	-	-	-	-	3 2%
The Socialist Alliance	1 *	1 *	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 1%	-	-	-	1 1%	1 1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 1%
Another party	4 1%	2 1%	2 1%	1 2%	1 1%	1 1%	-	-	1 1%	2 1%	-	1 *	2 1%	1 1%	1 1%	2 1%	-	-	-	-	-	2 1%

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Absolutes/col percents

Table 3

Adjusted Voting Intention**Weighting: Past Vote Weights (Base Weight System)**

This table is based on a manual adjustment of data reallocating some don't knows - a procedure which addresses the spiral of silence among some groups of voters, which has successfully increased the accuracy of voting intention polls at recent General Elections

	<u>Total</u>
Total	580
Conservative	191 33%
Labour	207 36%
Liberal Democrat/ Liberal	129 22%
Scottish National Party/SNP	22 4%
Plaid Cymru	7 1%
Other	24 4%

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Table 4

Q.5a Are you fairly sure that is what you'll do at the time of the next general election, or do you think you may well change your mind between now and then?

Base: All respondents (except those who are don't know or refused to voting intention)

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex		Age							Social Class				Region					Voting Intention			
	Total	Male	Fe- male	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	Con- ser- vative	Labour	Lib- eral Demo- crat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	817	412	405	88	162	159	133	107	169	190	228	170	229	230	202	211	106	68	194	286	140	268
Fairly sure that is what I'll do	536 66%	279 68%	257 63%	44 50%	98 61%	102 64%	83 62%	79 74%	129 77%	117 62%	157 69%	106 62%	155 68%	158 69%	120 59%	133 63%	78 73%	47 70%	147 76%	208 73%	74 53%	-
May well change my mind	268 33%	126 31%	142 35%	40 46%	62 38%	55 35%	48 36%	26 25%	36 21%	70 37%	68 30%	64 38%	66 29%	69 30%	80 39%	71 34%	28 27%	21 30%	47 24%	75 26%	63 45%	268 100%
Don't know	13 2%	7 2%	6 2%	3 4%	1 1%	2 1%	2 1%	1 1%	4 2%	3 1%	3 1%	-	7 3%	3 1%	3 1%	7 3%	-	-	1 *	3 1%	3 2%	-

Opinion Poll
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Absolutes/col percents

Table 5

Q.5b Do you think of yourself as a floating voter - who hasn't decided yet which party, if any, to support at the election, or do you just prefer not to say how you may vote?

Base: All respondents who say don't know or refused to voting intention

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region				Voting Intention					
	Total	Male	Fe- male	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	Con- ser- vative	Labour	Lib- eral Demo- crat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	189	81	108	24	32	34	40	25	34	49	51	39	50	38	58	40	32	22	-	-	-	105
Floating voter	105	46	59	20	23	20	19	10	12	25	36	22	22	21	31	23	21	10	-	-	-	105
	55%	57%	54%	83%	74%	58%	48%	41%	36%	52%	70%	55%	44%	55%	54%	56%	65%	45%	-	-	-	100%
Prefer not to say	85	35	49	4	8	15	21	15	22	24	15	18	28	17	27	18	11	12	-	-	-	-
	45%	43%	46%	17%	26%	42%	52%	59%	64%	48%	30%	45%	56%	45%	46%	44%	35%	55%	-	-	-	-

Opinion Poll

Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 6
Q.6 How good a leader is Tony Blair?
Base: All respondents
Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention				
	Total	Male	Fe- male	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	Con- ser- vative	Labour	Lib- eral Demo- crat	Swing Voters	
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373	
Very good indeed	(10)	47 5%	25 5%	22 4%	- -	3 2%	9 4%	5 3%	7 6%	23 11%	6 2%	9 3%	7 3%	26 9%	7 3%	14 5%	16 6%	7 5%	3 4%	- -	40 14%	2 2%	4 1%
	(9)	33 3%	20 4%	12 2%	4 4%	6 3%	3 2%	7 4%	4 3%	9 5%	9 4%	11 4%	5 3%	7 3%	8 3%	11 5%	4 3%	2 2%	2 1%	21 7%	1 1%	8 2%	
	(8)	131 13%	80 16%	51 10%	10 9%	18 10%	27 14%	18 11%	19 14%	39 19%	26 11%	38 14%	22 10%	45 16%	34 13%	36 14%	33 13%	20 14%	8 9%	12 6%	86 30%	10 7%	36 10%
	(7)	109 11%	57 12%	51 10%	10 9%	29 15%	24 13%	19 11%	17 13%	10 5%	27 11%	35 12%	22 11%	25 9%	33 12%	27 10%	23 9%	12 9%	13 15%	17 9%	48 17%	14 10%	42 11%
	(6)	104 10%	42 9%	61 12%	16 14%	22 11%	23 12%	19 11%	11 8%	12 6%	31 13%	30 11%	22 10%	22 8%	27 10%	31 12%	17 7%	15 11%	14 16%	13 6%	33 12%	20 14%	54 14%
	(5)	181 18%	72 15%	108 21%	25 23%	43 22%	36 19%	31 18%	18 14%	26 13%	39 16%	49 18%	48 23%	44 16%	47 18%	42 16%	44 17%	25 18%	22 24%	34 17%	24 8%	23 16%	75 20%
	(4)	76 8%	33 7%	43 8%	10 9%	13 7%	24 12%	12 7%	10 8%	7 4%	22 9%	26 9%	14 7%	14 5%	17 6%	29 11%	19 7%	8 5%	4 4%	16 8%	10 4%	19 14%	37 10%
	(3)	70 7%	36 7%	34 7%	9 8%	20 10%	15 8%	8 5%	5 4%	13 6%	17 7%	21 8%	15 7%	17 6%	18 7%	19 7%	20 8%	9 7%	3 3%	21 11%	9 3%	14 10%	30 8%
	(2)	59 6%	32 6%	27 5%	5 5%	9 4%	10 5%	13 8%	8 6%	13 6%	16 7%	16 6%	10 5%	16 6%	11 4%	14 5%	23 9%	6 4%	6 7%	17 9%	2 1%	10 7%	25 7%
Very bad indeed	(1)	170 17%	84 17%	86 17%	20 18%	26 13%	16 8%	36 21%	28 21%	45 22%	42 17%	36 13%	38 18%	53 19%	52 19%	37 14%	40 16%	28 20%	13 15%	62 32%	12 4%	24 17%	51 14%
Don't know		28 3%	11 2%	17 3%	3 3%	5 3%	5 2%	4 3%	5 4%	6 3%	5 2%	8 3%	6 3%	9 3%	13 5%	3 1%	6 2%	5 4%	1 1%	1 *	1 *	3 2%	10 3%
Mean		5.01	5.14	4.89	4.62	4.95	5.31	4.73	4.97	5.26	4.81	5.15	4.79	5.21	4.88	5.16	4.99	4.97	5.10	3.61	7.07	4.44	4.78
Standard deviation		2.68	2.79	2.57	2.37	2.37	2.36	2.70	2.87	3.19	2.59	2.54	2.56	2.96	2.65	2.62	2.80	2.78	2.47	2.39	2.20	2.34	2.33
Standard error		0.09	0.13	0.11	0.26	0.17	0.16	0.20	0.25	0.15	0.17	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.18	0.25	0.26	0.17	0.13	0.20	0.12	

