

March 2019

Public Policy Preferences and the Independent Group



Ipsos MORI

Note on reading these slides

- Ipsos MORI asked a representative sample of the British population aged 16-75 how close they felt to different UK political parties, their policy preferences and perceptions of The Independent Group.
- For policy preferences, respondents were shown several pairs of policy statements and asked to indicate their strength of preference for statement A or B on a 5 point scale. A 'net' score was taken for each pair of statements by subtracting the number that prefer statement B from those preferring statement A. Results for different audiences were then plotted on line graphs to show the policy preferences of different groups* (p6-13).
- For The Independent Group, we asked whether respondents had heard of them, how closely they were following the story, whether they were favourable towards the group or not and if they could name its members.
- More technical details about the survey can be found at the end of this slide pack.

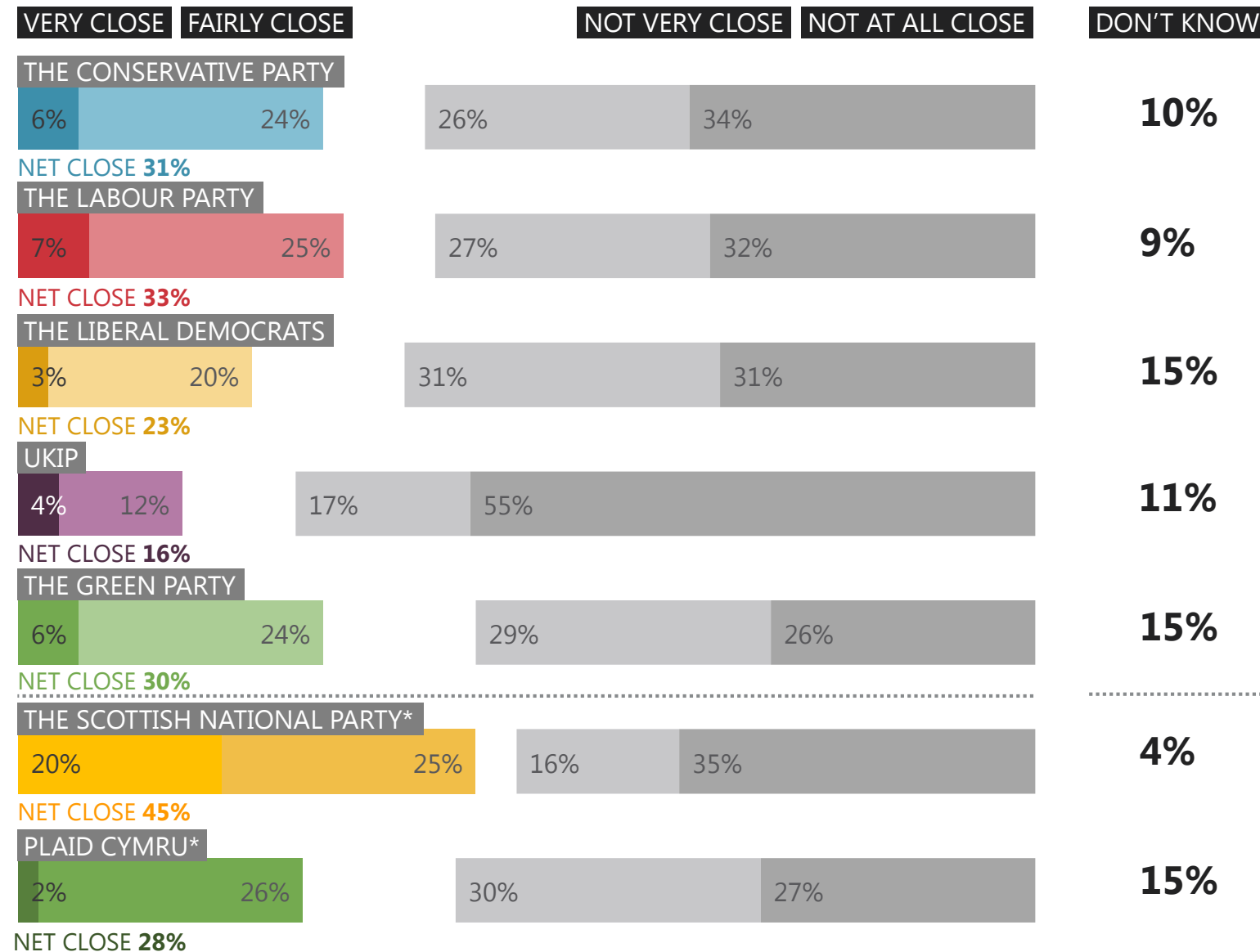


Ipsos MORI

*Statements are shown in charts in abbreviated form for brevity. A full list of exact statements shown can be found at the end of this slide pack.

Attachment to political parties

HOW CLOSELY, IF AT ALL, DO YOU
THINK THE FOLLOWING POLITICAL
PARTIES REPRESENT YOUR VIEWS?



Base: All adults aged 16-75 in Great Britain (1080).

* Only Scottish respondents (96) answered about the SNP and only Welsh respondents (54) about Plaid Cymru



