## Ipsos Public attitudes towards proposed strike action by NHS nurses

November 2022



## Two in three Brits have heard about the planned strike action by nurses

As you may know, on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 it was announced that nurses at the majority of NHS employers across the UK had voted in favour of strike action. The strike action excludes certain types of care, such as emergency intervention to preserve life or prevent permanent disability.

Before today, how much, if anything, had you heard about the planned strike action by nurses?



Base: 1,083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022, including those aged 18-34 (306), 35-44 (259), 45-54 (216), 55-75 (302)



Three in five support the proposed strikes with younger Brits and Labour voters particularly supportive of the strikes

To what extent, if at all, do you support or oppose the planned strike action by nurses?



Four in five think the main reason for nurses taking strike action is for an increase in pay, followed by two in five who think this is for more money to be spent on the NHS

As far as you know, which two or three of the following are the main reasons that nurses are taking strike action?



## Brits think it is acceptable for nurses to strike for better standards of care for patients or for an increase in pay

How acceptable or unacceptable is it, if at all, for nurses to strike for each of the following reasons?

Acceptable

Neither acceptable nor unacceptable

Unacceptable

#### For better standards of care for patients

74%	10%	13%
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#### For an increase in pay



Base: 1,083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 15th – 16th November 2022



Almost half think the level of pay rise the RCN are asking for is too high, with 55-75year-olds and 2019 Conservative voters most likely to think this

The Royal College of Nursing, which represents the NHS nurses that will take strike action later this year, has asked for a 5% pay rise for NHS nurses on top of inflation a total pay rise of 17%. In your view, to what extent is this pay rise they are asking for too high, too low, or about right?



**Base: 1,083** Online British adults aged 18-75, 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022, including those aged 18-34 (306), 35-44 (259), 45-54 (216), 55-75 (302), those that voted Conservative in the 2019 General Election (300) and those that voted Labour (332)

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