

Sutton Trust Social Mobility Survey 2017

Final Topline – 13th June

- 2,001 adults, aged 16-64 in Great Britain were interviewed for this survey.
- The survey was conducted online by Ipsos Interactive Services between 6th-8th June 2017.
- Quotas were set for age, sex, and region (source: 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Great Britain).
- Data are weighted to the known population profile for the population of Great Britain aged 16-64 (source: 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Great Britain).
- Where results do not sum to 100%, this may be due to multiple responses, computer rounding or the exclusion of don't knows/not stated.
- An asterisk (*) represents a value of less than one half of one percent, but not zero.
- Results are based on all 2,001 respondents in each case
- Trend data included where available.

Q1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that people have equal opportunities to get ahead?

	2017	2016	2008
	%	%	%
Strongly agree	11	15	11
Tend to agree	30	31	42
Neither agree nor disagree	17	15	10
Tend to disagree	31	25	25
Strongly disagree	11	14	9
Don't know*	1		
<i>Agree</i>	<i>40</i>		
<i>Disagree</i>	<i>42</i>		

Source: Ipsos MORI, 2016

<https://www.ipsos.com/ipsos-mori/en-uk/public-mood>

2008 survey conducted by Ipsos MORI for Sutton Trust, 2,060 GB adults (May 2008).

2016 survey conducted by Ipsos MORI 999 GB adults (June 2016).

*Don't know combined with 'Neither' in 2016/ 2008 results.

Q2. To what extent, if at all, do you feel that today's youth will have had a better or worse life than their parents' generation, or will it have been about the same?

	2017 %	2016 %	2011 %	2017 YPO* %
Much better	8			13
Slightly better	21			26
About the same	21			15
Slightly worse	33			15
Much worse	13			8
Don't know	4			16
<i>Better/ Higher</i>	29	22	23	39
<i>Lower/ Worse</i>	46	54	35	23

Source: Ipsos MORI, 2016

<https://www.ipsos.com/ipsos-mori/en-uk/public-mood>

*Source: Ipsos MORI 2017 Young People's Omnibus Survey (Base: 2,881 11-16 year olds in England, Scotland and Wales). Wording slightly differs 'To what extent, if at all, do you feel that your generation will have had a better or worse life than your parents' generation, or will it be the same'.

Q3. Please think of your present job (or your last one if you don't have one now). If you compare this job with the job your father had when you were 16, would you say that the level or status of your job is (or was) ...?

	2017 %	1987 %
Much higher than your father's	16	16
Higher	25	30
About equal	22	26
Lower	18	17
Much lower than your father's	8	4
I have never had a job	2	2
Don't know	5	
Not applicable	4	

Source: British Social Attitudes Survey, 1987, 1992, 1999, 2009

<https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/api/datastream?publicationPid=uk-ac-man-scw:93039&datastreamId=FULL-TEXT.PDF>. Ref Table 2.1

Q4. Please select one option for each of these to show how important, if at all, you think it is for getting ahead in life. How important is...

	Essential	Very important	Fairly important	Not very important	Not important at all	Can't choose
coming from a wealthy family?	8	17	33	27	12	3
having well-educated parents?	6	23	41	21	7	2
having a good education, yourself?	28	44	24	3	1	1
having ambition?	36	39	21	2	1	1
knowing the right people?	19	35	35	8	2	1

% saying factor is essential or very important

	2017	2009
	%	%
coming from a wealthy family?	26	14
having well-educated parents?	29	31
having a good education, yourself?	72	74
having ambition?	76	71
knowing the right people?	54	33

Source: British Social Attitudes Survey, 1987, 1992, 1999, 2009

<https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/api/datastream?publicationPid=uk-ac-man-scw:93039&datastreamId=FULL-TEXT.PDF>

Q5. Which one, if any, of the following would most help those from less advantaged backgrounds get ahead in life?

	2017
	%
High quality teaching in comprehensive schools	47
Lower tuition fees at university	23
Access to grammar schools	8
Access to private schools for families who can't afford it	7
High quality nurseries/child care	4
None of these	6
Don't know	6