## Scotland Political Pulse

#### Ipsos

September 2023



## **Direction of the country**

Generally speaking, do you think things in Scotland are heading in the right direction or wrong direction?

|               | Right direction |     |     |  |  |  |
|---------------|-----------------|-----|-----|--|--|--|
| August 2023   | 22%             | 18% | 53% |  |  |  |
| March 2023    | 25%             | 19% | 50% |  |  |  |
| February 2023 | 27%             | 17% | 51% |  |  |  |
| October 2022  | 26%             | 18% | 53% |  |  |  |

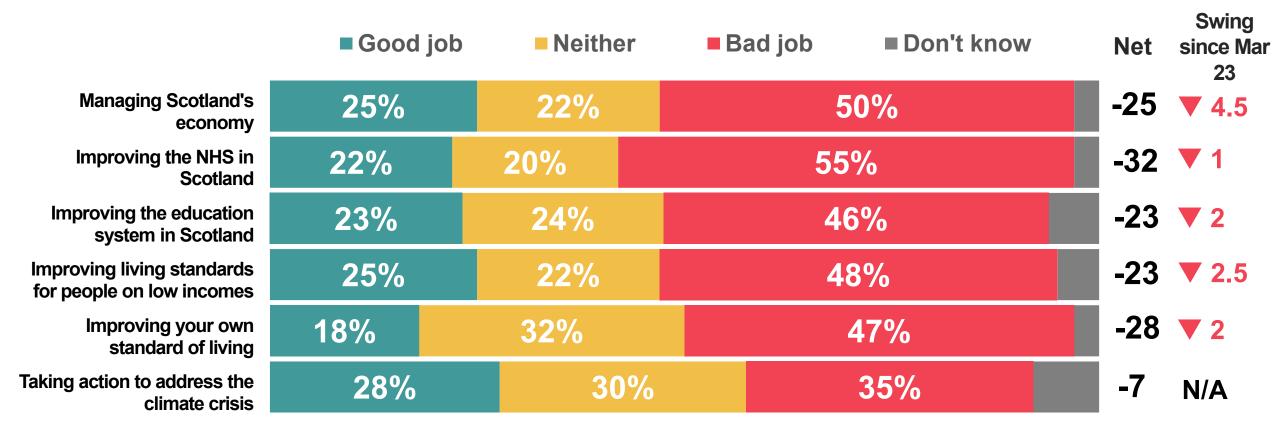
Base: 1,019 Scottish adults aged 16+, 18-23 August 2023 | 1,023 (Mar 2023) | 1,087 (Feb 2023) | 1,000 (Oct 2022)

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## **Scottish Government performance**

Since the Scottish Parliament elections in May 2021, to what extent, if at all, do you think the Scottish Government has done a good or bad job at each of the following?





## Would a Labour Scottish Government do a better job?

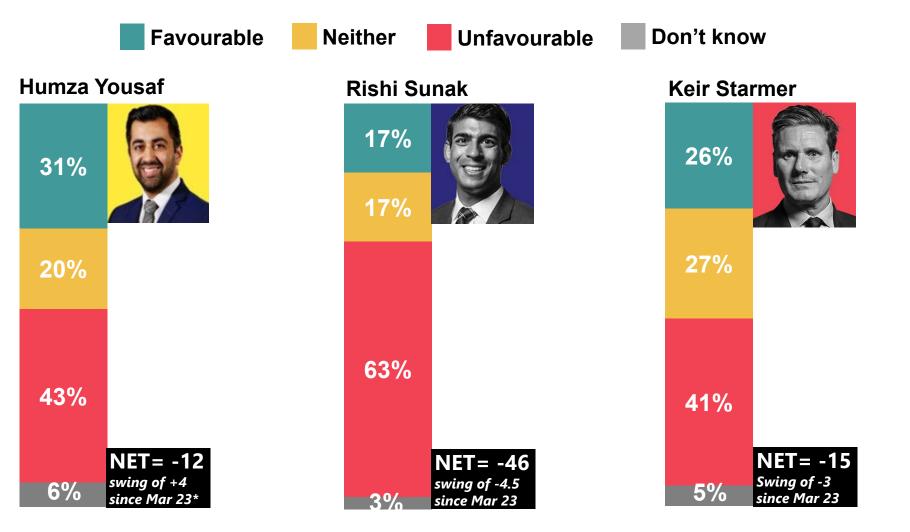
Do you think that a Labour Scottish Government would do a better job or a worse job at each of the following than the current Scottish Government, or would it make no difference?

