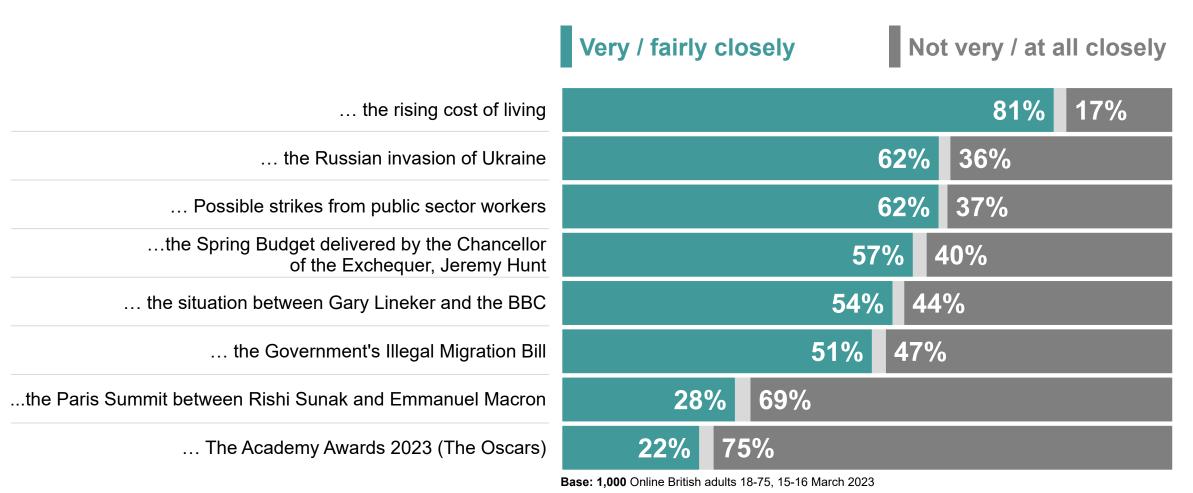


How closely have you followed these news stories?

How closely, if at all, have you been following stories about...?

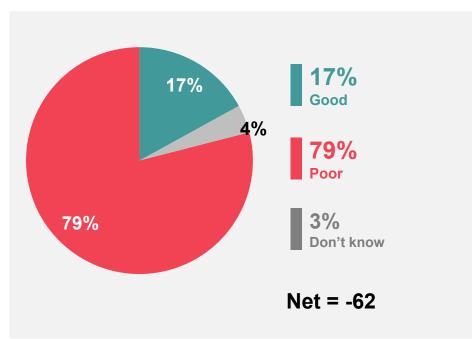


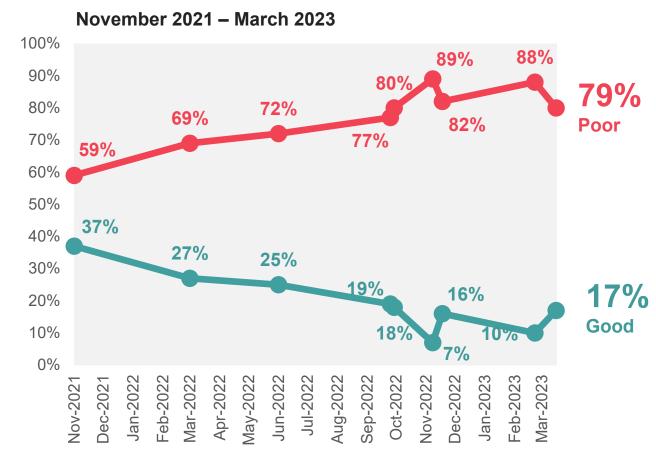


Perceptions of the British economy: Trend

How would you describe the current state of the British economy? Would you say it is...?

