

Electoral Commission Winter Research 2009 Topline Results

- Ipsos MORI interviewed a quota sample of 1,217 adults in the United Kingdom aged 18+ (representative of Great Britain and including 200 booster interviews in Northern Ireland).
- Interviews were conducted by telephone between 11th and 13th December 2009.
- Data are weighted to match the profile of the UK population.
- Where percentages do not sum to 100, this is due to computer rounding, the exclusion of 'don't know' categories, or multiple answers. Throughout the volume, an asterisk (*) denotes any value of less than half a per cent.
- All summary codes have been summed from decimals (e.g. 10.2), rather than whole numbers (e.g. 10) and then rounded to the nearest whole number (e.g. $10.2 + 10.4 = 21$), including those summary codes from previous Electoral Commission surveys.¹
- Unless otherwise stated, results are based on all respondents (1,217).
- Where possible, trend data have been shown taken from previous waves of Winter Research as well as from other surveys. Please note that, unless otherwise stated, surveys previous to Jan 2008 were conducted face-to-face rather than by telephone. Please note that while findings from telephone and face-to-face surveys are broadly comparable, some caution should be exercised, as it may be possible that changes over time are to a small extent a result of the change in methodology rather than a change in the public's views or behaviour.

Summary of key results

- The 2009 Winter Research survey shows that, where we have trend data, findings have largely remained consistent with previous years.
- Around three in five people (59%) state that they would always vote at a General Election, a figure four percentage points down on the 2008 level (63%) and six points lower than the high recorded in 2006 (65%). This may reflect the passing of time since the last General Election (in 2005), and recollection of voting in a General Election may currently be more 'distant' to the public.
- Satisfaction with the voting process is also consistent, as around three-quarters (73%) are satisfied, as they have been in each previous survey. The highest recorded level of satisfaction was 77% in 2005, although this may be in part explained by that survey being conducted directly after the 2005 General Election when the process of voting may have been more familiar to many.
- The overwhelming majority are confident that they know how to cast their vote at an election (89%).
- When people were asked whether they would be more likely to vote if elections were held on a weekend or a weekday, seven in ten (71%) say it would make no difference either way. Fourteen per cent would be more likely to vote if elections are held on a weekday and 8% said they would be more likely to vote on any weekend day (with no preference for either day). An additional 5% explicitly expressed a preference for a Saturday, and 2% for a Sunday.
- Just over one in four (27%) respondents now name electoral fraud as at least a fairly big problem, while in 2008 the figure was one in three (34%), and in 2005 this figure was 46%. Similarly, more perceive postal voting to be safe in 2009 than previously, with 46% of respondents saying the process is safe from fraud and abuse compared to 40% in 2008. More also now see voting at a polling station as safe than was the case last year.
- Showing photographic ID when going to vote would have a more positive than negative effect on public confidence in the safety of the voting system from fraud or abuse. Over half (55%) of the British public say it would increase their confidence in electoral security and only 7% that it would decrease their confidence, although 37% say it would make no difference.
- Confidence in action being taken against a political party or one of its members who have broken party funding rules has decreased in the last year. There has been a ten percentage point fall in the number who are confident since 2008 (down from 41% to 31%) which may be related to the scandals

¹ For example, looking at the results for December 2009 at Q2, although 31% are very satisfied and 43% are fairly satisfied, the total percentage that is satisfied is 73% (since $30.7 + 42.6 = 73.3\%$).

surrounding MPs' expenses and a feeling among some members of the public that those in the wrong have not been adequately punished (this may have indirectly impacted the confidence of some on whether those breaking *party* finance rules would have appropriate action taken against them).

- Awareness of the Electoral Commission remains reasonably stable, but the Commission remains less well known than Ofcom and the Financial Services Authority.

ASK ALL

Q1. **Which of these statements best describes your attitude towards voting at General Elections?** READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY.