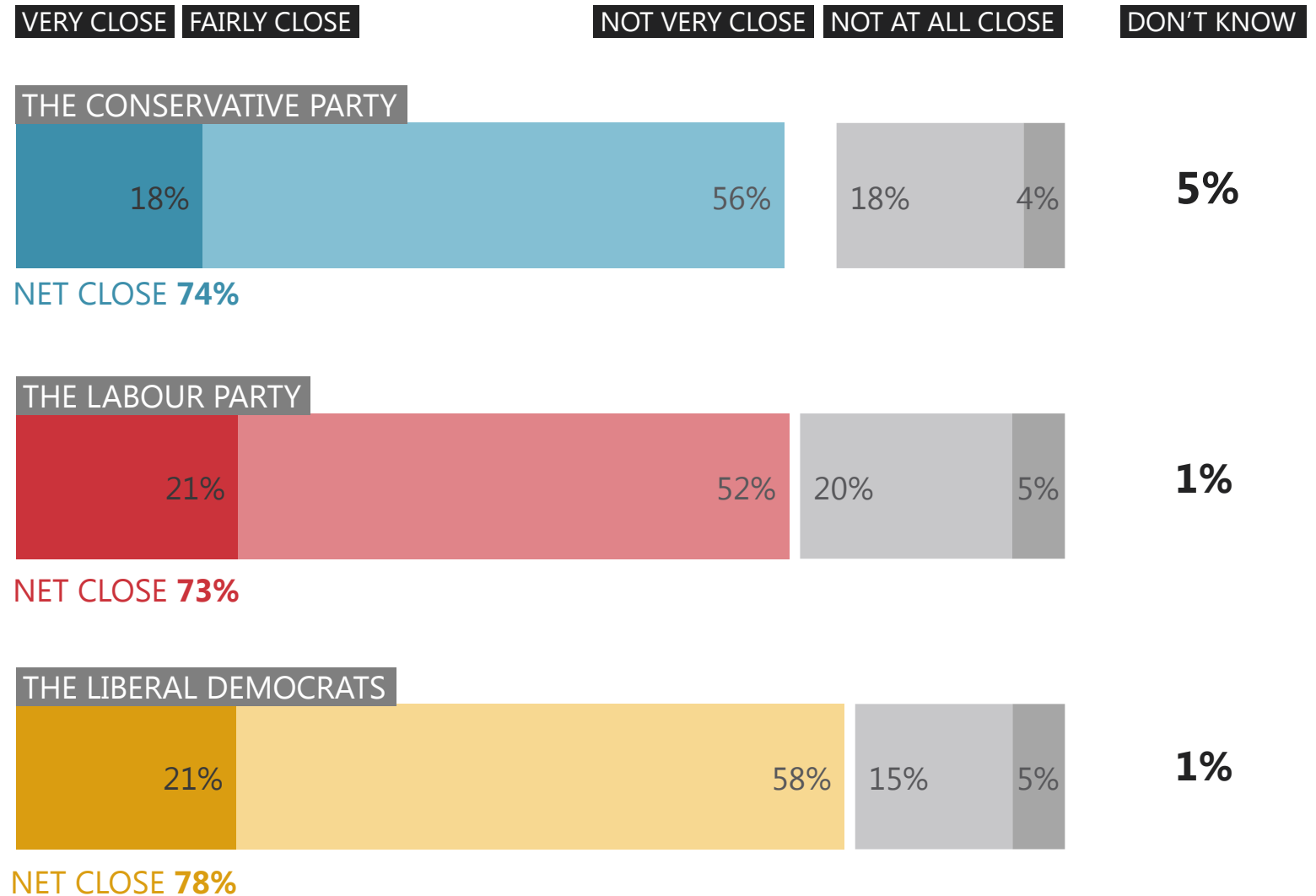
Ipsos MORI

Source: Ipsos MORI

Attachment to political parties

By 2017 party vote

HOW CLOSELY, IF AT ALL, DO YOU
THINK THE FOLLOWING POLITICAL
PARTIES REPRESENT YOUR VIEWS?



Base: Conservative 2017 voters (319), Labour 2017 voters (326), Liberal Democrat 2017 voters (71)

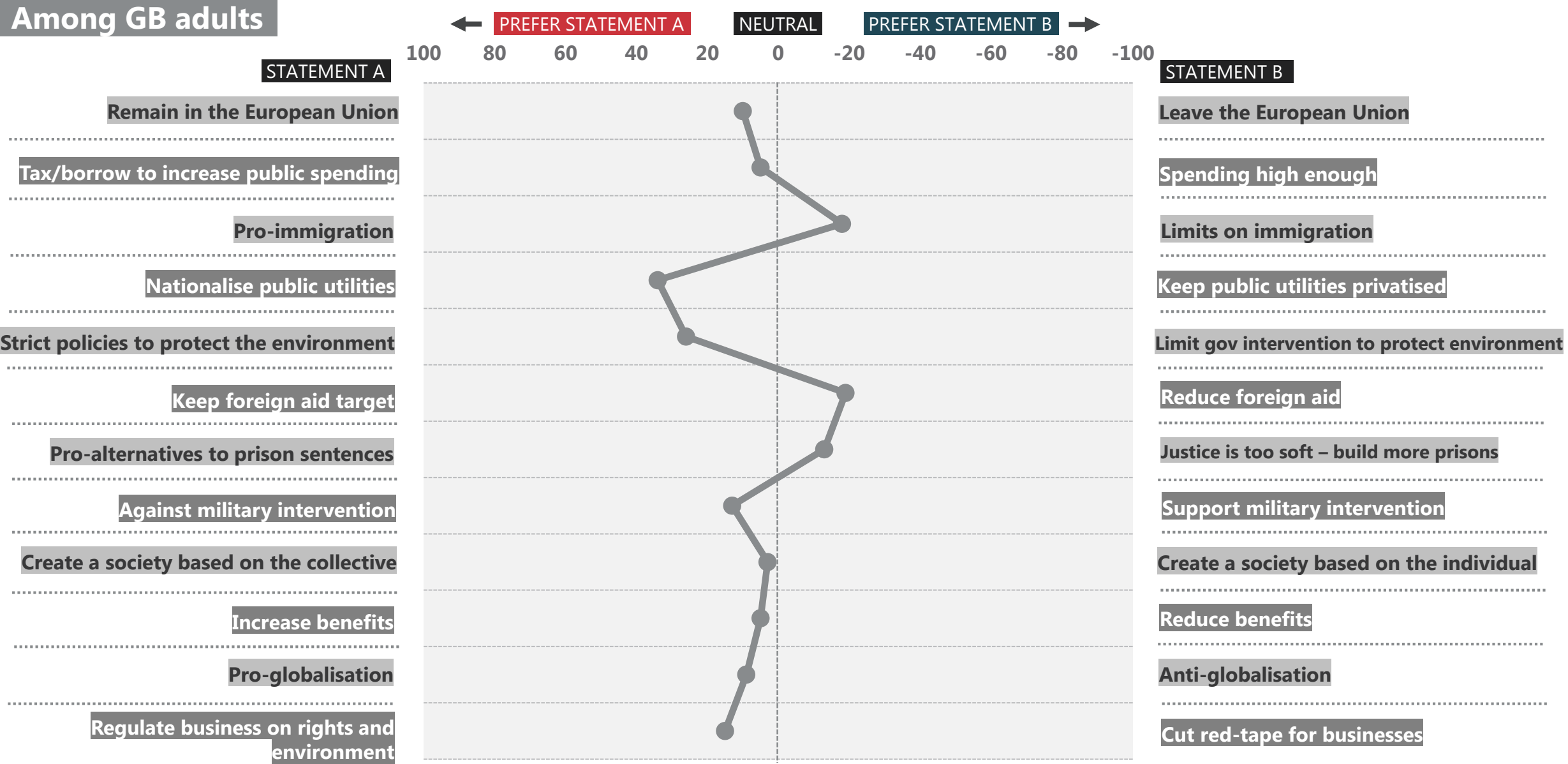


Ipsos MORI

Source: Ipsos MORI

Overall the British public lean left on some issues and right on others...