|   | Better job | Would make no difference | Worse job | ■ Don't know | Net |
|---|------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----|
| Managing Scotland's<br>economy                          | 29%        | 29%                      | 23%       | 19%          | +6  |
| Improving the NHS in<br>Scotland                        | 29%        | 31%                      | 21%       | 19%          | +8  |
| Improving the education<br>system in Scotland           | 28%        | 32%                      | 20%       | 19%          | +8  |
| Improving living standards for<br>people on low incomes | 29%        | 31%                      | 21%       | 18%          | +8  |
| Improving your own standard<br>of living                | 21%        | 38%                      | 21%       | 19%          | 0   |
| Taking action to address the climate crisis             | 20%        | 38%                      | 21%       | 21%          | -1  |



## **Favourability towards party leaders**

To what extent, if at all, do you have a favourable or unfavourable opinion of the following politicians?



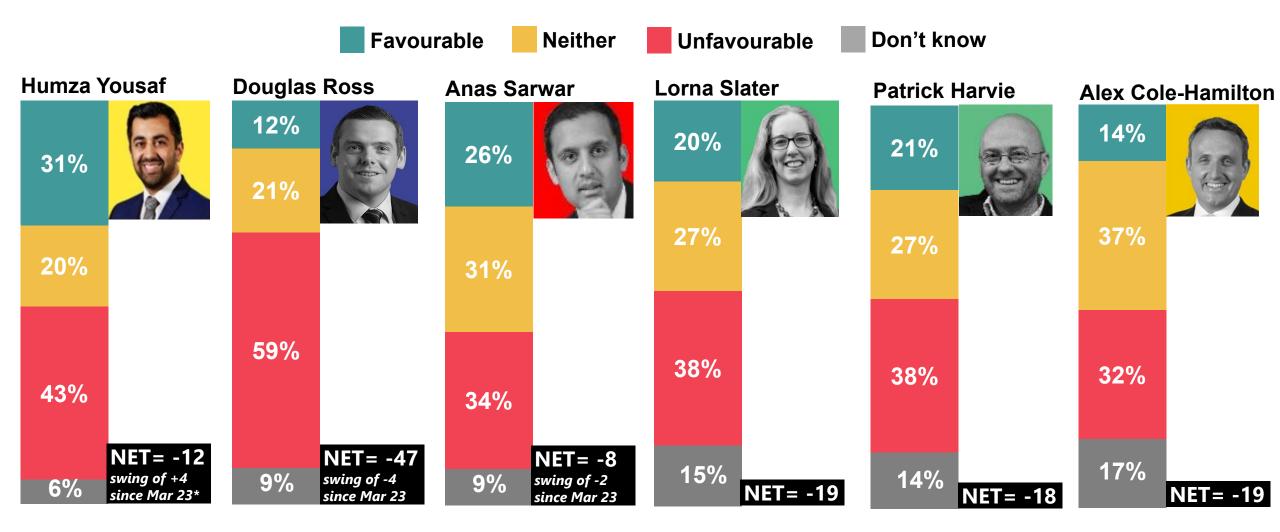
Base: 1,019 Scottish adults aged 16+, 18 - 23 August 2023

\*Last asked about in March as Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, and as a SNP leader candidate

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## **Favourability towards party leaders**



