

Ipsos MORI December 2018 Political Monitor Topline Results

7th December 2018

Fieldwork: 30th November – 5th December 2018

Technical Details

Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative sample of 1049 adults aged 18+ across Great Britain. Interviews were conducted by telephone: 30th November – 5th December 2018. Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

Where percentages do not sum to 100 this may be due to computer rounding, the exclusion of “don’t know” categories, or multiple answers. An asterisk (*) denotes any value of less than half a per cent. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they would not vote, are undecided or refuse to name a party and in the headline figures, are filtered as discussed below. Data are based on all adults unless otherwise stated

Voting Intention

Voting intention polls between elections are a measurement of how a representative sample of the public think they would vote at a given point in time. Voting intentions should be read in conjunction with other political indicators.

Voting intentions: headline indicator

Our headline indicator takes into account past voting behaviour (do people always or usually vote in general elections, or say it depends) as well as stated likelihood to vote in an upcoming election (those who say they are at least 9 out of 10 certain to vote). We continually review our methods, and may make further refinements to our methodology in the future.

As previously, please note that this measure is not based on the assumption that this is the group who will vote at the next general election, as this population is not accurately identifiable at this stage of a parliament. Rather, it includes only those voters whose past behaviour and frame of mind is nearest to those who actually vote at elections.

All polls are subject to a wide range of potential sources of error. On the basis of the historical record of the polls at recent general elections, there is a 9 in 10 chance that the true value of a party’s support lies within 4 points of the estimates provided by this poll, and a 2 in 3 chance that they lie within 2 points. This is especially important to keep in mind when calculating party lead figures.

Q1a **How would you vote if there were a General Election tomorrow?**

IF UNDECIDED OR REFUSED AT Q1a

Q1b **Which party are you most inclined to support?**

Base: All 9-10 certain to vote and always/usually/depends vote in General Elections (811)

	Q1a/b December %	Q1a/b October %
Conservative	38	39
Labour	38	37
Liberal Democrats (Lib Dem)	9	10
Scottish/Welsh Nationalist	5	5
Green Party	5	5
UK Independence Party	4	5
Other	1	*
Conservative lead (±%)	+0	+2
<i>Would not vote</i>	*	1
<i>Undecided</i>	4	3
<i>Refused</i>	*	1

Voting intentions: all naming a party

The voting intention figures based on all those giving a voting intention is the measure with the longest pedigree; our regular trends on this basis go back to the 1970s. When turnouts were much higher than is usual today, this offered a good approximation to actual voting behaviour; in more recent years however, there have been differing turnout levels among the supporters of the various parties.

Q1a **How do you intend to vote in the General Election? Will you vote...?**

IF UNDECIDED OR REFUSED AT Q1a

Q1b **Which party are you most inclined to support?**

	%
Conservative	37
Labour	38
Liberal Democrats (Lib Dem)	8
Scottish/Welsh Nationalist	5
Green Party	5
UK Independence Party	5
Other	1
Conservative lead (±%)	-1
<i>Would not vote</i>	5
<i>Undecided</i>	7
<i>Refused</i>	*

Certainty of voting

- Q2 And how likely would you be to vote in the General Election, on a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 means you would be absolutely certain to vote, and 1 means that you would be absolutely certain not to vote?

	%
10 – absolutely certain to vote	70
9	4
8	4
7	4
6	2
5	5
4	1
3	1
2	*
1 – absolutely certain not to vote	7
Don't know	1

Satisfaction Ratings

Satisfaction among general public aged 18+

- Q3 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the Government is running the country?
- Q4 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Theresa May is doing her job as Prime Minister?
- Q5 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Jeremy Corbyn is doing his job as leader of the Labour party?
- Q6 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Vince Cable is doing his job as leader of the Liberal Democrats?

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Don't know	Net satisfaction
	%	%	%	±
Government (Q3) Dec '18	24	69	7	-45
Oct '18	22	70	8	-48
May (Q4) Dec '18	35	57	8	-22
Oct '18	29	61	10	-32
Corbyn (Q5) Dec '18	27	59	14	-32
Oct '18	28	59	14	-31
Cable (Q6) Dec '18	24	38	38	-14
Oct '18	19	38	42	-19

- Q3 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the Government is running the country?
- Q4 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Theresa May is doing her job as Prime Minister?
- Q5 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Jeremy Corbyn is doing his job as leader of the Labour party?

Base: All party supporters (*Government is based on Conservative supporters)

		Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Don't know	Net satisfaction	
	Base	%	%	%	±	
Government (Q3)	Dec '18	382	55	39	6	+16
	Oct '18	351	47	47	6	0
May (Q4)	Dec '18	382	66	31	3	+35
	Oct '18	351	57	37	5	+20
Corbyn (Q5)	Dec '18	320	49	40	11	+9
	Oct '18	324	59	32	8	+27

Economic Optimism Index

- Q7 Do you think that the general economic condition of the country will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next 12 months?

	Dec '18	Oct '18
	%	%
Improve	14	14
Stay the same	19	21
Get worse	61	61
Don't know	6	5
Ipsos MORI Economic Optimism Index (EOI)	-47	-47

Brexit

I'd now like to ask you some questions about the ongoing negotiations on Britain's future relationship with the European Union after it leaves in March next year.

Q8 Now that Britain has voted to leave the EU, to what extent do you think it will be better or worse for each of following, or will it make no difference?