Among GB adults



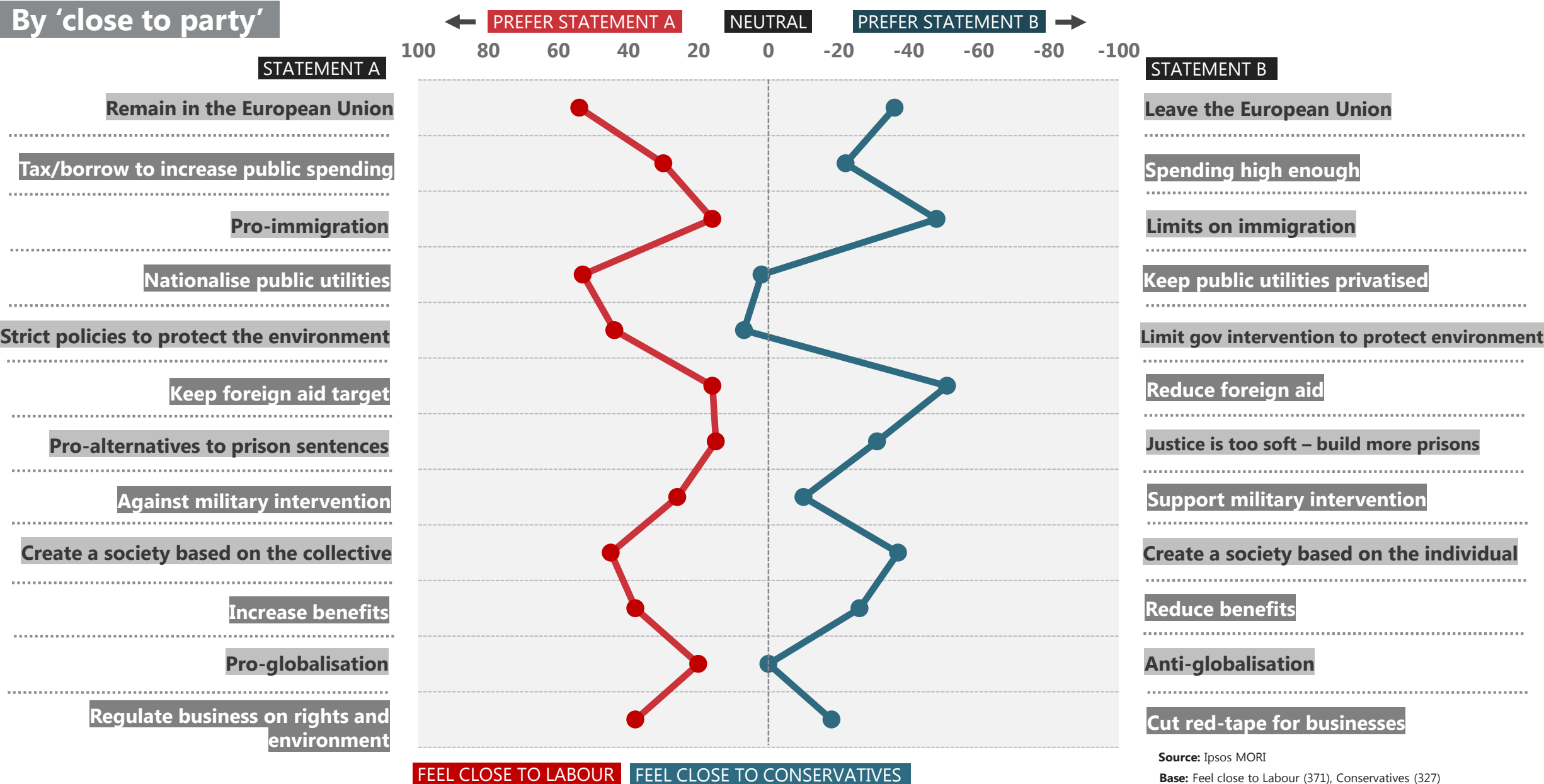
Source: Ipsos MORI

AMONG ALL

Base: All adults aged 16-75 in Great Britain (1080)

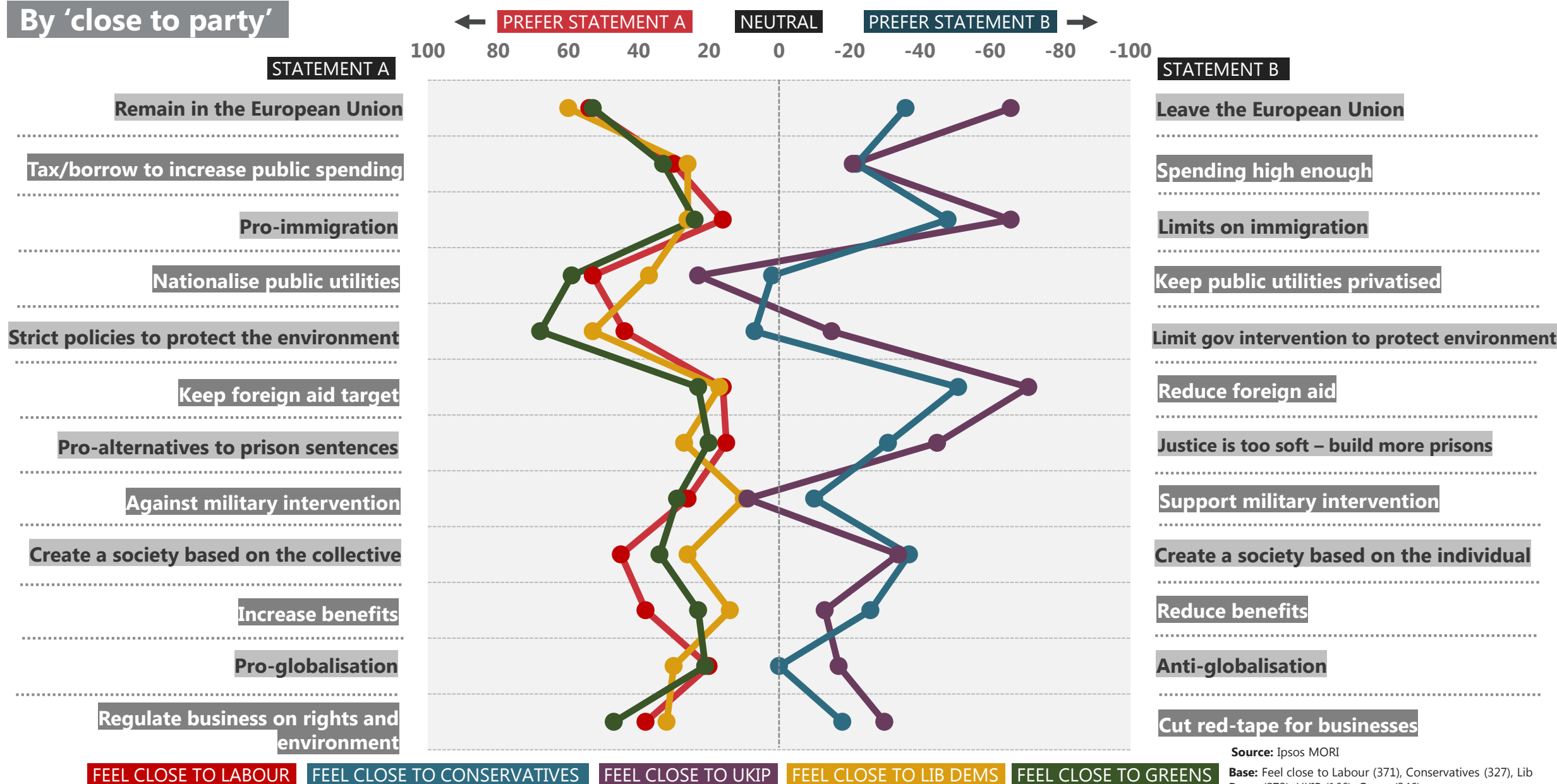
Labour and Conservative supporters are divided over Britain's future on most issues

By 'close to party'



Policy preferences for Labour, Conservative, UKIP, Lib Dem and Green supporters

By 'close to party'