	January 2005 %	Dec 2005 - Jan 2006 %	November 2006 %	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
I always vote at General Elections	64	64	65	63	59
I sometimes vote at General Elections	20	20	19	23	25
I never vote at General Elections	11	11	11	9	8
I've not been eligible in the past to vote at a General Election	4	4	4	4	8
Don't know	*	2	1	*	*

Q2. **How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the actual process of voting at elections in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?** READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY.

	May 2003 %	Dec 2005 - Jan 2006 %	November 2006 %	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Very satisfied	26	30	21	32	31
Fairly satisfied	48	48	54	43	43
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9	10	14	9	11
Fairly dissatisfied	9	6	3	7	8
Very dissatisfied	5	1	1	5	4
Don't know/no opinion	3	7	7	4	4
Satisfied	74	77	75	75	73
Dissatisfied	14	7	5	11	12

ASK IF VERY/FAIRLY DISSATISFIED AT Q2

Q3.* **Why do you say you are dissatisfied with the actual process of voting at elections in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?** PROBE FULLY. DO NOT READ OUT LIST. MULTICODE OK

Base: All respondents very/fairly satisfied with the actual process of voting at General Elections (at Q2) (155)

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Don't agree with first past the post system/prefer proportional representation	2	24
Difficulty in voting/getting to location	7	14
No point in voting/doesn't make any difference	10	12
Too confusing/don't understand the process	6	9
Don't like politicians/not worth voting for/never see them except at election time/don't deliver on what they promise	3	7
Not happy with voting process/too long/don't like staff at polling stations	2	7
Not secure/system is open to abuse	11	5
Should have a variety of voting methods/more choice on how you vote	2	4
Can't be bothered with it	3	3
Don't like the postal voting	11	3
Many people do not vote	-	3
Unfair system	-	3
Don't hold elections on Thursdays/on a working day	2	3
Voting should be compulsory	1	2
I've never been contacted by politicians/campaigners etc	-	1
Should be able to vote online/introduce electronic voting	5	1
Should be postal voting for everyone	-	1
Prefer to vote for Prime Minister not local MP	3	-
Should be able to vote for no one	1	*
Other	13	7
Don't know	5	6

*Minor changes to answer categories from 2008. Note that comparison with 2008 should be viewed as indicative rather than statistically significant due to a different coding approach.

ASK ALL

Q4.* **Thinking generally about elections, which one of the following would you say is most important for you when you vote?** READ OUT. RANDOMISE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY.

	Dec 2004 %	Dec 2005 -Jan 2006 %	Nov 2006 %	Jan 2008 %	Dec 2008 %	Dec 2009 %
My vote being safe from fraud or abuse	36	32	31	26	28	30
Voting being easy and convenient to do	-	-	-	-	-	27
Voting being secret – that is without anyone else knowing how I voted	15	16	13	26	22	26
Having a choice of methods to cast a vote (such as by post or in person at a polling station)	7	7	7	19	16	15
Voting being convenient	18	16	17	15	17	-
Voting being easy to do	16	21	23	9	13	-
Other	*	1	*	1	*	*
Do not vote	-	-	-	-	*	-
None/Nothing/No answer	4	4	6	2	1	*
Don't know	4	3	3	0	1	2

*'Easy' and 'convenient' merged from 2008. Note that comparison with 2008 should therefore be viewed as indicative rather than statistically significant.

ASK IF SAY VOTING BEING EASY TO DO/VOTING BEING CONVENIENT AT Q4

Q5.* **What, if anything, would make voting easier/more convenient for you?** PROBE FULLY. DO NOT READ OUT LIST. MULTICODE OK

Base: All respondents who believe voting being easy to do/convenient is most important for them when they vote (at Q4) (308)

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Online voting	23	24
More polling stations/locations/local places to vote	-	11
Postal Voting	11	9
Longer hours/more days of polling/voting	4	8
Phone voting	3	8
More ways to place vote/more choice	3	4
More information on where/how/who to vote for	2	3
Not having to leave home to vote	4	3
Weekend voting	-	3
More polling stations	5	-
More local places to vote	12	-
Other	9	3
Nothing	27	11
Don't know	16	34

*Minor changes to answer categories from 2008. Note that comparison with 2008 should be viewed as indicative rather than statistically significant due to a different coding approach.

