

Ipsos MORI December 2019 Political Monitor Topline Results

5th December 2019

Fieldwork: 2nd – 4th December 2019

Technical Details

Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative sample of 1,545 adults aged 18+ across Great Britain. Interviews were conducted by telephone: 2nd – 4th December 2019. 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.

Q1 How do you intend to vote in the General Election?

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, registered to vote and answers reallocated to ensure parties standing in constituency (1,244)*

	Q3-6 December %	Q1a/b November %
Conservative	44	44
Labour	32	28
Liberal Democrats (Lib Dem)	13	16
Scottish National Party/Plaid Cymru	5	5
Green Party	3	3
The Brexit Party	2	3
Other	1	1
Conservative lead (±%)	+12	+16
<i>Would not vote</i>	*	*
<i>Undecided</i>	5	5
<i>Refused</i>	3	3

* After being asked the regular voting intention questions, participants were then asked: *And if there was no [INSERT PARTY NAME] candidate in your constituency, how would you vote?* In constituencies where a participant's first preference party were not standing a candidate, their answers have been reallocated to their second party preference. Before this reallocation headline figures read: Conservatives 43%, Labour 32%, Liberal Democrats 13%, SNP/Plaid Cymru 5%, Green Party 3%, Brexit Party 3%.

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.

Again, answers here have been reallocated, so where a participant's first preference party were not standing a candidate in their constituency, their answers have been reallocated to their second party preference. *

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	42
Labour	33
Liberal Democrats (Lib Dem)	13
Scottish National Party/Plaid Cymru	6
Green Party	3
The Brexit Party	2
Other	1
Conservative lead (±%)	+9
<i>Would not vote</i>	5
<i>Undecided</i>	9
<i>Refused</i>	3

* Before reallocation the voting intention for all naming a party read: Conservatives 41%, Labour 33%, Liberal Democrats 13%, SNP/Plaid Cymru 6%, Green Party 3%, the Brexit Party 4%.

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	74
9	4
8	4
7	3
6	1
5	4
4	1
3	1
2	1
1 – absolutely certain not to vote	6
Don't know	1

Voting decisions

Q7 Have you definitely decided to vote for ... or is there a chance you may change your mind before you vote?

	Definitely decided %	May change mind %	Don't know %
All giving a voting intention (1,371)			
December 2019	72	27	*
<i>November 2019</i>	59	40	*
<i>June 7 2017</i>	80	19	1
<i>June 1 2017</i>	78	20	2
<i>May 2017</i>	67	32	1
<i>April 2017</i>	63	36	1
Conservative supporters (574)			
December 2019	80	20	*
<i>November 2019 (459)</i>	71	28	*
<i>June 7 2017 (413)</i>	86	13	1
<i>June 1 2017 (267)</i>	75	23	2
<i>May 2017 (370)</i>	77	22	1
<i>April 2017 (401)</i>	78	21	*
Labour supporters (403)			
December 2019	69	31	*
<i>November 2019 (270)</i>	54	46	-
<i>June 7 2017 (473)</i>	80	19	1
<i>June 1 2017 (286)</i>	76	21	3
<i>May 2017 (323)</i>	57	42	1
<i>April 2017 (219)</i>	56	43	1
Lib Dem supporters (189)			
December 2019	61	39	-
<i>November 2019 (203)</i>	40	60	*
<i>June 7 2017 (106)</i>	65	33	2
<i>June 1 2017 (64)</i>	46	48	6
<i>May 2017 (93)</i>	51	44	4
<i>April 2017 (129)</i>	40	60	0

Q7b If you do change your mind about voting for this party, which party would you vote for instead?

Base: All those who may change their mind in Q9 (379)

	May 2015 %	May 2017 %	June 1 2017 %	June 7 2017 %	Nov 2019 %	Dec 2019 %
Conservative	14	24	22	16	7	8
Labour	20	12	23	20	5	17
Lib Dem	17	20	20	18	18	21
Green	10	10	6	5	10	6
The Brexit Party	-	-	-	-	8	7
UKIP	14	7	6	9	3	4
Other	*	*	2	7	17	4
None/would not vote	3	1	5	3	5	4
Don't know/refused	22	23	14	22	26	29

Satisfaction Ratings

Satisfaction among general public aged 18+

- Q8 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the Government is running the country?
- Q9 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Boris Johnson is doing his job as Prime Minister?
- Q10 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Jeremy Corbyn is doing his job as leader of the Labour party?
- Q11 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Jo Swinson is doing her job as leader of the Liberal Democrats?
- Q12 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Nigel Farage is doing his job as leader of the Brexit Party?

	Satisfied %	Dissatisfied %	Don't know %	Net satisfaction ±
Government (Q8) Dec '19	23	72	5	-49
Oct '19	19	74	6	-55
Johnson (Q9) Dec '19	36	56	7	-20
Oct '19	46	44	10	+2
Corbyn (Q10) Dec '19	24	68	8	-44
Oct '19	15	75	10	-60
Swinson (Q11) Dec '19	29	51	20	-22
Oct '19	29	41	30	-12
Farage (Q12) Dec '19	30	56	14	-26
Oct '19	29	51	20	-22

- Q8 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the Government is running the country?
- Q9 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Boris Johnson is doing his job as Prime Minister?
- Q10 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)