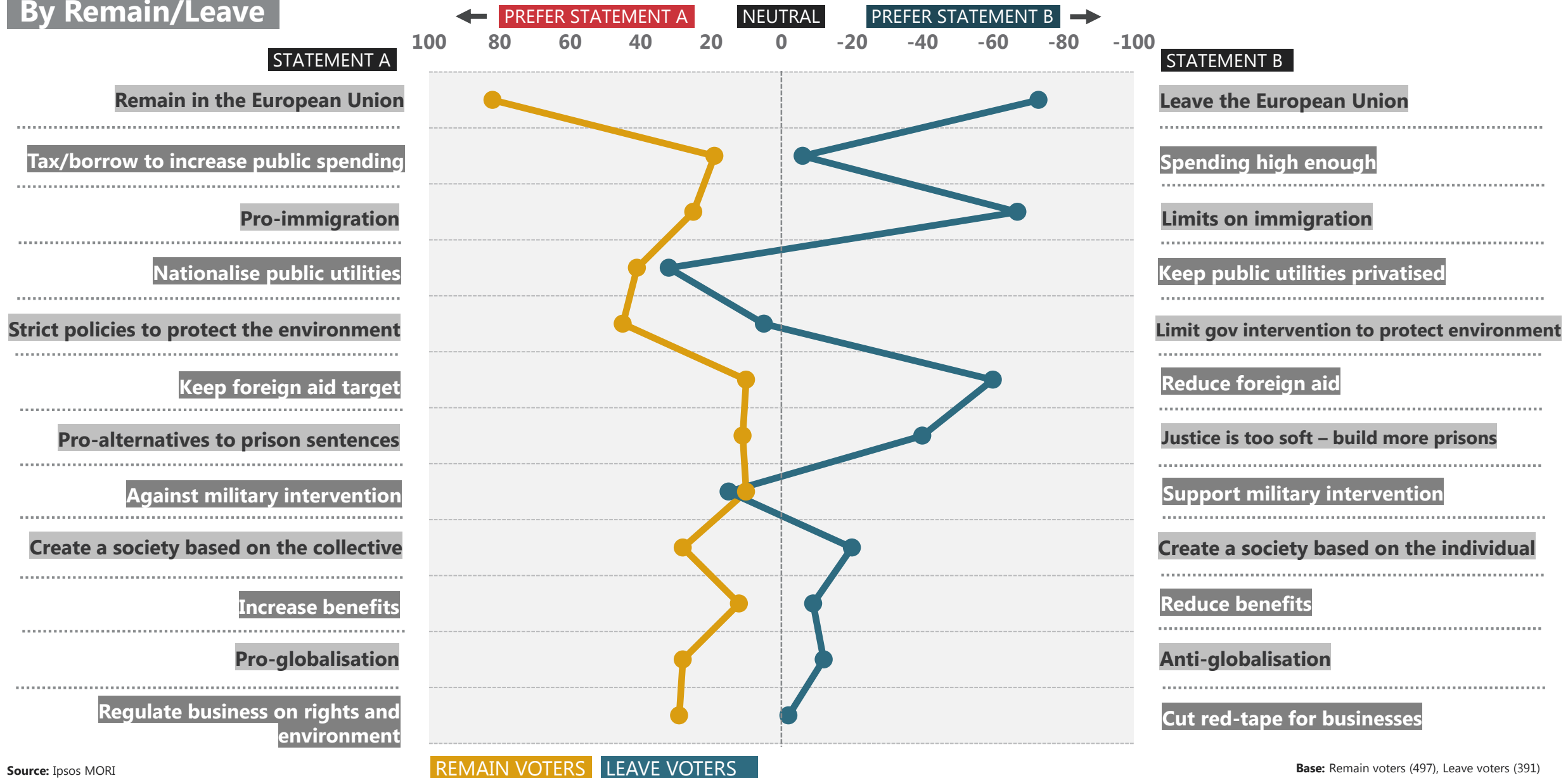


Source: Ipsos MORI

Base: Feel close to Labour (371), Conservatives (327), Lib Dems (273), UKIP (166), Green (346)

Beyond Brexit, Remain / Leavers differ sharply on immigration, foreign aid & prisons

By Remain/Leave

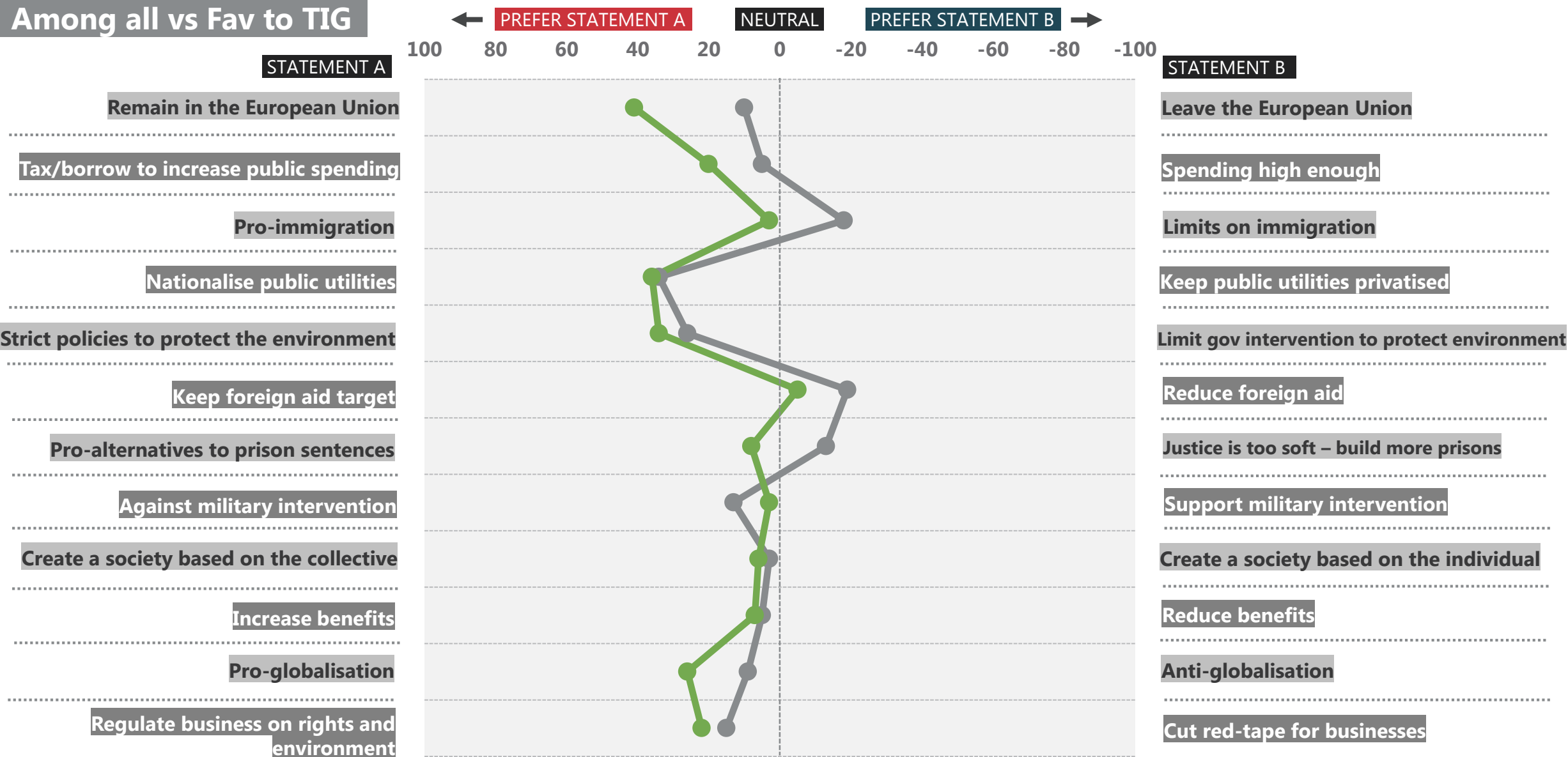


Source: Ipsos MORI

Base: Remain voters (497), Leave voters (391)

Those warm to TIG are pro Remain & generally more liberal than the general public