ASK ALL

Q6. **How confident, if at all, are you that you know how to go about casting your vote at an election?** SINGLE CODE ONLY. READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Very confident	68	66
Fairly confident	24	27
Not very confident	4	5
Not at all confident	3	2
Don't know	1	1
Confident	92	93
Not very/at all confident	7	6

Q7. **I'd like to ask you now about the day of the week that elections are held in this country. By this, I mean the day you can go out to cast your vote at a polling station. Would you be more likely to vote if elections were held on a weekday, that is Monday to Friday, or if they were held at the weekend, that is Saturday or Sunday, or would it make no difference?** IF SAYS 'DEPENDS OR WHETHER IT IS A SATURDAY OR A SUNDAY' OR HESITATES ON WEEKEND, PROBE: **Would you be more likely to vote on a Saturday, a Sunday or would it make no difference?** SINGLE CODE ONLY

	%
Weekday – Monday to Friday	14
Weekend – Saturday or Sunday (no difference)	8
Weekend – Saturday more than Sunday	5
Weekend – Sunday more than Saturday	2
Any weekend	15
It would make no difference	71
Don't know	*

Q8. **As you may know, there are many types of fraud such as benefit fraud and insurance fraud.**

How much of a problem, if at all, do you think electoral fraud, that is fraud relating to elections and voting, is in Great Britain/Northern Ireland? Do you think it is...
 READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY

	Dec 2003*	Apr 2005*	Dec 2005 - Jan 2006	Nov 2006	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Dec 2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
A very big problem	8	17	9	11	7	8	8
A fairly big problem	16	29	22	26	26	25	19
Not a very big problem	40	34	40	36	48	42	44
Not a problem at all	13	8	11	7	11	12	19
Don't know	24	11	19	21	9	13	9
A problem	23	46	31	37	33	34	27
Not a very big problem/not at all a problem	53	42	51	43	58	53	64

* Telephone survey

ROTATE ORDER Q9 AND Q10

Q9. **In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud or abuse, would you say that voting at a polling station is ...** READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY

	Dec 2005 - Jan 2006	Nov 2006	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Dec 2009
	%	%	%	%	%
Very safe	37	29	30	33	38
Fairly safe	46	49	51	50	48
Neither safe nor unsafe	9	10	10	9	8
Fairly unsafe	2	4	4	5	3
Very unsafe	*	1	1	*	1
Don't know	5	7	3	2	2
Safe	83	78	82	83	87
Unsafe	2	5	5	6	4

Q10. **In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud or abuse, would you say that voting by post is...** READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER SINGLE CODE ONLY

	Apr 2005**	Dec 2005 - Jan 2006	Nov 2006	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Dec 2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very safe	6	8	5	8	8	10
Fairly safe	30	35	33	34	32	36
Neither safe nor unsafe	14	16	17	16	15	14
Fairly unsafe	27	26	25	29	29	25
Very unsafe	19	7	9	9	11	11
Don't know	4	9	10	5	5	5
Safe	36	42	38	42	40	46
Unsafe	46	33	34	37	40	36

** Telephone survey

Q11. **As far as you are aware, are you registered to vote in an election in Great Britain/Northern Ireland? PROBE IF YES/NO: Are you definitely sure you are registered to vote/not to vote or do you think you are probably/probably not registered to vote? SINGLE CODE ONLY**

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Yes, am definitely registered to vote	88	89
Yes, am probably registered to vote	7	6
No, probably not registered to vote	1	2
No, definitely not registered to vote	2	2
Don't know	1	1

TREND

	December 2004 %	January 2006 %	November 2006 %	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Yes, am registered to vote	93	92	92	95	95
No, not registered to vote	5	5	5	3	4
Don't know	2	2	3	1	1

ASK IF PROBABLY/DEFINELY REGISTERED AT Q11

Q12. **And, as far as you are aware, are you currently registered to vote at your main residence, at a second home, or somewhere that you used to live but do not any longer? IF ASKED: By 'main residence' I mean where you think of as your main home currently.**

IF NECESSARY PROMPT: **Please note that it is possible and is legal to be registered at more than one address.**

MULTICODE OK.