March 2023

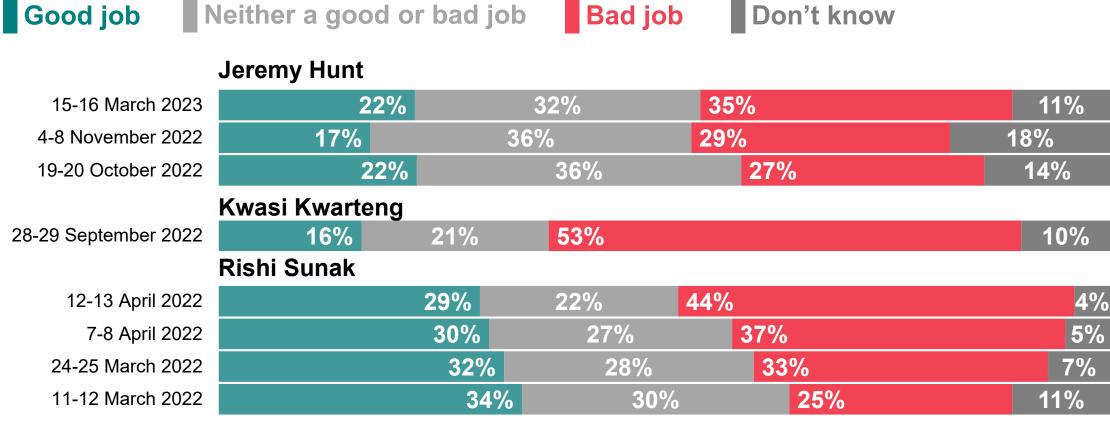






Public are still to make their mind up on Jeremy Hunt as Chancellor – one in five say he is doing a good job, against one in three saying bad job

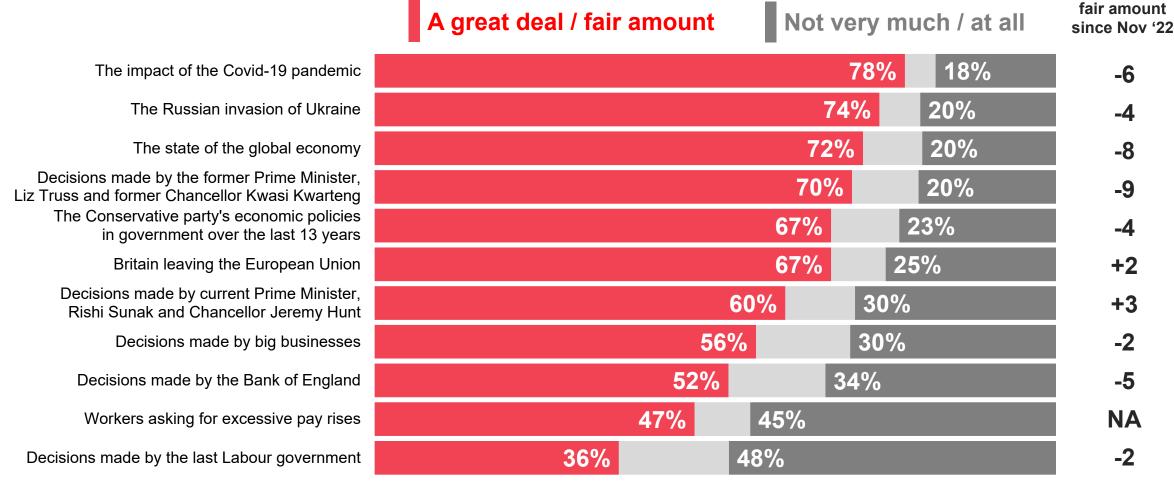
To what extent, if at all, do you think Jeremy Hunt has been doing a good job or a bad job, in his role as Chancellor of the Exchequer?





What's to blame for current difficulties facing the economy?

And to what extent, if at all, do you think the following have contributed towards the current difficulties facing the British economy?