Among all vs Fav to TIG

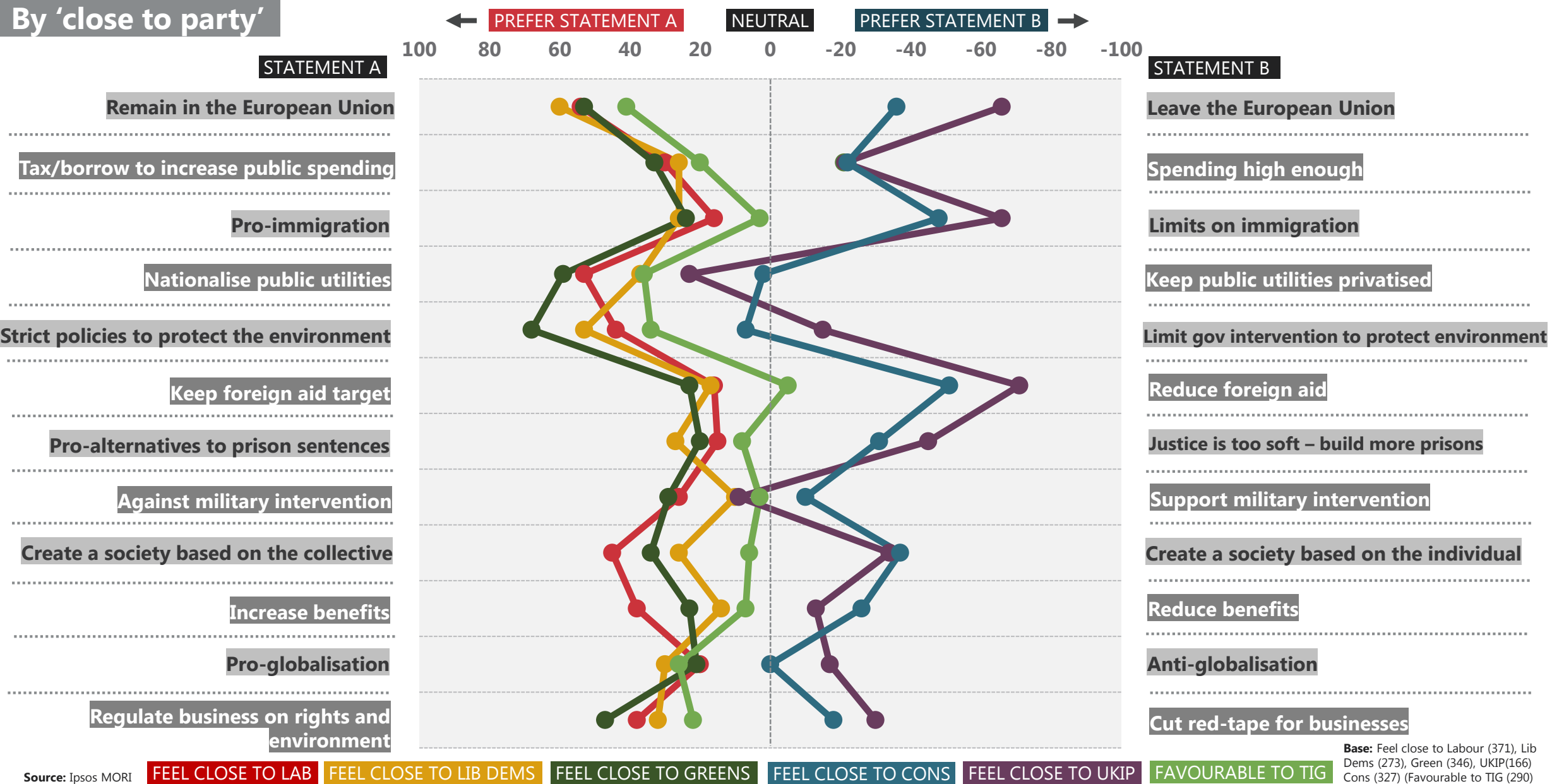


Source: Ipsos MORI

Base: All adults aged 16-75 in Great Britain (1080), Favourable to the Independent Group (290)

Those fav to TIG are similar / slightly 'softer' left than those feeling close to Lab/Greens/Lib Dems

By 'close to party'



Source: Ipsos MORI

Cons warm to TIG are more pro EU, environment & globalisation than other Cons

Conservatives by fav to TIG

← PREFER STATEMENT A NEUTRAL PREFER STATEMENT B →

100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100

STATEMENT A

Remain in the European Union

Tax/borrow to increase public spending

Pro-immigration

Nationalise public utilities

Strict policies to protect the environment

Keep foreign aid target

Pro-alternatives to prison sentences

Against military intervention

Create a society based on the collective

Increase benefits

Pro-globalisation

Regulate business on rights and environment

STATEMENT B

Leave the European Union

Spending high enough

Limits on immigration

Keep public utilities privatised

Limit gov intervention to protect environment

Reduce foreign aid

Justice is too soft – build more prisons

Support military intervention

Create a society based on the individual

Reduce benefits

Anti-globalisation

Cut red-tape for businesses

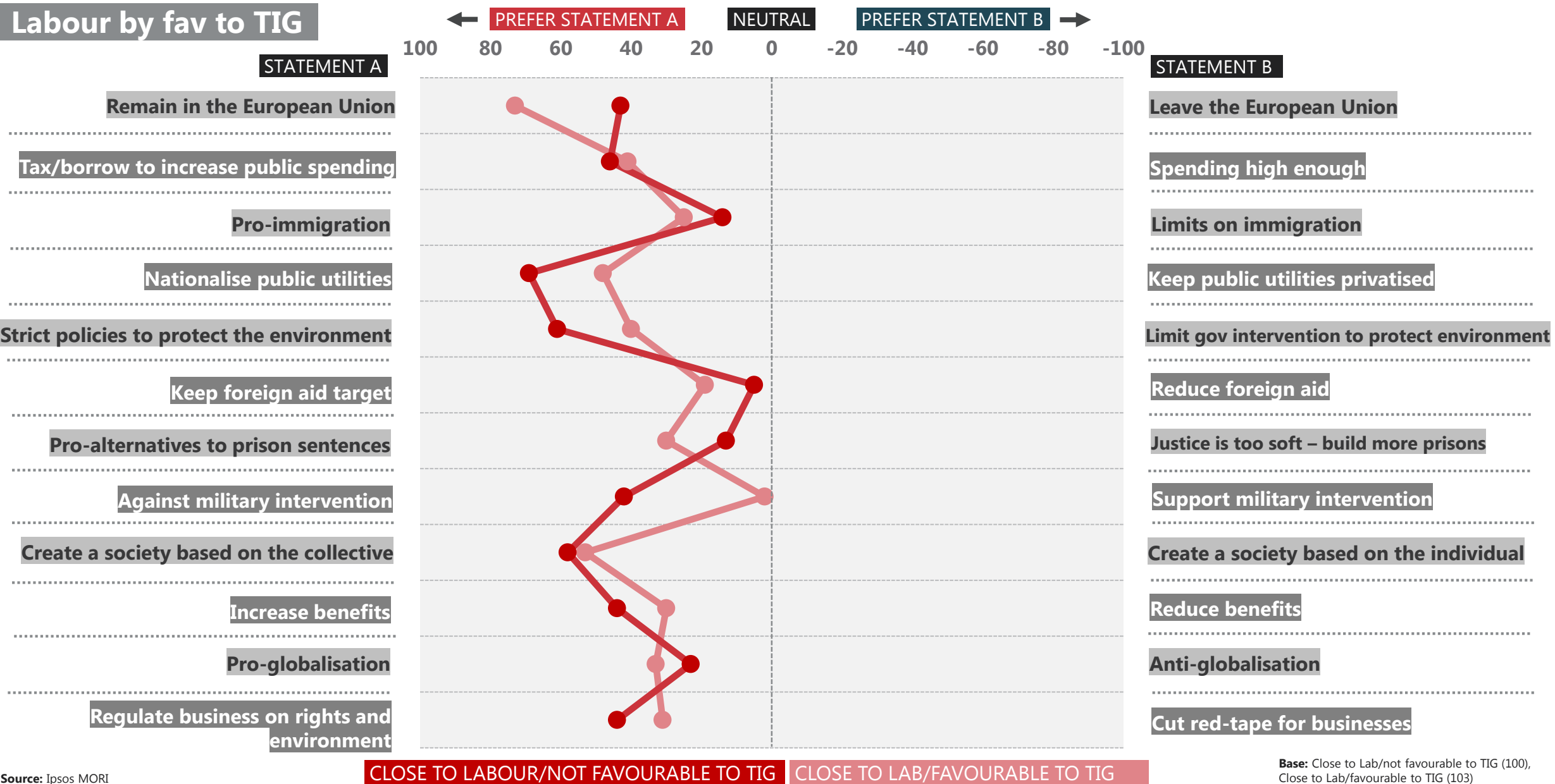
CLOSE TO CON/NOT FAVOURABLE TO TIG

CLOSE TO CON/FAVOURABLE TO TIG

Base: Close to Con/not favourable to TIG (121),
Close to Con/favourable to ITG (86)