Base: All respondents probably/definitely registered to vote (Q11) (1,153)

	%
Main residence	97
Second home	*
Another address – Somewhere I no longer live	2
Other	*
Don't know	*

ASK IF PROBABLY/DEFINELY NOT REGISTERED/DON'T KNOW AT Q11 OR SECOND HOME AND/OR ANOTHER ADDRESS – SOMEWHERE I NO LONGER LIVE AND/OR OTHER AND NOT MAIN RESIDENCE AT Q12

Q13.* **Why are you not registered to vote (ADD IF NOT MAIN RESIDENCE AT Q12: at your main residence)?** PROBE FULLY. DO NOT READ OUT LIST. MULTICODE OK

Base: All respondents probably/definitely registered to vote, or don't know (Q11) or not registered at their main residence (Q12) (97)

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Just moved	15	24
Not bothered	11	17
Haven't got round to it	20	12
Not eligible for reason(s) other than age (e.g. nationality)	-	12
Don't know how to register	8	5
More convenient/prefer to be registered at second time	-	2
Not old enough/not eligible	35	-
Other	10	8
Don't know	10	19

*Minor wording and answer category changes from 2008. Note that comparison with 2008 should be viewed as indicative rather than statistically significant due to a different coding approach.

ASK ALL

Q14. **How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the system of registering to vote in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?** READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY.

	May 2003 %	Dec 2005 - Jan 2006 %	November 2006 %	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Very satisfied	26	30	19	43	43
Fairly satisfied	49	48	56	39	39
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9	10	14	9	10
Fairly dissatisfied	7	6	3	4	3
Very dissatisfied	4	1	2	2	2
Don't know/no opinion	4	7	7	3	3
Satisfied	75	77	75	82	82
Dissatisfied	11	6	5	5	5

ASK IF VERY/FAIRLY DISSATISFIED AT Q14

Q15.* **Why are you dissatisfied with the system of registering to vote in Great Britain/Northern Ireland? PROBE FULLY. DO NOT READ OUT LIST. MULTICODE OK**

Base: All respondents very/fairly dissatisfied with system of registered to vote (Q14) (67)

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Inconvenient/cumbersome/could make it easier/need longer time	7	32
Council makes mistakes/is slow updating personal details	15	19
Never get the form/post is unreliable	6	10
Not enough checks/system open to abuse	5	9
People should have a choice whether they want to vote/register/don't agree with fining people for not registered	-	9
Should be more limitations on who can vote	3	6
Don't promote/advertise where/when to register	-	5
Should not have to re-register every year	10	3
No point voting/nothing gets done/makes no difference	6	2
Don't know how to register	25	-
Don't promote/advertise	1	-
People should have a choice whether they want to vote/register	2	-
Other	10	27
Don't know	-	5

*Minor answer category changes from 2008. Note that comparison with 2008 should be viewed as indicative rather than statistically significant due to a different coding approach.

ASK ALL

Q16. **How confident, if at all, are you that you know how to go about registering to vote? READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY**

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Very confident	57	55
Fairly confident	30	34
Not very confident	7	7
Not at all confident	3	3
Don't know	3	1
Confident	88	89
Not very/at all confident	10	10

ASK IN GB ONLY

Q17. **As you may know, forms are sent out to households every year to keep the electoral register up to date. These forms are usually delivered in August or September. As far as you know or remember, did you or your household receive a form this year? SINGLE CODE ONLY**