Opinion Poll

Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 7
Q.6 How good a leader is Michael Howard?
Base: All respondents
Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention				
	Total	Male	Fe- male	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	Con- ser- vative	Labour	Lib- eral Demo- crat	Swing Voters	
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373	
Very good indeed	(10)	38 4%	18 4%	20 4%	3 3%	6 3%	4 2%	4 2%	7 5%	14 7%	7 3%	7 3%	5 2%	19 7%	18 7%	5 2%	6 2%	7 5%	2 2%	21 11%	10 3%	4 3%	9 2%
	(9)	17 2%	9 2%	8 2%	- -	1 *	1 1%	1 1%	3 2%	10 5%	4 2%	1 *	1 1%	11 4%	6 2%	3 1%	5 2%	2 1%	1 1%	10 5%	5 2%	1 *	3 1%
	(8)	37 4%	16 3%	21 4%	1 1%	3 1%	8 4%	9 5%	6 4%	10 5%	12 5%	9 3%	4 2%	12 4%	14 5%	11 4%	9 4%	3 2%	1 1%	24 13%	3 1%	3 2%	11 3%
	(7)	77 8%	43 9%	34 7%	8 7%	9 5%	14 7%	10 6%	17 13%	19 9%	22 9%	24 9%	10 5%	21 8%	23 9%	18 7%	20 8%	10 7%	5 6%	37 19%	17 6%	11 8%	19 5%
	(6)	77 8%	40 8%	38 7%	13 12%	20 10%	11 6%	15 9%	5 4%	12 6%	21 9%	22 8%	15 7%	20 7%	22 8%	18 7%	19 8%	14 10%	4 4%	27 14%	15 5%	17 12%	38 10%
	(5)	242 24%	123 25%	120 23%	35 32%	41 21%	51 26%	51 29%	30 23%	35 17%	62 26%	74 26%	56 27%	50 18%	52 19%	75 29%	50 20%	40 29%	25 28%	38 20%	68 24%	34 24%	109 29%
	(4)	88 9%	49 10%	39 8%	8 7%	27 14%	16 8%	15 9%	11 9%	12 6%	23 10%	25 9%	17 8%	23 8%	19 7%	31 12%	19 7%	14 10%	6 6%	11 6%	30 11%	16 11%	40 11%
	(3)	65 6%	34 7%	31 6%	6 5%	5 3%	12 6%	16 9%	11 8%	15 7%	9 4%	12 4%	20 10%	24 9%	19 7%	14 5%	15 6%	6 4%	11 12%	3 2%	22 8%	9 6%	21 6%
	(2)	53 5%	25 5%	27 5%	5 5%	9 5%	13 7%	8 4%	10 8%	7 3%	12 5%	17 6%	14 7%	9 3%	11 4%	12 5%	19 7%	4 3%	6 7%	- -	24 8%	9 7%	15 4%
Very bad indeed	(1)	110 11%	61 12%	49 10%	9 8%	24 12%	16 8%	19 11%	11 8%	30 15%	28 12%	24 9%	20 10%	38 14%	28 10%	21 8%	33 13%	15 11%	13 15%	- -	42 15%	14 10%	25 7%
Don't know		201 20%	75 15%	126 25%	23 21%	49 25%	47 24%	25 14%	20 15%	38 19%	40 17%	64 23%	46 22%	51 18%	56 21%	51 20%	55 22%	23 17%	16 18%	23 12%	50 18%	22 16%	84 23%
Mean		4.73	4.67	4.79	4.74	4.45	4.62	4.61	4.94	5.04	4.81	4.71	4.37	4.95	5.09	4.76	4.47	4.89	4.07	6.75	4.19	4.64	4.79
Standard deviation		2.36	2.35	2.37	2.01	2.25	2.15	2.17	2.46	2.83	2.29	2.15	2.12	2.72	2.60	2.06	2.41	2.29	2.20	1.83	2.34	2.16	1.97
Standard error		0.08	0.12	0.12	0.24	0.19	0.17	0.17	0.23	0.22	0.15	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.14	0.17	0.22	0.26	0.14	0.15	0.20	0.12	