Asked in May 2016 as: *If Britain votes to leave the European Union, to what extent do you think it would be better or worse for each of the following, or would it make no difference?*

		A lot better	A little better	Make no difference	A little worse	A lot worse	Don't know	Better	Worse
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Britain's economy over the next five years	Dec '18	10	16	13	24	31	5	26	55
	July '16	17	21	9	24	25	5	38	49
	May '16	11	15	15	25	24	9	26	49
Britain's economy over the next ten to twenty years	Dec '18	24	21	10	18	16	11	45	34
	July '16	33	22	11	14	10	11	55	24
	May '16	22	17	11	20	15	16	39	35
Britain's ability to make decisions in its own best interests	Dec '18	27	28	17	9	15	5	55	24
	July '16	39	20	16	10	11	4	59	21
	May '16	39	20	15	11	9	7	59	20
Your own standard of living	Dec '18	7	11	37	25	16	4	18	41
	Oct '18	8	10	32	20	23	6	18	43
	Oct '17	8	12	41	23	13	4	20	36
	Mar '17	8	10	40	20	17	5	18	37
	Oct '16	13	11	24	24	25	4	24	49
	July '16	9	12	39	24	12	4	21	36
	May '16	7	11	46	19	10	7	18	29

Britain's control over immigration from the EU	Dec '18	22	25	24	11	11	7	47	22
Britain's control over immigration from outside the EU	Dec '18	14	21	39	10	10	7	35	20

Q9 Please tell me how confident, if at all, you are that Theresa May has got a good deal for Britain in negotiations with other European Union leaders?

Asked before November 2016 as: **Please tell me how confident, if at all, you are that Theresa May will get a good deal for Britain in negotiations with other European Union leaders?**

	Very confident	Fairly confident	Not very confident	Not confident at all	Don't know	Confident	Not confident
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Dec '18	3	20	30	39	7	23	69
Oct '18	2	17	35	43	3	19	78
Sep '18	4	24	37	33	2	28	70
Jul '18	4	21	36	36	3	25	72
Jun '18	5	25	34	33	2	30	67
May '18	5	29	33	30	3	34	63
Mar '18	6	31	28	31	4	37	59
Oct '17	5	30	31	29	4	35	60
Jul '17	6	30	31	29	3	36	60
Mar '17	11	33	28	23	5	44	51

Base: Conservative party supporters (382)

	Very confident	Fairly confident	Not very confident	Not confident at all	Don't know	Confident	Not confident
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Dec '18	6	33	29	25	7	39	54
Oct '18	4	30	41	23	2	34	64
Sep '18	7	38	40	13	2	45	53
Jul '18	7	40	39	12	3	47	51
Jun '18	11	45	32	11	2	56	43
May '18	10	57	23	9	1	67	32
Mar '18	16	51	23	10	1	67	33
Oct '17	12	54	22	8	4	66	30
Jul '17	14	59	15	11	2	73	26

Q10 As you may know, the Government and the European Union have reached an agreement on the terms of Britain's withdrawal from the European Union. From what you know or have heard, do you think it would be a good thing or bad thing for the UK as a whole to withdraw from the EU on these terms?

Asked in July 2016: And from what you know or have heard, do you think Theresa May's plan for Britain's future relationship with the European Union (also known as the Chequers plan) would be a good thing or bad thing for the UK as a whole?

	Withdrawal Agreement	Chequers Deal
	Dec '18 %	Jul '18 %
Good thing	25	29
Bad thing	62	47
Neither good or bad	4	6
Don't know	9	19

Q11 And regardless of how you voted in the EU referendum, do you believe the withdrawal agreement reached between the Government and the European Union is better or worse, or about the same as you expected at the time of the referendum?

	Dec '18 %
Better	4
About the same as expected	39
Worse	51
Don't know	6

Q12 Parliament is expected to vote on the withdrawal agreement on December 11th. If Parliament does not vote in favour of the withdrawal agreement, which of the following, if any, do you think the Government should do next?

	Dec '18 %
Hold a second vote in Parliament on the Withdrawal Agreement	6
Ask the EU to reopen negotiations to seek a different deal	19
Call a General Election	10
Call a referendum on whether or not accept the withdrawal agreement	10
Call a referendum on whether or not Britain should leave the EU	20
Call-off Brexit altogether without a referendum	11
Allow Britain to leave the EU without a deal	20
None of the above	1
Don't know	4

Q13 And if Parliament does not vote in favour of the withdrawal agreement, do you think that Theresa May should resign as Prime Minister or should she continue being the Prime Minister?

	Dec '18 %
Resign as Prime Minister	43
Continue as Prime Minister	50
Should step down even if Parliament votes in favour of the withdrawal agreement	1
Don't know	7

Q14 And if Britain and other European Union leaders fail to reach an agreement on the new terms of Britain's future relationship with the EU by the time Britain leaves, which two or three of the following, if any, do you think will be most to blame?

	Dec '18 %	Oct '18 %
The UK Government	35	36
The European Union	27	37
Conservative MPs	31	37
The Labour Party	19	16
Other opposition parties	10	10
Brexit campaigners	35	32
Remain campaigners	14	14
No-one	1	1
Other	5	3
Don't know	7	7

Q15 As you may know there are plans to hold a televised debate on Sunday December 9th between Theresa May and Jeremy Corbyn on their views of Britain's relationship with Europe after Britain leaves the EU. How interested, if at all, are you in watching this debate?

	Dec '18 %
Very interested	33
Fairly interested	25
Not very interested	14
Not at all interested	28
Don't know	*

Q16 How important, if at all, do you think the debate will be in helping you make up your mind about Britain's future relationship with the EU?

	Dec '18 %
Very important	15
Fairly important	20
Not very important	20
Not at all important	43
Don't know	2

Q17 And who do you think will be the most convincing in the debate, Theresa May or Jeremy Corbyn?

	Dec '18 %
Theresa May	40
Jeremy Corbyn	36
Other	1
Neither	14
Don't know	9