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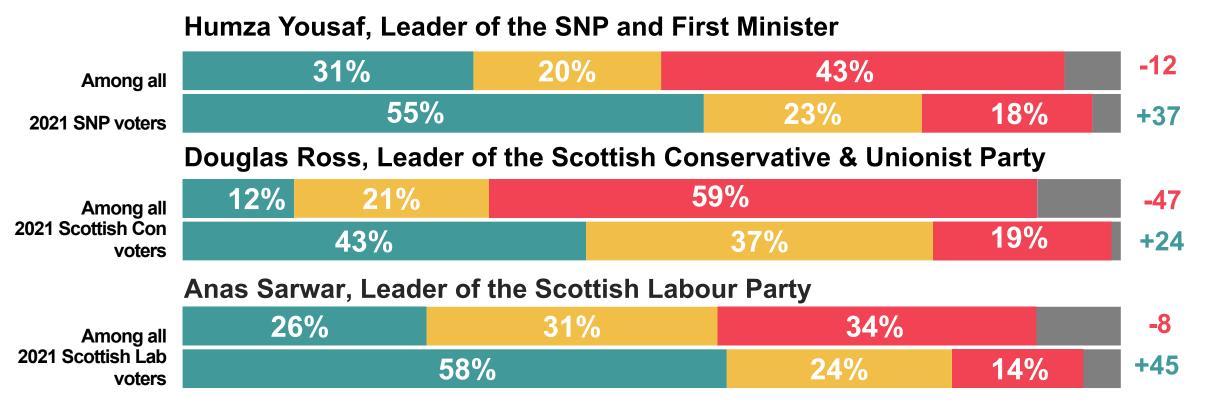
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## **Favourability towards Scottish party leaders**

To what extent, if at all, do you have a favourable or unfavourable opinion of the following politicians and political parties?

Favourable Neither Unfavourable Don't know

Net



Base: 1,019 Scottish adults aged 16+, including 439 who voted SNP at the 2021 Scottish Parliament election, 146 who voted Conservative and 158 who voted Labour, fieldwork: 18 -23 August 2023

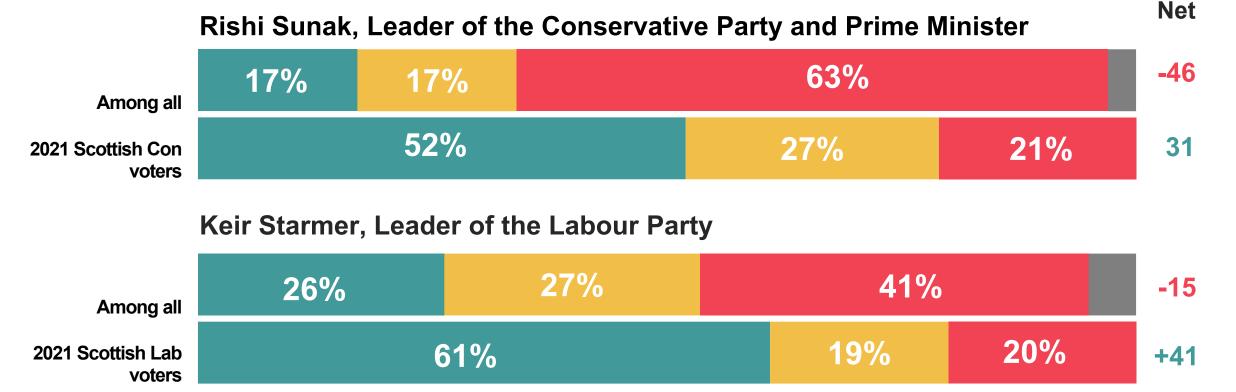
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## **Favourability towards UK party leaders**

To what extent, if at all, do you have a favourable or unfavourable opinion of the following politicians and political parties?