Base: 1,000 Online British adults 18-75, 15-16 March 2023

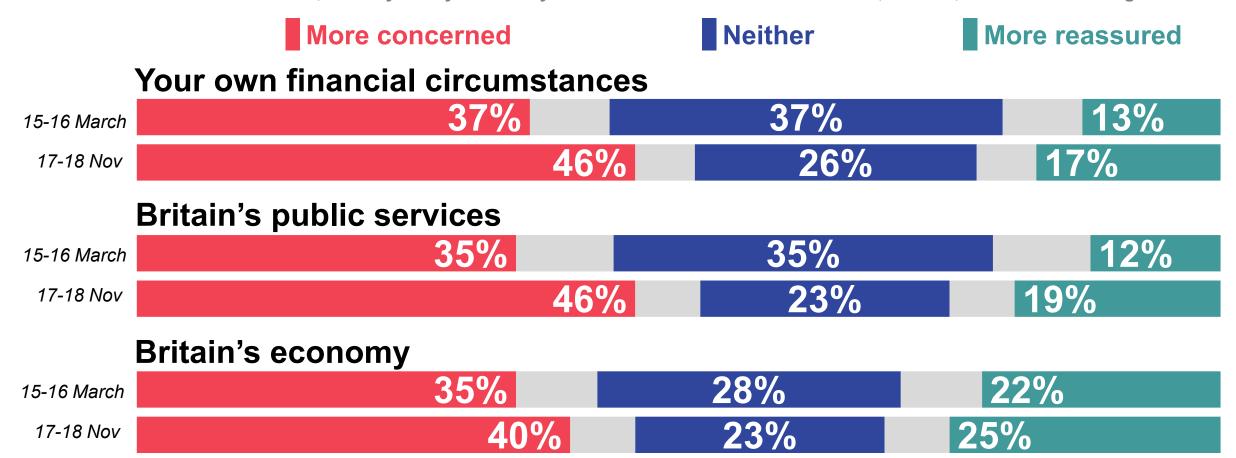


% change

'great deal/

Britons are left more concerned than reassured about the economy, public services and their own finances after the Budget – but many are also neutral. Reactions are more muted than after the Autumn Statement last November.

As you may know the Spring Budget was announced by Chancellor Jeremy Hunt on Wednesday. From what you may have seen, read or heard about the Statement, would you say it makes you feel more reassured or concerned, if either, about the following?





The majority are not very confident either party have a good long-term economic plan – though Labour are slightly ahead

How confident, if at all are, you that ... have a good long-term economic plan for Britain?

Confident Not confident

The Conservative party

15-16 Mar 2023 / Sunak 17 - 18 Nov 2022 / Sunak 31 Oct - 3 Nov 2022 / Sunak 14 - 17 Oct 2022 / Truss 28 - 29 Sept 2022 / Truss

15-16 Mar 2023 / Starmer 17 - 18 Nov 2022 / Starmer 31 Oct - 3 Nov 2022 / Starmer 14 - 17 Oct 2022 / Starmer 28 - 29 Sept 2022 / Starmer

29	61%
	34% 59%
	34% 55%
17%	74%
25%	68%

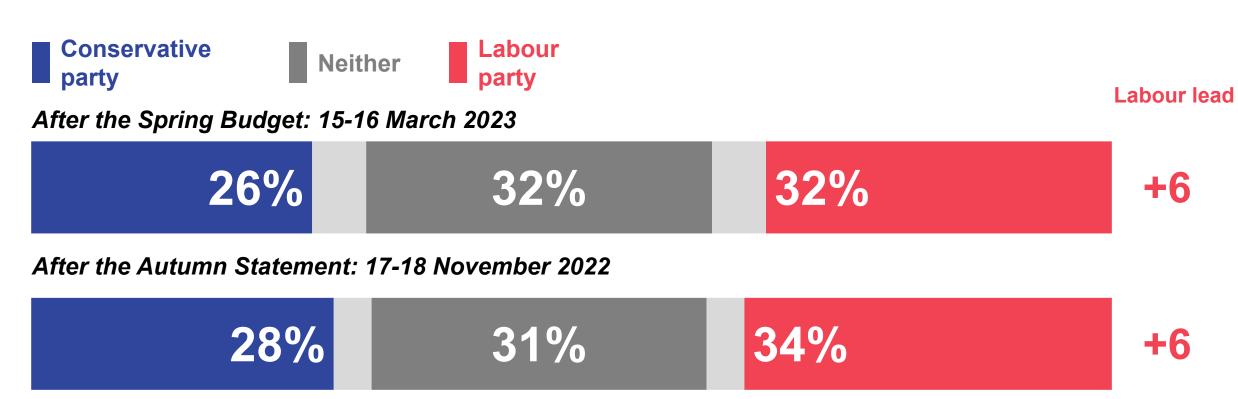
The Labour party

35%	51%	
37%	53%	
37%	48%	
40%	47%	
38%	52%	
	35% 37% 37% 40%	35% 51% 37% 53% 37% 48% 40% 47%



Labour continues to have a narrow lead over the Conservatives as the party most trusted to manage Britain's economy