Base: All respondents in GB

	January 2006 (1,067) %	November 2006 (1,282) %	December 2008 (1,000) %	December 2009 (1,017) %
Yes	84	73	86	82
No	5	10	4	6
Can't remember	5	8	7	10
Don't know	5	8	3	2

ASK IF YES AT Q17

Q18.*

Thinking about this year, how did you confirm the details in the electoral registration form? PROMPT FROM THE LIST. SINGLE CODE ONLY. INTERVIEWER NOTE: RESPONDENTS MAY HAVE CONFIRMED THEIR DETAILS BY TELEPHONE, ONLINE OR COMPLETING THE FORM, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHICH

Base: All respondents in GB who have received a registration form (Q17) (860)

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
I completed/confirmed the details for all my household members (if have more than one household member)	45	43
I completed/confirmed the details for myself only	35	35
Someone else in my household completed/confirmed the details for me	13	11
I completed/confirmed the details for some of my household members, and someone else in my household confirmed the rest of the details	2	1
I completed/confirmed details on line (not specified further)	-	1
I completed/confirmed details by phone (not specified further)	-	1
Someone called at my home	-	1
No one completed/confirmed the details for me	2	3
Other	3	1
Don't know	1	1
Can't remember	2	3
Completed details	95	90
Respondent completed details	82	79

*Minor wording change from 2008

ASK ALL

Q19. **Thinking generally, when you are asked to provide your National Insurance number for official purposes, do you know your National Insurance number from memory, or could you find it easily, or not?** SINGLE CODE ONLY

	%
I know it from memory	44
I could find it easily	51
I do not know it and could not find it easily	4
I do not have a National Insurance number (SPONTANEOUS ONLY)	*
Know it/could find it	95

ASK IN GB ONLY

Q20. **Please tell me if you think that the following statements about registering to vote in Great Britain are true or false. If you don't know, just say so and we will move on to the next question.**

READ OUT. RANDOMISE ORDER a-d. SINGLE CODE ONLY FOR EACH.

Base: All respondents in GB (1,017)

	True %	False %	Don't know %
a) In order to register to vote everyone must provide their National Insurance Number	35	41	24
b) In order to register to vote everyone must provide their date of birth	77	11	12
c) In order to register to vote everyone must provide their signature	46	40	14
d) People can register to vote, or change their voting registration details such as those on where they live, at most points during the year	58	13	29

Q21. **At the moment, when registering to vote in Great Britain, you are not required to provide a National Insurance number or date of birth and only the person filling in the form must provide their signature. Would a requirement to personally provide your (INSERT A-C IN TURN) when you register to vote make you more likely to register, less likely to register or would it make no difference?**

RANDOMISE ORDER A-C. SINGLE CODE ONLY FOR EACH

IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY ALREADY PROVIDE ANY OF THESE, THEN PLEASE CODE AS 'IT WOULD MAKE NO DIFFERENCE'

Base: All respondents in GB (1,017)

	A) National Insurance Number	B) Date of birth	C) Signature
	%	%	%
More likely	6	7	9
Less likely	18	5	6
It would make no difference (IF THEY ALREADY DO THEN CODE AS NO DIFFERENCE)	74	87	84
Don't know	2	1	1
Not eligible to vote (SPONTANEOUS ONLY)	-	-	*

ASK ALL WHO ANSWER LESS LIKELY IN ANY Q21 A, B OR C

Q22. **Why would a requirement for you to provide your National Insurance number or date of birth or signature when registering to vote make you less likely to register?**
PROBE FULLY AND WRITE IN

Base: All respondents in GB who would be less likely to register (Q21) (201)

	%
Because of fraud/identity fraud	22
Do not like giving personal details out	16
No need/already have enough details	14
Invasion of privacy/should be kept confidential	9
Hard to find National Insurance number	8
May fall into wrong hands	6
May be used for other purposes	6
Too much hassle/time consuming	5
Do not want anyone to know my National Insurance number	4
Security risk	4
Signature could be copied	3
Would prefer to register online/by phone	2
Do not like the idea of a data base	1
Other	6
Don't know	4
None	3