Lab supporters warm to TIG are pro Remain & more open to military intervention abroad

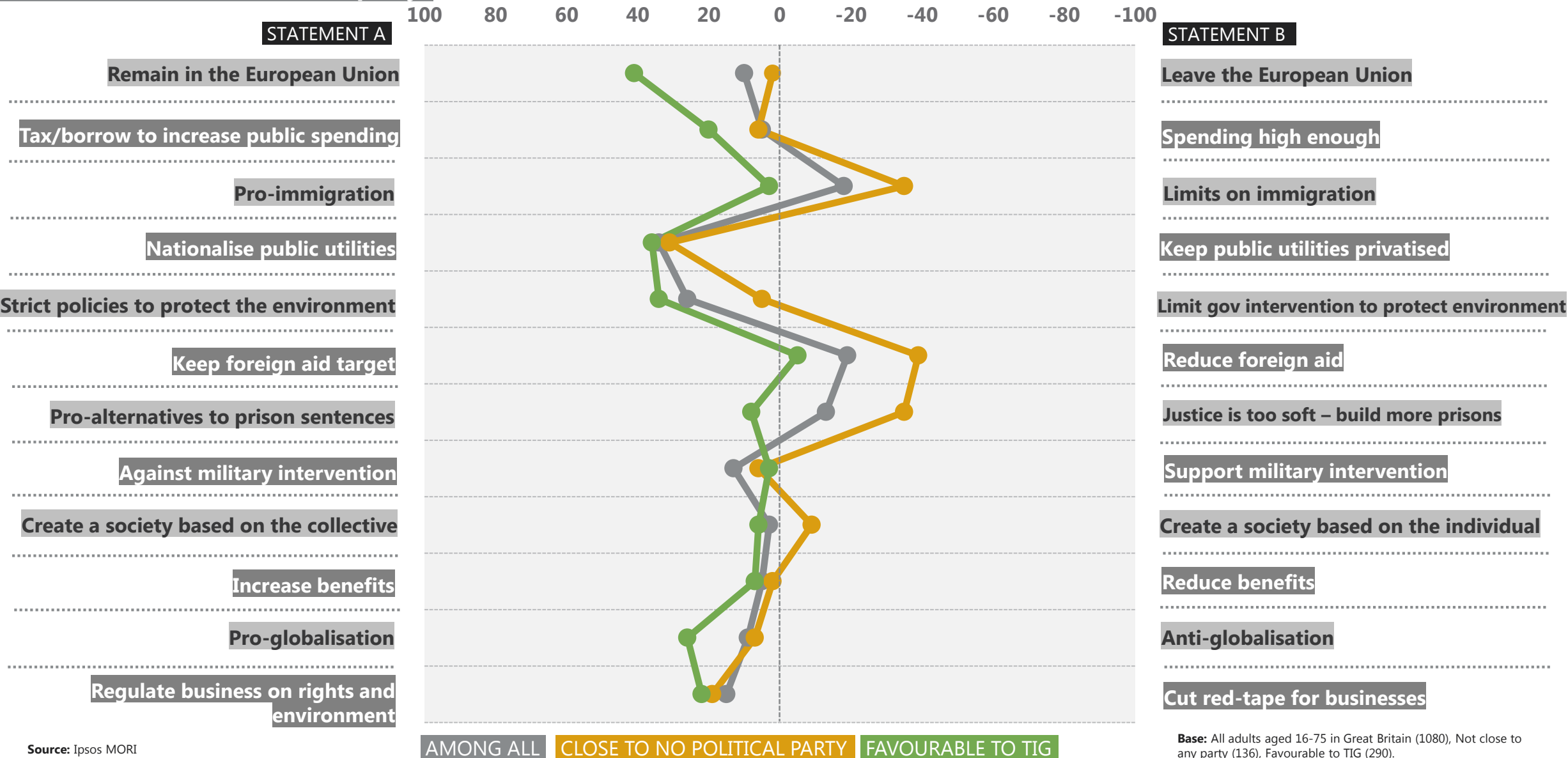
Labour by fav to TIG



Those not feeling close to any party lean right on immigration, foreign aid and prisons

All / Fav to TIG / Close to no party

← PREFER STATEMENT A NEUTRAL PREFER STATEMENT B →



Source: Ipsos MORI

The Independent Group

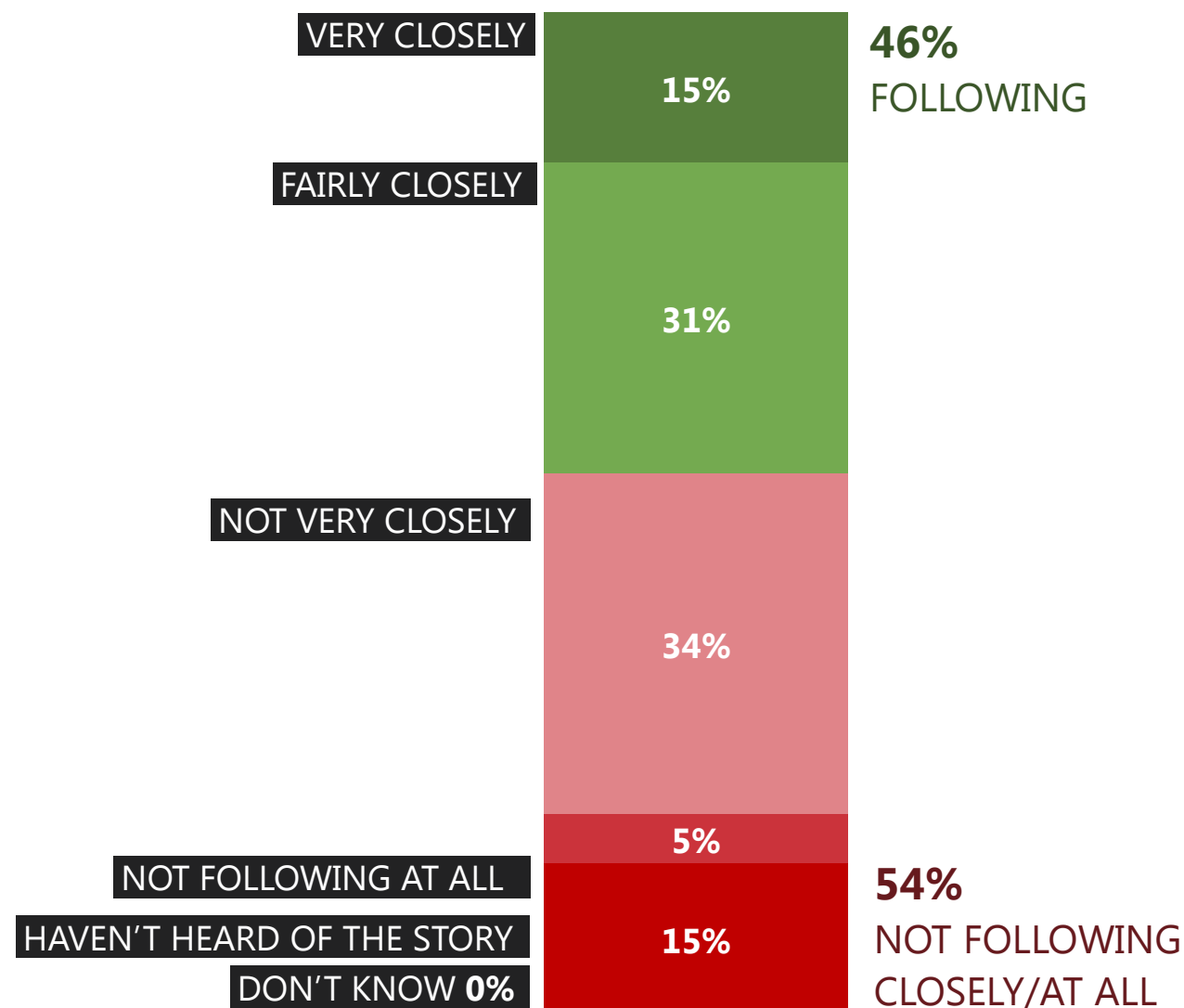
Following the story?