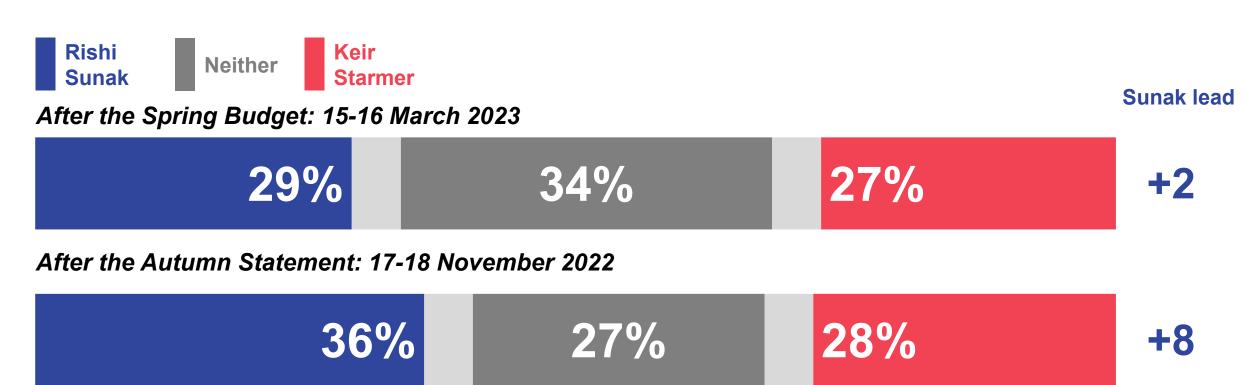
Which party, if either, do you trust most to manage Britain's economy?





There is little to choose between Rishi Sunak and Keir Starmer as the most trusted leader on the economy

And which party leader, if either, do you trust most to manage Britain's economy?





The policies announced during the Budget that receive the greatest public support are extending energy subsidies and freezing fuel duty

Extending government subsidies that limit typical household energy bills to £2,500 a year until the end of June

Keeping the 5p reduction on fuel duty on petrol and diesel for a further year

Providing 30 hours of free childcare per week for working parents of children aged one and two, to be introduced in stages up to September 2025

Investing £20billion over the next two decades on low-carbon energy projects

Increasing the amount someone can save each year in their pension tax-free from £40,000 to £60,000

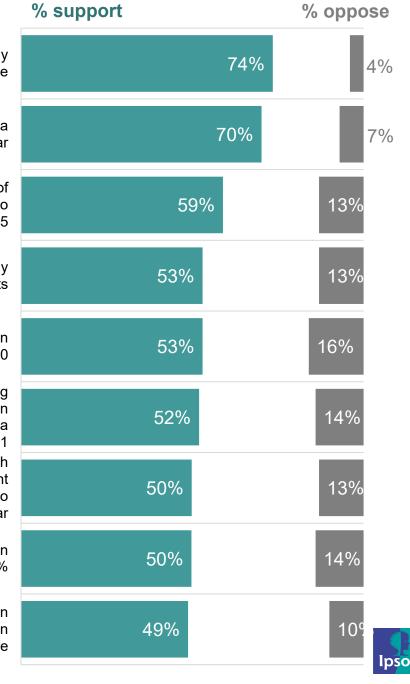
Increasing childcare support to families on universal credit moving into work or increasing their hours, by paying upfront instead of in arrears, and by raising the maximum that can be claimed from £646 a month for one child to £951

Introducing a voluntary employment scheme for people with disabilities and those with health conditions, with government spending up to £4,000 per person to help them find a job, for up to 50,000 places a year

Increasing the main rate of corporation tax (paid by businesses on taxable profits over £250,000) from 19% to 25%

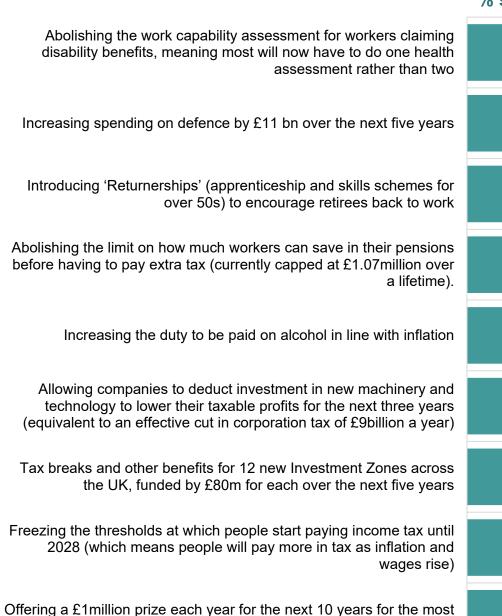
Increasing draught relief for pubs, so that the duty paid in pubs on an average draught pint of beer will be up to 11 pence lower than elsewhere