Opinion Poll

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Absolutes/col percents

Table 8
Q.6 How good a leader is Charles Kennedy?
Base: All respondents
Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention				
	Total	Male	Fe-male	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	Con-ser-vative	Labour	Lib-eral Demo-crats	Swing Voters	
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373	
Very good indeed	(10)	22 2%	10 2%	12 2%	1 1%	3 2%	1 1%	3 2%	4 3%	9 4%	3 1%	4 2%	5 2%	10 4%	6 2%	3 1%	5 2%	6 4%	3 3%	5 2%	7 3%	6 4%	4 1%
	(9)	16 2%	8 2%	7 1%	1 1%	3 1%	1 1%	1 *	4 3%	6 3%	4 2%	5 2%	- -	7 2%	1 *	3 1%	8 3%	2 1%	2 2%	1 *	7 2%	6 4%	5 1%
	(8)	74 7%	44 9%	30 6%	3 3%	17 9%	11 6%	19 11%	13 10%	11 6%	22 9%	22 8%	10 5%	20 7%	12 4%	21 8%	21 8%	12 9%	8 9%	11 5%	18 6%	30 21%	27 7%
	(7)	97 10%	59 12%	37 7%	9 8%	19 10%	16 8%	20 12%	14 10%	18 9%	29 12%	29 11%	14 7%	24 9%	33 12%	25 10%	16 6%	12 8%	11 13%	15 8%	28 10%	31 22%	30 8%
	(6)	115 11%	53 11%	62 12%	14 13%	26 13%	24 13%	16 9%	20 15%	15 7%	32 13%	41 15%	12 6%	30 11%	33 12%	28 11%	26 11%	21 15%	6 7%	32 16%	32 11%	19 14%	54 15%
	(5)	229 23%	109 22%	120 23%	36 32%	48 25%	51 26%	33 19%	22 17%	39 19%	63 26%	62 22%	54 26%	49 18%	69 26%	70 27%	39 16%	29 21%	21 23%	53 27%	69 24%	21 15%	87 23%
	(4)	80 8%	38 8%	42 8%	7 7%	17 9%	10 5%	15 9%	11 8%	20 10%	24 10%	13 5%	22 10%	21 7%	16 6%	27 11%	22 9%	4 3%	10 11%	19 10%	26 9%	6 4%	37 10%
	(3)	65 6%	35 7%	30 6%	7 6%	13 7%	13 7%	10 6%	4 3%	18 9%	9 4%	19 7%	21 10%	16 6%	22 8%	12 5%	20 8%	6 5%	6 6%	15 8%	18 6%	4 3%	15 4%
	(2)	60 6%	30 6%	30 6%	4 4%	8 4%	13 7%	9 5%	13 10%	14 7%	13 6%	17 6%	13 6%	17 6%	11 4%	14 5%	24 10%	7 5%	4 4%	11 6%	23 8%	4 3%	15 4%
Very bad indeed	(1)	79 8%	49 10%	30 6%	10 9%	5 3%	17 9%	20 11%	10 8%	17 8%	17 7%	16 6%	22 10%	25 9%	17 6%	16 6%	24 10%	14 10%	8 9%	19 10%	21 7%	3 2%	21 6%
Don't know		169 17%	57 12%	112 22%	19 17%	34 18%	36 19%	26 15%	17 13%	37 18%	22 9%	50 18%	36 17%	61 22%	48 18%	41 16%	44 18%	25 18%	11 12%	15 7%	39 14%	11 8%	77 21%
Mean		5.00	4.99	5.01	4.78	5.34	4.75	4.94	5.23	4.93	5.19	5.18	4.45	5.05	5.05	5.03	4.76	5.19	5.11	4.80	4.97	6.41	5.13
Standard deviation		2.22	2.30	2.13	1.94	1.93	2.09	2.38	2.41	2.43	2.08	2.12	2.15	2.44	2.04	2.01	2.45	2.42	2.31	2.11	2.23	1.97	1.99
Standard error		0.08	0.11	0.10	0.23	0.15	0.16	0.19	0.23	0.19	0.13	0.15	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.14	0.17	0.23	0.26	0.15	0.14	0.17	0.12

Opinion Poll

Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 9

Q.7 Britain's universities say they need more money to fund higher education properly for the future.

Which of the following statements is closest to your view?

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention				
	Total	Male	Fe- male	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	Con- ser- vative	Labour	Lib- eral Demo- crat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373
Universities probably don't really need more money	66 7%	33 7%	33 6%	15 14%	17 9%	12 6%	11 6%	4 3%	7 3%	17 7%	21 8%	15 7%	13 5%	13 5%	21 8%	17 7%	11 8%	4 5%	13 7%	17 6%	7 5%	28 7%
Universities probably do need more money, and the cost should be met by students paying back fees once they are in work, since they are the ones who benefit from University through higher lifetime incomes because they have degrees	405 40%	212 43%	193 38%	50 45%	80 42%	79 41%	54 31%	54 41%	87 43%	89 37%	102 37%	96 46%	117 42%	106 40%	102 39%	103 41%	54 39%	39 44%	76 39%	127 44%	47 34%	143 38%
Universities probably do need more money, and the cost should be met by increasing income tax to 50% on all people earning over £100,000 a year, regardless of whether or not they went to university	354 35%	169 34%	185 36%	31 27%	67 35%	69 35%	80 46%	48 36%	60 30%	102 42%	99 36%	63 30%	90 32%	102 38%	89 34%	87 35%	48 35%	29 32%	64 33%	91 32%	71 51%	142 38%
Universities probably do need more money, but they should find the money by cutting back on the number of places available to UK students, and admitting more students from overseas, who pay high fees	90 9%	41 8%	49 10%	12 11%	13 6%	19 10%	15 8%	10 7%	22 11%	18 8%	29 10%	19 9%	23 8%	24 9%	26 10%	23 9%	12 9%	5 6%	21 11%	32 11%	5 4%	35 9%
None of these	39 4%	21 4%	18 3%	2 2%	7 4%	8 4%	4 3%	7 6%	10 5%	9 4%	13 5%	7 3%	10 4%	10 4%	8 3%	11 4%	7 5%	4 4%	12 6%	4 2%	5 3%	12 3%
Don't know	53 5%	17 3%	35 7%	2 2%	9 5%	7 4%	9 5%	10 7%	16 8%	5 2%	14 5%	8 4%	25 9%	14 5%	13 5%	11 4%	7 5%	8 9%	8 4%	16 6%	5 4%	13 3%