Favourable Neither Unfavourable Don't know



Base: 1,019 Scottish adults aged 16+, including 146 who voted Conservative at the 2021 Scottish Parliament election and 158 who voted Labour, fieldwork 18-23 August 2023



#### Favourability towards political parties

To what extent, if at all, do you have a favourable or unfavourable opinion of the following politicians and political parties?

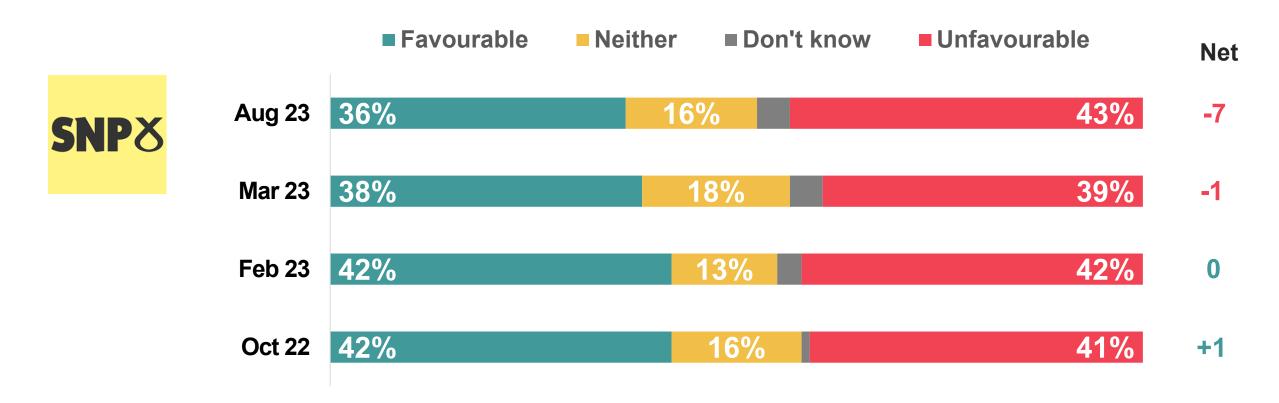
| Favourable         |                 |              | Unfavourable | Net | Swing<br>since Mar<br>23 |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-----|--------------------------|
| The Scottish Natio | nal Party       |              |              |     | 25                       |
| 3                  | 6%              | 43%          |              | -7  | ▼ 3                      |
| The Scottish Labo  | ur Party        |              |              |     |                          |
| 28%                |                 | 36%          |              | -8  | ▼ 2                      |
| The Scottish Cons  | ervative and Ur | nionist Part | у            |     |                          |
| 14%                | 60%             |              |              | -46 | ▼ 2                      |
| The Scottish Gree  | n Party         |              |              |     |                          |
| 27%                |                 | 40%          |              | -13 | ▲ 0.5                    |
| The Scottish Liber | al Democrats    |              |              |     |                          |
| 16%                |                 | 38%          |              | -22 | 0                        |

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## **SNP: favourability trends**

To what extent, if at all, do you have a favourable or unfavourable opinion of the Scottish National Party?