ASK IN GB ONLY

Q23. **Some people have suggested that voters should have to show some form of photographic identification such as a passport or driving licence when they go to vote at a polling station.**

Would a requirement to show photographic identification at the polling station increase or decrease your confidence in the safety of the voting system from fraud or abuse, or would it make no difference? SINGLE CODE ONLY

Base: All respondents in GB (1,017)

	%
Increase confidence	55
Decrease confidence	7
It would make no difference	37
Don't know	1

ASK ALL

Q24. **Are you currently registered for a postal vote, that is sending in your ballot paper by post rather than going to a polling station, for a future election or elections? SINGLE CODE ONLY**

Base: All respondents in GB (1,017)

	Dec 2004	Jan 2006	Nov 2006	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Dec 2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, am registered for a postal vote	18	17	18	32	27	26
No, am not registered for a postal vote	78	77	77	63	64	63
Don't know	3	6	5	4	9	11

READ OUT: I am now going to talk about political party finance, that is, how parties raise and spend money for campaigning and other activities

ASK ALL

Q25.* **How confident, if at all, are you that when a political party or one of its members is caught breaking the rules of political party finance, the authorities will take appropriate action? Are you... READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY**

	December 2008	December 2009
	%	%
Very confident	7	7
Fairly confident	33	25
Not very confident	39	39
Not at all confident	21	30
Very/fairly confident	41	31
Not very/at all confident	59	69

*Minor wording change from 2008

Q26. **To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "There is more information available to the public now than in the recent past about how political parties are funded and spend their money." READ OUT. REVERSE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY**

	December 2008	December 2009
	%	%
Strongly agree	20	25
Tend to agree	42	40
Neither agree nor disagree	14	13
Tend to disagree	12	10
Strongly disagree	7	8
Don't know	5	5
Agree	63	65
Disagree	19	17

Q27.- **Before this interview, how much, if anything, had you heard about...? READ OUT.**
 Q33. REVERSE ORDER. RANDOMISE ORDER Q27-Q33. SINGLE CODE ONLY FOR EACH.

		Heard a great deal	Heard a fair amount	Not heard very much	Not heard of it at all	Don't know	Heard a great deal/ fair amount
Q27.	The Electoral Commission						
	December 2004	% 2	13	42	41	2	15
	December 2005 - January 2006	% 6	21	38	33	2	27
	November 2006	% 4	21	44	27	4	25
	December 2008	% 5	24	44	26	1	29
	December 2009	% 5	20	43	31	1	25
Q28.	GB ONLY The National Audit Office						
	<i>Base: All respondents in GB (1,017)</i>						
	January 2006*	% 7	22	33	36	2	29
	November 2006*	% 4	27	39	25	4	32
	December 2008	% 8	30	39	24	*	37
	December 2009	% 7	24	42	27	*	31
Q29.	NI ONLY The Northern Ireland Audit Office						
	<i>Base: All respondents in N.I (200)</i>						
	December 2008	% 5	19	48	27	*	24
	December 2009	% 7	10	46	37	-	18
Q30.	GB ONLY Equalities and Human Rights Commission						
	<i>Base: All respondents in GB (1,017)</i>						
	December 2008	% 13	38	34	14	*	51
	December 2009	% 12	32	37	18	*	45
Q31.	NI ONLY The Equality Commission						
	<i>Base: All respondents in N.I (200)</i>						
	December 2005	% 10	34	25	31	-	44
	November 2006	% 7	32	38	20	3	39
	December 2008	% 12	26	47	15	*	38
	December 2009	% 13	30	33	24	-	43
Q32.	ASK ALL Financial Services Authority						
	December 2008	% 22	30	27	20	*	52
	December 2009	% 20	29	31	19	*	49
Q33.	Ofcom						
	December 2008	% 19	36	25	19	*	55
	December 2009	% 15	35	29	21	*	50

* UK

Q34. **What do you think the Electoral Commission does?**
DO NOT PROMPT. MULTICODE OK