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 9

Q.7 Britain's universities say they need more money to fund higher education properly for the future.

Which of the following statements is closest to your view?

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Total	Children in Household						Age Finished Full Time Education						Still in full time education	Had no full time education
		None aged 18 or under	Yes (net)	- Aged under 5	- Aged 5-10	- Aged 11-15	- Aged 16-18	Up to 15	16	17	18	19 or over			
Weighted base	1006	686	307	105	137	108	73	251	256	93	89	257	41	3	
Universities probably don't really need more money	66 7%	41 6%	24 8%	11 11%	13 9%	7 6%	5 7%	16 6%	16 6%	5 6%	3 3%	20 8%	5 12%	-	
Universities probably do need more money, and the cost should be met by students paying back fees once they are in work, since they are the ones who benefit from University through higher lifetime incomes because they have degrees	405 40%	289 42%	109 36%	51 49%	44 32%	32 29%	23 32%	107 43%	113 44%	41 44%	42 48%	83 32%	13 32%	-	
Universities probably do need more money, and the cost should be met by increasing income tax to 50% on all people earning over £100,000 a year, regardless of whether or not they went to university	354 35%	230 34%	123 40%	28 26%	55 40%	49 45%	32 44%	80 32%	78 31%	24 26%	37 42%	114 44%	16 38%	1 41%	
Universities probably do need more money, but they should find the money by cutting back on the number of places available to UK students, and admitting more students from overseas, who pay high fees	90 9%	57 8%	30 10%	11 11%	17 13%	11 10%	4 6%	22 9%	22 9%	16 17%	2 2%	19 8%	7 16%	1 25%	
None of these	39 4%	27 4%	11 4%	1 1%	4 3%	5 4%	4 6%	12 5%	8 3%	4 4%	3 3%	11 4%	-	1 34%	
Don't know	53 5%	42 6%	10 3%	3 2%	3 2%	5 5%	3 4%	15 6%	19 7%	4 4%	2 2%	10 4%	1 2%	-	

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 10

Q.8 The Government proposes to fund extra investment in universities by replacing the current system where most students take out loans to cover the costs of tuition fees with a new system of “top-up” fees for students. This would allow universities to charge tuition fees of up to £3,000 a year, with different fees for different courses, and students would have to start paying back once they are earning more than #15,000 a year. Do you think that this sounds like a fair way to raise extra funding for higher education?

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention				
	Total	Male	Fe- male	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	Con- ser- vative	Labour	Lib- eral Demo- crat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373
Yes	549 55%	267 54%	282 55%	62 55%	100 52%	108 56%	88 51%	70 53%	121 59%	115 48%	140 50%	135 65%	159 57%	126 47%	153 59%	151 60%	64 46%	55 61%	101 52%	184 64%	65 46%	206 55%
No	421 42%	209 42%	212 41%	45 40%	86 44%	79 41%	79 46%	57 43%	75 37%	122 51%	127 46%	67 32%	104 37%	134 50%	101 39%	86 34%	71 52%	29 32%	89 46%	97 34%	69 49%	150 40%
Don't know	37 4%	17 4%	19 4%	5 4%	7 4%	6 3%	6 4%	5 4%	7 4%	2 1%	12 4%	7 3%	15 6%	8 3%	5 2%	14 6%	3 2%	6 7%	4 2%	4 1%	6 4%	17 4%

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 10

Q.8 The Government proposes to fund extra investment in universities by replacing the current system where most students take out loans to cover the costs of tuition fees with a new system of “top-up” fees for students. This would allow universities to charge tuition fees of up to £3,000 a year, with different fees for different courses, and students would have to start paying back once they are earning more than #15,000 a year. Do you think that this sounds like a fair way to raise extra funding for higher education?

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Total	Children in Household						Age Finished Full Time Education						Still in full time education	Had no full time education
		None aged 18 or under	Yes (net)	- Aged under 5	- Aged 5-10	- Aged 11-15	- Aged 16-18	Up to 15	16	17	18	19 or over			
Weighted base	1006	686	307	105	137	108	73	251	256	93	89	257	41	3	
Yes	549 55%	369 54%	170 55%	62 60%	81 59%	53 49%	38 53%	148 59%	156 61%	54 59%	49 55%	110 43%	18 44%	1 34%	
No	421 42%	288 42%	130 42%	40 38%	50 36%	50 46%	33 46%	95 38%	84 33%	36 39%	38 43%	143 56%	18 44%	2 66%	
Don't know	37 4%	28 4%	8 2%	2 2%	6 4%	5 4%	1 2%	8 3%	16 6%	2 2%	2 2%	4 1%	5 12%	-	

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 11

Q.9 Agreement with criticisms that have been made about the details of the Government's proposal on student tuition fees:

It is wrong to charge different fees for different courses

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention				
	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	Con-ser-vative	Labour	Lib-eral Democ-rat	Swing Voters	
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373	
NET: Agree	425	206	219	45	101	78	73	53	75	102	135	88	99	106	113	103	69	34	83	123	66	160	
	42%	42%	43%	40%	52%	40%	42%	41%	37%	43%	48%	42%	35%	40%	44%	41%	50%	38%	43%	43%	47%	43%	
Agree strongly	(4)	231	115	116	25	50	45	41	31	37	62	84	43	54	61	55	41	19	49	65	36	86	
		23%	23%	23%	23%	26%	23%	24%	23%	18%	26%	30%	20%	20%	24%	22%	30%	22%	25%	23%	26%	23%	
Agree slightly	(3)	194	91	103	20	51	32	31	23	37	41	52	46	52	52	48	28	14	34	57	29	74	
		19%	18%	20%	18%	26%	17%	18%	17%	18%	17%	19%	22%	19%	20%	19%	20%	16%	17%	20%	21%	20%	
Disagree slightly	(2)	284	132	152	33	51	56	54	33	56	63	76	67	75	79	64	36	30	51	89	32	117	
		28%	27%	30%	29%	27%	29%	31%	25%	28%	26%	27%	32%	28%	30%	26%	26%	34%	26%	31%	23%	31%	
Disagree strongly	(1)	271	147	125	31	41	53	44	40	63	69	63	47	76	65	76	30	25	58	68	41	86	
		27%	30%	24%	28%	21%	27%	25%	31%	31%	29%	23%	33%	28%	25%	30%	22%	28%	30%	24%	29%	23%	
NET: Disagree		555	279	276	64	92	109	98	74	119	133	140	115	169	151	144	141	65	55	109	157	203	
		55%	57%	54%	57%	48%	56%	57%	56%	59%	55%	50%	55%	61%	56%	56%	47%	62%	56%	55%	52%	54%	
Don't know		26	8	18	3	-	7	2	5	9	4	4	6	11	3	8	3	1	3	7	2	10	
		3%	2%	3%	3%	-	3%	1%	3%	5%	2%	1%	3%	4%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%	
Mean		2.39	2.36	2.42	2.36	2.57	2.38	2.41	2.35	2.25	2.40	2.57	2.41	2.19	2.33	2.43	2.33	2.60	2.32	2.39	2.43	2.44	2.44
Standard deviation		1.12	1.15	1.10	1.13	1.09	1.14	1.12	1.16	1.11	1.17	1.15	1.06	1.08	1.11	1.11	1.14	1.14	1.11	1.17	1.10	1.17	1.09
Standard error		0.04	0.05	0.05	0.12	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.07	0.10	0.06	

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 11

Q.9 Agreement with criticisms that have been made about the details of the Government's proposal on student tuition fees:

It is wrong to charge different fees for different courses

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Total	Children in Household						Age Finished Full Time Education						
		None aged 18 or under	Yes (net)	- Aged under 5	- Aged 5-10	- Aged 11-15	- Aged 16-18	Up to 15	16	17	18	19 or over	Still in full time education	Had no full time education
Weighted base	1006	686	307	105	137	108	73	251	256	93	89	257	41	3
NET: Agree	425	283	141	48	69	46	30	80	107	43	44	126	18	1
	42%	41%	46%	46%	50%	42%	42%	32%	42%	46%	50%	49%	44%	34%
Agree strongly	(4) 231	147	83	23	33	32	21	34	59	24	26	75	9	1
	23%	21%	27%	22%	24%	29%	29%	14%	23%	26%	30%	29%	22%	34%
Agree slightly	(3) 194	136	58	25	35	14	9	46	48	19	18	51	9	-
	19%	20%	19%	24%	26%	13%	12%	18%	19%	20%	20%	20%	22%	-
Disagree slightly	(2) 284	197	80	30	34	24	21	70	77	28	23	64	16	-
	28%	29%	26%	29%	25%	22%	29%	28%	30%	30%	26%	25%	38%	-
Disagree strongly	(1) 271	184	84	25	32	36	20	93	63	21	20	62	7	2
	27%	27%	27%	24%	24%	33%	28%	37%	25%	22%	23%	24%	17%	66%
NET: Disagree	555	381	164	55	66	60	41	163	141	48	44	126	23	2
	55%	56%	53%	53%	48%	55%	57%	65%	55%	52%	49%	49%	56%	66%
Don't know	26	23	3	1	2	3	1	8	8	2	1	6	-	-
	3%	3%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	1%	2%	-	-
Mean	2.39	2.37	2.46	2.44	2.52	2.39	2.44	2.09	2.41	2.51	2.57	2.55	2.49	2.01
Standard deviation	1.12	1.11	1.16	1.09	1.11	1.24	1.19	1.06	1.11	1.12	1.15	1.16	1.03	1.82
Standard error	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.10	0.12	0.13	0.07	0.07	0.12	0.12	0.07	0.17	1.05