IN THE LAST WEEK, SOME LABOUR AND CONSERVATIVE MPS RESIGNED FROM THEIR PARTIES. THEY WILL NO LONGER BE LABOUR OR CONSERVATIVE MPS AND WILL SIT IN PARLIAMENT AS 'THE INDEPENDENT GROUP'. HOW CLOSELY, IF AT ALL, HAVE YOU BEEN FOLLOWING THIS STORY?

Base: All adults aged 16-75 in Great Britain (1080).



Ipsos MORI



Source: Ipsos MORI

The Independent Group

Favourability

BASED ON WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM, HOW FAVOURABLE OR UNFAVOURABLE DO YOU FEEL TOWARDS THIS GROUP OF FORMER LABOUR AND CONSERVATIVE MPS KNOWN AS THE INDEPENDENT GROUP?

FAVOURABLE

AMONG ALL

25%

UNFAVOURABLE

27%

NEUTRAL/ DON'T KNOW

48%

REMAIN SUPPORTERS

35%

23%

43%

LEAVE SUPPORTERS

18%

39%

43%

2017 CONSERVATIVE VOTERS

24%

41%

35%

2017 LABOUR VOTERS

29%

28%

43%

2017 LIB DEM VOTERS

48%

11%

42%

GRADUATES

32%

25%

42%

Base: All adults aged 16-75 in Great Britain (1080), Remainers (497), Leavers (391), Conservative 2017 voters (319), Labour 2017 voters (326), Lib Dem 2017 voters (71), Graduates (491).



Ipsos MORI

Source: Ipsos MORI

The Independent Group

Favourability

BASED ON WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM, HOW FAVOURABLE OR UNFAVOURABLE DO YOU FEEL TOWARDS THIS GROUP OF FORMER LABOUR AND CONSERVATIVE MPS KNOWN AS THE INDEPENDENT GROUP?

Base: All adults aged 16-75 in Great Britain (1080), Close to Conservatives (327), Close to Labour (371), Close to Lib Dems (273), Close to UKIP (166), Close to Greens (346), Not close to Cons/Lab/Libs (248), Not close to any (136).

FAVOURABLE

AMONG ALL

25%

UNFAVOURABLE

27%

NEUTRAL/ DON'T KNOW

48%

CLOSE TO CONSERVATIVES

25%

40%

36%

CLOSE TO LABOUR

25%

28%

48%

CLOSE TO LIB DEMS

44%

15%

41%

CLOSE TO UKIP

15%

47%

38%

CLOSE TO GREENS

33%

23%

44%

NOT CLOSE TO CON/LAB/LIBS

22%

27%

51%

NOT CLOSE TO ANY PARTY

25%

20%

55%

Who are the Labour Party TIG MPs?

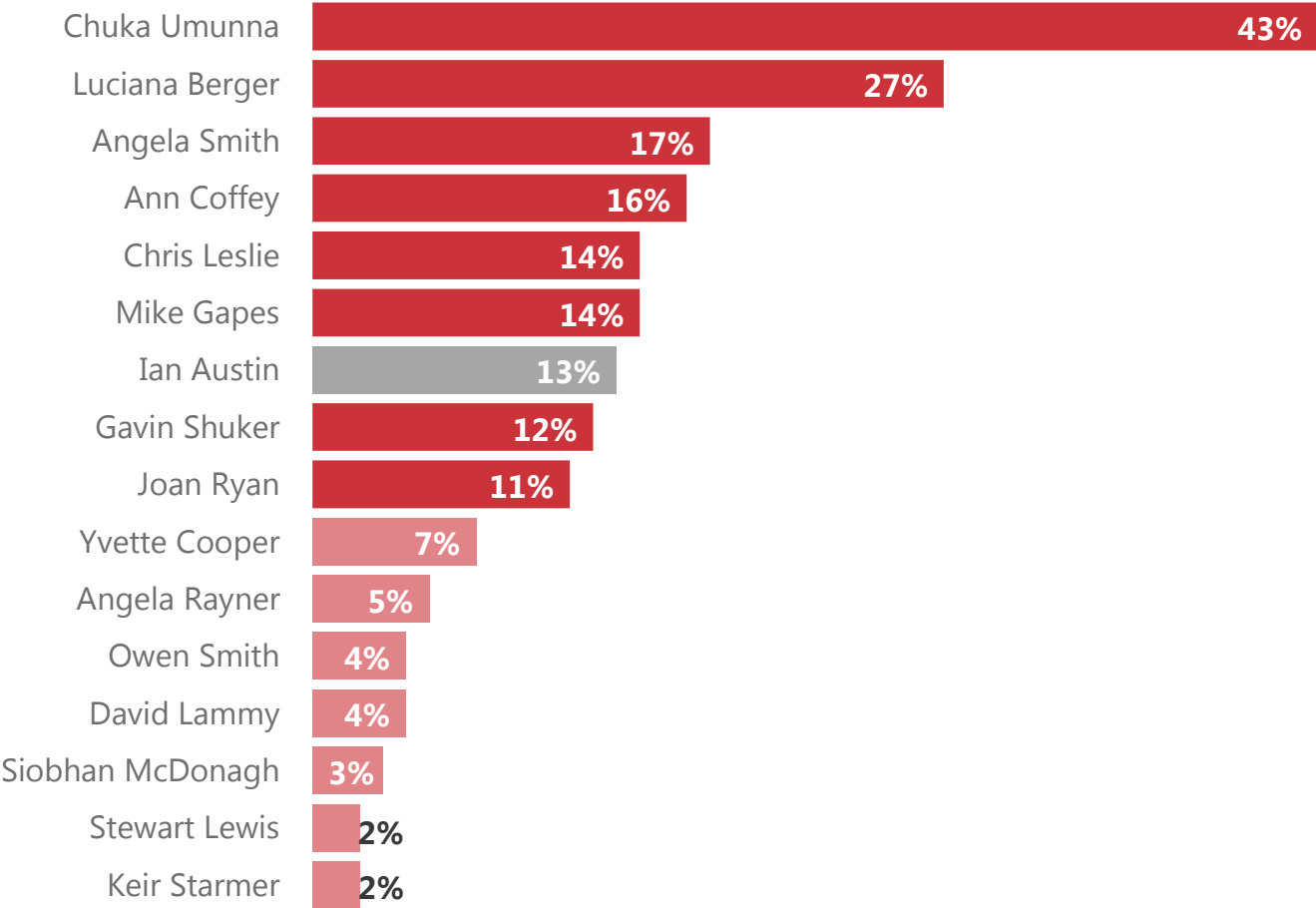
HOW MANY, IF ANY, MPS FROM THE INDEPENDENT GROUP WHO RESIGNED FROM THE LABOUR PARTY CAN YOU NAME? PLEASE CHOOSE FROM THE LIST BELOW?