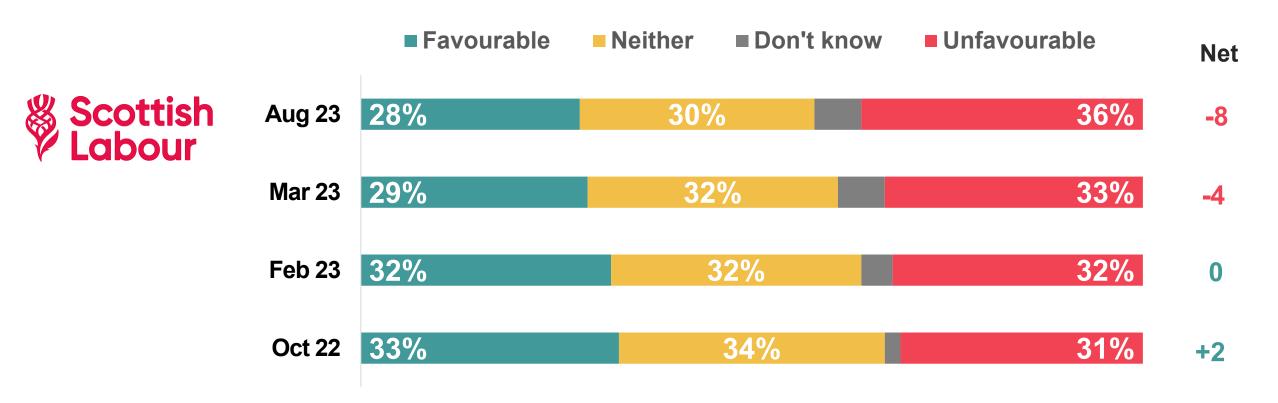


Base: 1,019 Scottish adults aged 16+, 18 – 23 August 2023 | 1,023 (Mar 2023) | 1,087 (Feb 2023) | 1,000 (Oct 2022)



## Scottish Labour: favourability trends

To what extent, if at all, do you have a favourable or unfavourable opinion of the Scottish Labour Party?

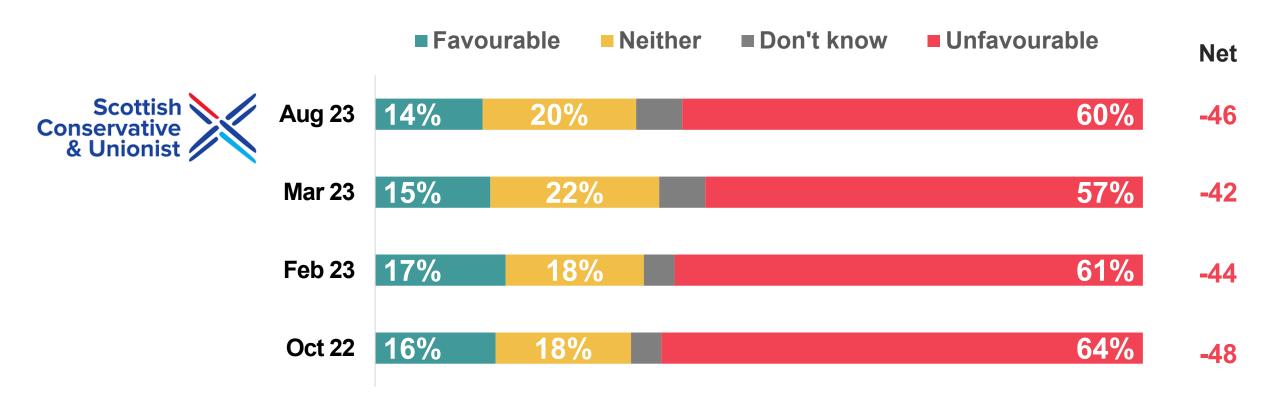


Base: 1,019 Scottish adults aged 16+, 18 – 23 August 2023 | 1,023 (Mar 2023) | 1,087 (Feb 2023) | 1,000 (Oct 2022)



## Scottish Conservatives: favourability trends

To what extent, if at all, do you have a favourable or unfavourable opinion of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party?



Base: 1,019 Scottish adults aged 16+, 18 – 23 August 2023 | 1,023 (Mar 2023) | 1,087 (Feb 2023) | 1,000 (Oct 2022)



#### **Methods**

- Ipsos interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,019 adults aged 16+ in Scotland.
- Interviews took place online between 18<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2023.
- Data has been weighted to the known offline population proportions on key demographics.
- Where results do not sum to 100%, this may be due to computer rounding, multiple responses, or the exclusion of "don't know" categories.
- All polls are subject to a wide range of potential sources of error.



# **Ipsos**

#### **Scotland Political Pulse September 2023**

#### For more information

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