	Base	Satisfied %	Dissatisfied %	Don't know %	Net satisfaction ±
Government (Q8) Dec '19	574	50	44	5	+6
Oct '19	369	36	54	10	-18
Johnson (Q9) Dec '19	574	82	14	4	+68
Oct '19	369	80	9	11	+71
Corbyn (Q10) Dec '19	403	57	33	10	+24
Oct '19	195	46	49	5	-3

Economic Optimism Index

- Q13 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 '19 %	Oct '19 %
Improve	21	17
Stay the same	20	19
Get worse	50	56
Don't know	9	8
Ipsos MORI Economic Optimism Index (EOI)	-29	-39

Issues

Q14 Looking ahead to the next General Election, which, if any, issues do you think will be very important to you in helping you decide which party to vote for? * UNPROMPTED

	March 2015 %	April 2015 %	April 2017 %	Nov 2019	Dec 2019
Europe / EU / Brexit	8	7	42	63	55
Healthcare/NHS/hospitals	38	47	31	41	52
Education/schools	25	24	21	21	22
Protecting the environment/climate change	5	5	4	11	11
Managing the economy/economic situation	31	35	18	9	10
Crime and anti-social behaviour/law and order	5	4	4	7	10
Asylum and immigration	25	19	17	7	7
Care for older and disabled people	5	5	7	6	7
Taxation	10	16	14	11	7
Housing	8	8	5	6	7
Don't know	10	9	10	7	7

*Showing only answers above 7%; see computer tables for full results

Parties/Leaders

Q15 Who do you think would make the most capable Prime Minister, the Conservative's Boris Johnson, or Labour's Jeremy Corbyn?

	Dec 2019 %	Nov 2019 %	Sept 2019 %	July 2019 %	June 2019 %
Boris Johnson	47	49	50	52	51
Jeremy Corbyn	31	30	29	27	33
Neither	13	14	16	14	11
No difference	1	1	*	1	1
Other	*	2	1	*	*
Don't know	6	5	3	6	4

Q13 Which party do you think has the best policies on.... the Conservatives, Labour, Liberal Democrats or some other party?

	Lab %	Con %	Lib Dems %	Other %	None %	Don't know %	Con lead ±
Asylum and Immigration							
Dec 2019	23	34	9	8	5	21	+11
April 2017	19	39	10	13	4	16	+20
April 2015	21	17	6	31	8	17	-4
Crime and anti-social behaviour							
Dec 2019	23	38	6	5	7	21	+15
April 2017	18	39	7	5	7	24	+21
April 2015	21	28	5	9	8	28	+7
Education							
Dec 2019	31	32	9	4	4	20	+1
April 2017	29	36	9	5	3	18	+7
April 2015	31	23	7	11	6	20	-8
Healthcare							
Dec 2019	40	28	8	4	5	14	-12
June 2018	40	22	5	8	9	17	-18
April 2017	40	25	8	4	5	18	-15
April 2015	36	23	6	12	8	15	-13
Managing the economy							
Dec 2019	20	44	8	4	7	17	+24
March 2018	25	37	6	8	8	15	+12
April 2017	17	52	6	4	6	14	+35
April 2015	23	41	4	10	6	16	+18
Taxation							
Dec 2019	26	38	10	4	3	20	+12
April 2017	28	39	8	4	5	16	+11
April 2015	29	30	7	11	6	17	+1
Defence							
Dec 2019	15	48	6	4	4	23	+33
April 2017	15	52	5	5	2	21	+37
April 2015	17	28	5	17	7	26	+11
Benefits							
Dec 2019	42	24	6	4	4	20	-18
April 2017	35	32	9	5	4	16	-3
April 2015	30	27	6	10	6	20	-3
Housing							

Dec 2019	39	22	6	4	6	22	-17
April 2017	35	24	7	7	5	22	-11
April 2015	31	20	7	12	8	23	-11
Pensions							
Dec 2019	31	26	5	2	6	30	-5
April 2017	31	28	5	3	5	27	-3
April 2015	23	28	2	8	9	29	+5
Poverty and inequality							
Dec 2019	43	19	8	5	6	19	-24
April 2017	46	20	8	7	3	16	-26
April 2015	36	14	12	16	6	17	-22
Handling Britain's future relationship with the European Union							
Dec 2019	20	38	15	7	5	15	+18
July 2018	20	33	10	12	9	16	+13
March 2018	25	37	6	8	8	15	+12
April 2017	17	48	12	7	3	13	+31
The environment							
Dec 2019	16	15	12	34	5	17	-1
April 2015	10	11	9	45	4	22	+1
Care for older and disabled people							
Dec 2019	38	19	8	3	7	22	-19

Q13 Which political party, if any, do you think would be best at ...?

	Lab %	Con %	Lib Dems %	Other %	None %	Don't know %	Con lead ±
Looking after the interests of women							
Dec 2019	24	17	21	6	7	25	-7
Aug 2014	29	15	11	10	10	24	-14
Sept 2012	34	12	17	6	10	20	-22
Feb 2010	26	20	16	13	7	19	-6
Looking after the interests of working people							
Dec 2019	44	26	8	5	12	5	-18
Nov 2015	41	25	6	10	6	12	-16
Protecting people against prejudice and discrimination							
Dec 2019	23	25	18	6	8	19	+2

Scottish Independence Referendum

- Q18 The Scottish National Party are campaigning in the election to hold a second referendum on Scottish independence within the next year. If the Scottish National Party wins most seats in Scotland in the General Election, do you think there should or should not be a second referendum on Scottish independence next year, or do you have no feelings either way?

	Dec '19 %
Should	31
Should not	40
No feelings either way	24
Don't know	5