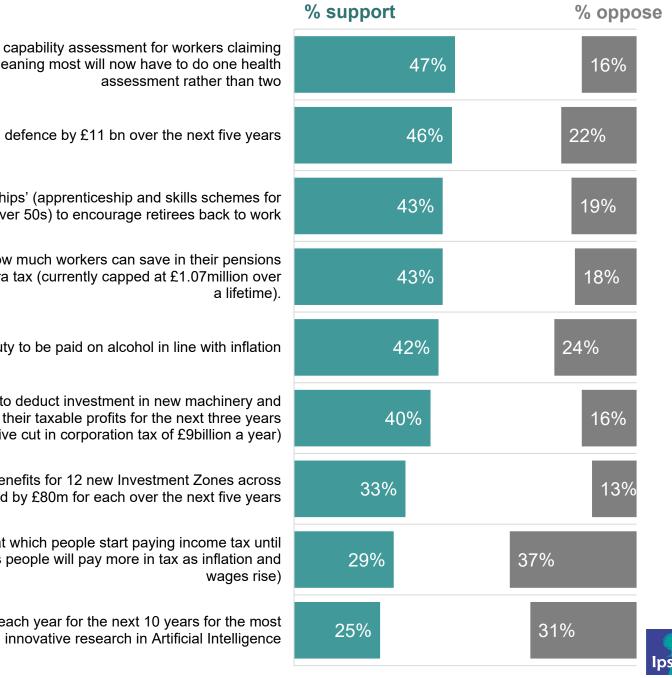
A range of different policies were announced in the Spring Budget this week. From what you know or have heard, how much, if at all, do you support or oppose each of the following?



Support is lower for freezing income tax thresholds

A range of different policies were announced in the **Spring Budget this week.** From what you know or have heard, how much, if at all, do you support or oppose each of the following?





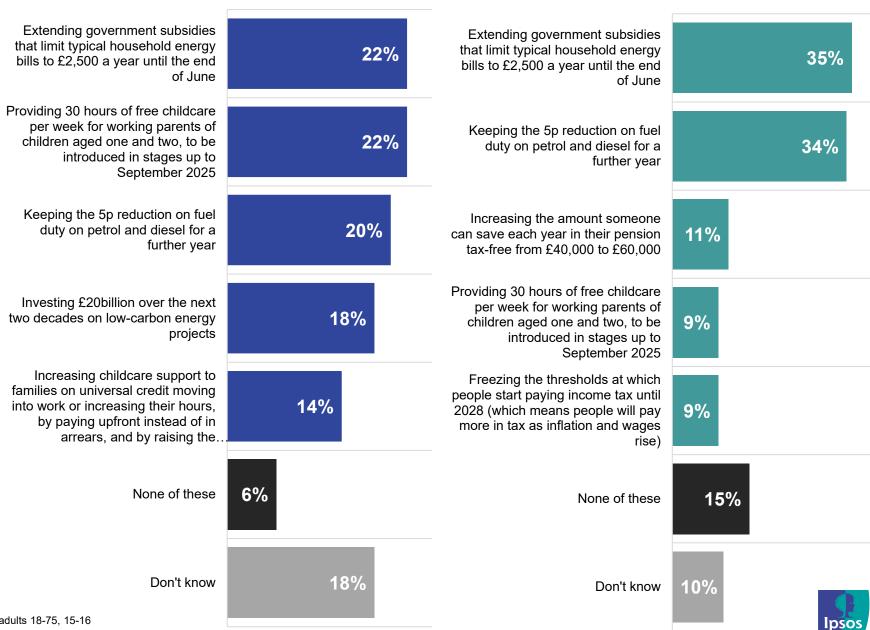
Extending the energy subsidy and freezing fuel duty are the proposed policies considered most important to both the country as well as the public's lives personally.

And which two or three, if any, of the following do you think will be of most benefit to:

The country as a whole

You personally

% selected as of most benefit (top 5 shown):



lpsos UK

March 2023

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