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 12
Q.9 Agreement with criticisms that have been made about the details of the Government's proposal on student tuition fees:
The level of income earned by a graduate before they had to start paying back tuition fees should be higher than £15,000
Base: All respondents
Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region				Voting Intention				
	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	Con-ser-vative	Labour	Lib-eral Democ-rat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373
NET: Agree	679 67%	339 69%	340 66%	74 66%	128 66%	133 69%	122 71%	82 62%	140 69%	178 74%	186 67%	132 63%	183 66%	183 69%	177 68%	160 64%	93 68%	65 72%	133 69%	205 72%	89 63%	256 69%
Agree strongly	(4) 47%	224 46%	253 49%	49 44%	85 44%	104 54%	83 48%	61 46%	95 47%	136 57%	131 47%	92 44%	120 43%	132 49%	122 47%	114 45%	67 48%	43 48%	96 49%	139 48%	69 49%	185 50%
Agree slightly	(3) 20%	114 23%	87 17%	25 22%	43 22%	29 15%	39 23%	20 15%	44 22%	42 18%	55 20%	40 19%	64 23%	51 19%	55 21%	47 19%	27 19%	22 24%	37 19%	66 23%	19 14%	71 19%
Disagree slightly	(2) 13%	57 12%	77 15%	23 20%	34 18%	27 14%	21 12%	13 10%	17 8%	23 10%	43 16%	38 18%	30 11%	31 12%	43 16%	33 13%	19 14%	8 9%	27 14%	33 11%	22 16%	59 16%
Disagree strongly	(1) 17%	90 18%	76 15%	15 14%	25 13%	28 14%	27 16%	34 25%	37 18%	36 15%	47 17%	34 16%	49 18%	46 17%	32 12%	52 21%	21 16%	16 18%	32 17%	35 12%	27 19%	49 13%
NET: Disagree	301 30%	147 30%	153 30%	38 34%	59 31%	55 28%	48 28%	46 35%	54 27%	60 25%	90 32%	72 34%	79 28%	77 29%	74 29%	85 34%	40 29%	24 27%	59 31%	68 24%	49 35%	107 29%
Don't know	27 3%	7 1%	19 4%	- -	6 3%	5 3%	3 2%	4 3%	9 4%	2 1%	3 1%	6 3%	16 6%	7 3%	9 3%	6 2%	4 3%	1 1%	1 1%	13 5%	3 2%	10 3%
Mean	3.01	2.97	3.05	2.96	3.00	3.12	3.05	2.85	3.02	3.17	2.98	2.93	2.97	3.04	3.07	2.91	3.04	3.04	3.02	3.13	2.95	3.08
Standard deviation	1.14	1.15	1.14	1.09	1.08	1.13	1.12	1.27	1.16	1.12	1.15	1.14	1.15	1.15	1.08	1.20	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.06	1.21	1.10
Standard error	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.12	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.11	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.07	0.10	0.06

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 12

Q.9 Agreement with criticisms that have been made about the details of the Government's proposal on student tuition fees:

The level of income earned by a graduate before they had to start paying back tuition fees should be higher than £15,000

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Total	Children in Household					Age Finished Full Time Education						Still in full time education	Had no full time education
		None aged 18 or under	Yes (net)	- Aged under 5	- Aged 5-10	- Aged 11-15	- Aged 16-18	Up to 15	16	17	18	19 or over		
Weighted base	1006	686	307	105	137	108	73	251	256	93	89	257	41	3
NET: Agree	679	458	216	71	98	71	48	162	169	55	64	192	27	2
	67%	67%	70%	68%	72%	65%	66%	65%	66%	59%	71%	75%	65%	75%
Agree strongly	(4) 478	322	152	49	67	56	35	108	110	44	49	139	19	2
	47%	47%	49%	47%	49%	52%	48%	43%	43%	47%	55%	54%	45%	75%
Agree slightly	(3) 201	135	64	22	31	15	13	54	59	11	15	53	8	-
	20%	20%	21%	21%	23%	14%	18%	21%	23%	12%	16%	20%	19%	-
Disagree slightly	(2) 134	94	36	17	16	12	10	28	34	16	15	31	8	-
	13%	14%	12%	16%	12%	12%	13%	11%	13%	18%	16%	12%	20%	-
Disagree strongly	(1) 166	117	47	12	17	20	14	52	44	19	11	30	5	1
	17%	17%	15%	12%	12%	19%	19%	21%	17%	21%	12%	12%	13%	25%
NET: Disagree	301	212	82	29	32	33	23	80	78	36	25	60	13	1
	30%	31%	27%	28%	24%	30%	32%	32%	30%	39%	29%	23%	33%	25%
Don't know	27	17	9	5	6	5	1	9	9	2	-	5	1	-
	3%	2%	3%	5%	5%	4%	2%	3%	4%	2%	-	2%	3%	-
Mean	3.01	2.99	3.08	3.08	3.14	3.02	2.97	2.91	2.95	2.87	3.14	3.20	3.00	3.24
Standard deviation	1.14	1.15	1.12	1.07	1.07	1.21	1.19	1.19	1.14	1.23	1.09	1.05	1.10	1.68
Standard error	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.11	0.09	0.11	0.13	0.08	0.07	0.13	0.12	0.06	0.18	0.97

Opinion Poll

Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 13

Q.9 Agreement with criticisms that have been made about the details of the Government's proposal on student tuition fees:

Students from poor families should be exempted from paying fees altogether regardless of how much they go to earn after graduating