	December 2008 %	December 2009 %
Oversees/monitors elections	36	24
Makes rules and regulations under which elections are run	15	12
Runs elections (on polling day)	11	7
Looks after the Electoral Register	8	6
*Regulates and monitors political party spending/donations/loans	6	6
Identifies those breaking electoral law	8	4
Educates people to register and vote	3	2
Deals with complaints	3	1
Counts the votes	-	1
Decides/regulates constituency boundaries	-	1
Ensure elections are fair	-	1
Ensure rules are adhered to	-	1
Investigate/minimise fraud	-	1
Monitors MPs/political parties	-	1
Help/assistance when needed	-	*
Waste money/do little	-	*
Maintains the openness/fairness of elections	2	-
Nothing/not a lot	1	-
Other	1	2
Don't know	39	48
Nothing	-	1
No answer	-	1

* 'Monitors political party spending/donations/loans' in 2008

Demographics

Do you work in the public sector, or do you work in the private or voluntary sector?

Base: All working (703)

	%
Private Sector	75
Public Sector	22
Voluntary Sector	3
Don't know	*

And are you, yourself

	%
Working 30 hours or more a week (Full-time)	46
Working 8-29hours a week (Part-time)	8
Not working (under 8 hrs) – housewife	7
Not working (under 8 hrs) – unemployed	2
Not working (under 8 hrs) – unemployed (not registered but looking for work)	1
Not working (under 8 hrs) – retired	23
Not working (under 8 hrs) - student	7
Not working (under 8 hrs – other (inc disabled)	6

Does your household have the use of a car or light van for private motoring?

	%
1 car or light van	42
2 cars/light vans	29
3+ cars/light vans	9
None	20

Is the home you are living in . . . ?

	%
Being bought on a mortgage	45
Owned outright by household	27
Rent form Local Authority	11
Rented from Housing Association/Trust	6
Rented from private landlord	9
Other	1

Government Region

	%
North East	4
Yorkshire & Humberside	9
East Midlands	7
Eastern	9
Great London	12
South East	13
South West	9
West Midlands	9
North West/Merseyside	11
Wales	5
Scotland	9

Q Which, if any, daily newspapers do you read or look at regularly? By regularly I mean on average at least three out of four issues

	%
Daily Express	5
Daily Mail	15
The Mirror	8
Daily Record	3
Daily Telegraph	5
Financial Times	1
The Guardian	4
The Herald (Glasgow)	*
The Independent	1
Metro	5
The Scotsman	*
Daily Star	5
The Sun	14
The Times	6
Evening Standard	1
Sunday papers	1
Local papers	4
The Observer	*
London Life	*
Other evening newspaper	3
Other	1
None of these/None/Nothing	41
No answer	8
Tabloid	44
Broadsheet	15

Q It is very important that this study is asked to a representative cross-section of people living in Britain today, and that it reflects the religious and faith views of the population as a whole. To ensure this, please can you tell me what your religion is, if any?

	%
Church of England	38
Roman Catholic	14
Other Protestant	5
Free church/Non-conformist (Methodist Baptist etc)	4
Church of Scotland	3
Muslim	2
Sikh	1
Church in Wales/Chapel	*
Hindu	*
Orthodox Greek/Russian	*
Buddhist	*
Jewish	*
None	25
Other	5
Refused	1

Gender

	%
Male	48
Female	52

Chief income earner

	%
Yes	62
No	37

Disability

	%
Yes	21
No	79

Age

	%
18-24	13
25-34	18
35-44	20
45-54	17
55-64	14
65+	18

Tenure

	%
Owned outright	27
Buying on mortgage	45
Council/HAT	17
Private rent/other	10

Class

	%
A	5
B	16
C1	19
C2	26
D	15
E	19

Ethnicity

	%
White	91
Non White/BME (include Chinese, other)	8
Black, include. mixed	3
Asian, incl. mixed	4
Other (incl. Chinese)	1