44%

Don't know

1% Named them all correctly

52% Named at least one correctly



Base: All adults aged 16-75 in Great Britain (1080)

Who are the Tory TIG MPs?

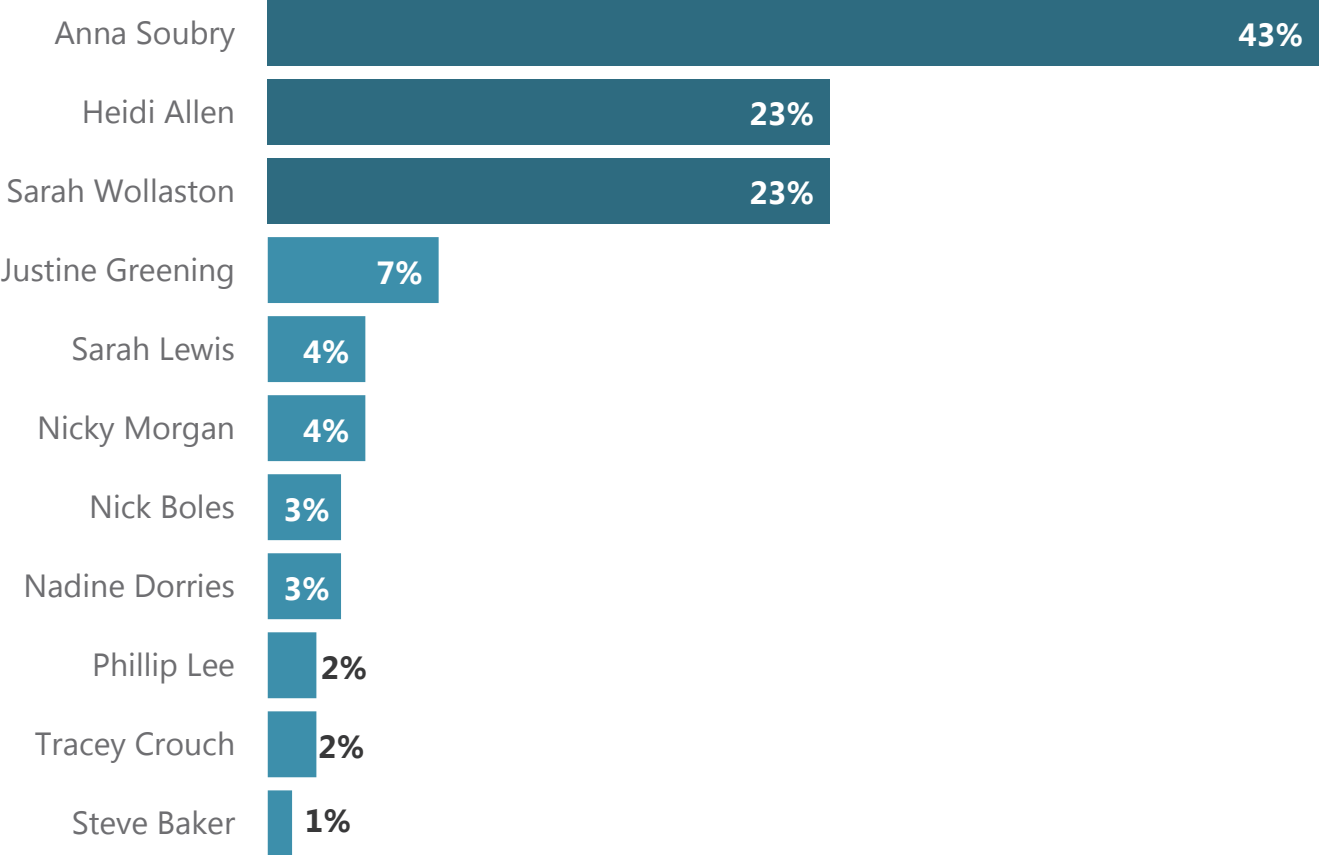
HOW MANY, IF ANY, MPS FROM THE INDEPENDENT GROUP WHO RESIGNED FROM THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY CAN YOU NAME? PLEASE CHOOSE FROM THE LIST BELOW?

49%

Don't know

14% Named them all correctly

47% Named at least one correctly



Base: All adults aged 16-75 in Great Britain (1080)

Technical note

- Ipsos MORI interviewed **1,080** British adults aged 16-75 online between Feb 22-26 2019.
- Data were weighted to be representative of the GB 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.
- Full data tables can be found on the Ipsos MORI website

Full list of policy statements

Q. Below is a list of different aims a political party could have. For each pair of statements, please choose which would make you more likely to vote for a political party, or if it would make no difference.

Statement A		Statement B	
Used in chart	Full statement	Used in chart	Full statement
Remain in the European Union	Britain should Remain a member of the EU	Leave the European Union	Britain should Leave the EU
Tax/borrow to increase public spending	Spending on public services should be increased, even if that meant higher taxes or more government borrowing	Spending high enough	Public spending in Britain is already high and taxes and government borrowing should not be increased any more
Pro-immigration	Britain should allow as much immigration as the economy needs	Limits on immigration	There should be strict limits on immigration into Britain as current numbers are too high
Nationalise public utilities	Public utilities (such as water & gas) and the train companies should be nationalised	Keep public utilities privatised	Public utilities (such as water & gas) and the train companies should stay in the private sector
Strict policies to protect the environment	We should take tough action against things that damage the environment, for example increasing taxes on petrol or banning certain types of plastics	Limit government intervention to protect environment	Policies to protect the environment shouldn't involve any more higher taxes or government regulation
Keep foreign aid target	Britain should keep to its target of spending 0.7% of GDP on foreign aid	Reduce foreign aid	We should reduce the amount of money Britain spends on foreign aid
Pro-alternatives to prison sentences	We should use more alternatives to prison sentences, such as community service, fines, travel bans and so on	Justice is too soft – build more prisons	The criminal justice system is too soft and we should build more prisons to house criminals



Ipsos MORI

Full list of policy statements

Q. Below is a list of different aims a political party could have. For each pair of statements, please choose which would make you more likely to vote for a political party, or if it would make no difference.

Statement A		Statement B	
Used in chart	Full statement	Used in chart	Full statement
Against military intervention	Britain should not get involved in any military conflicts in other countries	Support military intervention	Britain should be prepared to intervene militarily in other countries if it supports our interests
Create a society based on the collective	We should create a society which emphasises the social and collective provision of welfare	Create a society based on the individual	We should create a society where the individual is encouraged to look after him or herself
Increase benefits	Benefits such as housing benefit and unemployment benefit should be increased	Reduce benefits	Benefits such as housing benefit and unemployment benefit should be reduced
Pro-globalisation	Britain should open itself up to more globalisation	Anti-globalisation	Britain should protect itself more from globalisation
Regulate business on rights and environment	Government should set stricter rules for businesses on issues like workers' rights and environmental standards	Cut red-tape for businesses	Red-tape on businesses should be cut to help them to grow and create more jobs

Ipsos MORI

March 2019

For more information

Keiran Pedley

Research Director

keiran.pedley@ipsos.com

Gideon Skinner

Research Director

gideon.skinner@ipsos.com

Cameron Garrett

Research Executive

cameron.garrett@ipsos.com