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region				Voting Intention				
	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	Con-ser-vative	Labour	Lib-eral Demo-crat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373
NET: Agree	463 46%	239 48%	224 44%	52 47%	80 42%	81 42%	83 48%	70 53%	97 48%	99 41%	132 47%	86 41%	146 53%	126 47%	104 40%	121 48%	67 49%	46 51%	68 35%	156 54%	70 50%	162 44%
Agree strongly	(4) 326 32%	166 34%	160 31%	35 31%	46 24%	51 26%	65 38%	57 44%	72 35%	61 25%	88 32%	65 31%	111 40%	83 31%	74 28%	81 32%	53 39%	34 38%	46 24%	106 37%	52 37%	114 31%
Agree slightly	(3) 137 14%	73 15%	64 13%	17 15%	35 18%	30 15%	18 10%	12 9%	25 13%	38 16%	44 16%	20 10%	35 13%	43 16%	30 12%	39 16%	14 10%	12 13%	23 12%	50 17%	18 13%	49 13%
Disagree slightly	(2) 282 28%	126 26%	156 30%	33 30%	53 28%	63 33%	46 27%	32 24%	54 27%	68 29%	76 27%	68 33%	69 25%	72 27%	89 34%	59 23%	40 29%	23 26%	56 29%	68 24%	39 28%	125 33%
Disagree strongly	(1) 238 24%	117 24%	121 24%	26 23%	55 28%	44 23%	41 24%	28 21%	44 22%	69 29%	63 23%	49 23%	56 20%	61 23%	61 24%	68 27%	28 20%	20 22%	63 33%	58 20%	30 21%	81 22%
NET: Disagree	520 52%	243 49%	277 54%	59 53%	108 56%	108 56%	88 51%	59 45%	98 49%	138 58%	140 50%	117 56%	125 45%	133 50%	150 58%	127 50%	67 49%	43 48%	120 62%	126 44%	69 49%	205 55%
Don't know	23 2%	11 2%	12 2%	1 1%	5 3%	5 2%	2 1%	3 2%	7 4%	3 1%	7 3%	6 3%	7 3%	9 3%	6 2%	4 2%	3 3%	1 1%	6 3%	4 2%	2 1%	5 1%
Mean	2.56	2.60	2.53	2.55	2.38	2.46	2.62	2.77	2.64	2.38	2.58	2.50	2.74	2.57	2.46	2.54	2.69	2.68	2.27	2.72	2.66	2.53
Standard deviation	1.18	1.19	1.17	1.16	1.14	1.13	1.22	1.23	1.19	1.16	1.17	1.18	1.19	1.17	1.15	1.21	1.20	1.21	1.17	1.17	1.19	1.15
Standard error	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.12	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.11	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.11	0.13	0.08	0.07	0.10	0.06

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 13

Q.9 Agreement with criticisms that have been made about the details of the Government's proposal on student tuition fees:

Students from poor families should be exempted from paying fees altogether regardless of how much they go to earn after graduating

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Total	Children in Household						Age Finished Full Time Education						
		None aged 18 or under	Yes (net)	- Aged under 5	- Aged 5-10	- Aged 11-15	- Aged 16-18	Up to 15	16	17	18	19 or over	Still in full time education	Had no full time education
Weighted base	1006	686	307	105	137	108	73	251	256	93	89	257	41	3
NET: Agree	463	321	137	43	57	53	32	134	111	33	44	121	15	2
	46%	47%	45%	41%	42%	49%	45%	53%	43%	35%	49%	47%	37%	66%
Agree strongly	(4)	326	232	91	24	34	40	24	113	76	19	24	77	12
		32%	34%	30%	23%	25%	37%	33%	45%	30%	20%	27%	30%	28%
Agree slightly	(3)	137	89	46	18	24	13	21	35	14	20	43	4	-
		14%	13%	15%	18%	17%	12%	8%	14%	15%	22%	17%	9%	-
Disagree slightly	(2)	282	193	86	29	46	28	20	62	69	30	25	73	19
		28%	28%	28%	28%	34%	26%	28%	25%	27%	32%	28%	29%	46%
Disagree strongly	(1)	238	155	78	28	31	26	18	49	71	28	18	56	7
		24%	23%	25%	27%	22%	25%	25%	19%	28%	30%	21%	22%	17%
NET: Disagree		520	349	164	57	77	54	39	111	139	58	43	129	26
		52%	51%	53%	55%	56%	50%	53%	44%	54%	63%	49%	50%	63%
Don't know		23	16	7	5	3	1	2	6	6	2	2	8	-
		2%	2%	2%	4%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	-
Mean		2.56	2.59	2.50	2.39	2.45	2.62	2.53	2.81	2.47	2.26	2.56	2.57	2.47
Standard deviation		1.18	1.18	1.17	1.14	1.10	1.22	1.20	1.22	1.20	1.11	1.11	1.15	1.09
Standard error		0.04	0.05	0.07	0.11	0.09	0.11	0.13	0.08	0.08	0.12	0.12	0.07	0.18

Opinion Poll

Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 14

Q.9 Agreement with criticisms that have been made about the details of the Government's proposal on student tuition fees:

The crisis in university funding is made much worse by the government's target for half of all young people to go to university, and if they dropped this target, top-up fees wouldn't be needed.

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region				Voting Intention				
	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	Con-ser-vative	Labour	Lib-eral Democ-rat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373
NET: Agree	580 58%	281 57%	299 58%	75 67%	117 61%	114 59%	95 55%	79 60%	100 49%	153 64%	167 60%	120 57%	141 50%	152 57%	165 63%	140 56%	79 57%	44 49%	119 61%	153 54%	81 58%	220 59%
Agree strongly	(4) 287 29%	146 30%	141 27%	29 26%	56 29%	48 25%	48 28%	48 36%	58 28%	83 35%	89 32%	50 24%	66 24%	78 29%	71 27%	71 28%	41 29%	27 31%	69 35%	75 26%	40 28%	94 25%
Agree slightly	(3) 293 29%	135 27%	158 31%	46 41%	61 32%	66 34%	47 27%	31 23%	42 21%	70 29%	78 28%	70 33%	74 27%	74 28%	94 36%	70 28%	38 28%	17 19%	50 26%	79 27%	41 29%	126 34%
Disagree slightly	(2) 194 19%	100 20%	95 18%	24 22%	41 21%	32 17%	38 22%	18 14%	41 20%	38 16%	54 19%	42 20%	60 22%	55 20%	47 18%	45 18%	25 18%	23 26%	40 21%	64 22%	24 17%	82 22%
Disagree strongly	(1) 151 15%	77 16%	74 14%	8 7%	21 11%	32 17%	26 15%	23 17%	42 20%	34 14%	35 12%	33 16%	50 18%	39 15%	25 10%	50 20%	22 16%	16 18%	25 13%	52 18%	25 18%	34 9%
NET: Disagree	346 34%	177 36%	169 33%	32 29%	62 32%	64 33%	64 37%	41 31%	83 41%	72 30%	89 32%	75 36%	110 40%	94 35%	71 27%	95 38%	46 33%	39 44%	65 34%	116 41%	50 35%	116 31%
Don't know	80 8%	35 7%	45 9%	4 3%	15 8%	15 8%	15 8%	12 9%	20 10%	15 6%	23 8%	14 7%	28 10%	22 8%	24 9%	16 6%	13 9%	6 7%	10 5%	16 6%	9 7%	37 10%
Mean	2.77	2.76	2.78	2.89	2.85	2.73	2.74	2.87	2.63	2.90	2.86	2.70	2.63	2.77	2.89	2.69	2.78	2.66	2.88	2.65	2.73	2.83
Standard deviation	1.06	1.08	1.04	0.89	1.00	1.05	1.06	1.14	1.15	1.07	1.04	1.03	1.08	1.06	0.95	1.11	1.08	1.13	1.06	1.08	1.10	0.95
Standard error	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.07	0.10	0.05

Opinion Poll
Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 14

Q.9 Agreement with criticisms that have been made about the details of the Government's proposal on student tuition fees:

The crisis in university funding is made much worse by the government's target for half of all young people to go to university, and if they dropped this target, top-up fees wouldn't be needed.

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Total	Children in Household					Age Finished Full Time Education						Still in full time education	Had no full time education
		None aged 18 or under	Yes (net)	- Aged under 5	- Aged 5-10	- Aged 11-15	- Aged 16-18	Up to 15	16	17	18	19 or over		
Weighted base	1006	686	307	105	137	108	73	251	256	93	89	257	41	3
NET: Agree	580	385	186	68	78	66	47	112	156	59	51	163	27	1
	58%	56%	60%	65%	57%	61%	65%	45%	61%	64%	57%	63%	66%	25%
Agree strongly	(4) 287	197	88	30	33	35	21	57	74	25	24	87	13	1
	29%	29%	29%	29%	24%	32%	29%	23%	29%	27%	27%	34%	31%	25%
Agree slightly	(3) 293	188	97	37	45	31	26	55	82	34	27	75	15	-
	29%	27%	32%	36%	33%	29%	36%	22%	32%	37%	30%	29%	36%	-
Disagree slightly	(2) 194	137	56	19	26	19	8	60	40	15	22	48	7	-
	19%	20%	18%	18%	19%	18%	11%	24%	16%	16%	25%	19%	16%	-
Disagree strongly	(1) 151	110	41	10	17	12	12	53	29	14	11	35	4	2
	15%	16%	13%	9%	13%	11%	17%	21%	11%	15%	12%	14%	10%	75%
NET: Disagree	346	247	96	29	44	31	20	113	69	29	33	83	11	2
	34%	36%	31%	28%	32%	29%	28%	45%	27%	31%	38%	32%	26%	75%
Don't know	80	55	25	8	15	11	5	26	30	5	4	11	3	-
	8%	8%	8%	8%	11%	10%	7%	10%	12%	5%	5%	4%	7%	-
Mean	2.77	2.75	2.83	2.92	2.77	2.91	2.84	2.51	2.89	2.81	2.76	2.87	2.94	1.76
Standard deviation	1.06	1.08	1.03	0.96	1.01	1.02	1.07	1.11	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.06	0.98	1.68
Standard error	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.07	0.11	0.11	0.07	0.17	0.97

Opinion Poll

Fieldwork : December 5th-7th 2003

Absolutes/col percents

Table 15

Q.10 Which of the following statements about the way in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown has managed the economy is closest to your own view?

Base: All respondents

Weighting: Standard Demographic Weights

	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region					Voting Intention				
	Total	Male	Fe- male	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	Con- ser- vative	Labour	Lib- eral Demo- crat	Swing Voters
Weighted base	1006	493	513	112	193	193	173	132	203	239	279	209	279	268	260	251	138	90	194	286	140	373
Gordon Brown has taken prudent economic decisions that have strengthened our economy, and enabled the country to afford continuing increases in spending on public services.	342 34%	191 39%	152 30%	17 16%	63 33%	62 32%	65 38%	48 37%	86 42%	94 39%	99 35%	60 29%	89 32%	100 37%	77 30%	96 38%	32 23%	37 42%	35 18%	166 58%	40 29%	106 29%
Gordon Brown has weakened our economy by putting up taxes too much, and by planning increases in spending that are more than the country can afford, even though public services have not improved	596 59%	281 57%	316 62%	81 73%	117 60%	118 61%	105 61%	75 57%	100 49%	130 54%	162 58%	139 66%	166 59%	148 55%	167 64%	144 57%	92 67%	45 51%	155 80%	103 36%	93 66%	244 65%
Neither of these	19 2%	10 2%	9 2%	3 3%	4 2%	4 2%	- -	4 3%	4 2%	5 2%	10 4%	1 1%	3 1%	8 3%	2 1%	3 1%	4 3%	2 3%	1 *	4 1%	2 1%	6 2%
Don't know	49 5%	11 2%	37 7%	10 9%	10 5%	9 4%	3 2%	5 4%	12 6%	10 4%	8 3%	9 4%	21 7%	11 4%	14 5%	8 3%	11 8%	4 5%	4 2%	13 5%	5 4%	17 4%