

**TRIDENT AND SCOTLAND POLL
LORD ASHCROFT KCMG PC
MAY 2013**

1,236 adults in Scotland were interviewed online between 29 April and 2 May 2013. Results have been weighted to be representative of all adults in Scotland.

1. If there were a referendum tomorrow on Scotland leaving the United Kingdom and being an independent country, and this was the question, how would you vote:

Should Scotland be an independent country?

%	ALL	Men	Women	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE
Yes	30	36	25	20	40	34	21	30	30
No	56	52	59	59	44	53	67	59	53
Wouldn't vote	2	3	2	9	3	1	1	2	3
Don't know	12	10	14	12	13	11	12	9	15

[Excluding Don't Knows and Wouldn't Votes]

%	ALL	Men	Women	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE
Yes	35	41	30	25	48	39	24	34	36
No	65	59	70	75	52	61	76	66	64

2. In principle, do you support or oppose the United Kingdom having nuclear weapons?

%	ALL	Should Scotland be an independent country?		
		Yes	No	Don't know
Support	37	17	52	20
Oppose	48	72	33	54
Don't know	15	10	15	25

- 26% of 18-24 year olds said they support the UK having nuclear weapons, compared to 43% of those aged 60+.

3. Britain's current system of submarine-launched nuclear weapons, known as Trident, is coming to the end of its useful life and will soon have to be scrapped or replaced. What do you think Britain should do when Trident reaches the end of its useful life? [Split sample A]

	%	ALL	Should Scotland be an independent country?		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Replace Trident with an equally powerful nuclear missile system	20	7	28	11	
Retain a nuclear missile system, but it should be less powerful and cost less than replacing Trident	31	24	37	13	
Give up nuclear weapons completely	34	57	22	28	
Don't know	16	12	12	48	

4. Britain's current system of submarine-launched nuclear weapons, known as Trident, is coming to the end of its useful life and will soon have to be scrapped or replaced. *The cost of replacing Trident has been estimated at £20 to £25 billion pounds.* What do you think Britain should do when Trident reaches the end of its useful life? [Split sample B]

	%	ALL	Should Scotland be an independent country?		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Replace Trident with an equally powerful nuclear missile system		24	11	34	16
Retain a nuclear missile system, but it should be less powerful and cost less than replacing Trident		29	22	32	25
Give up nuclear weapons completely		36	61	25	37
Don't know		11	7	9	21

5. Britain's nuclear weapon submarines are currently based at Faslane Naval Base in Scotland. Do you think the UK's nuclear weapons submarines should continue to be based in Scotland?

	%	ALL	Should Scotland be an independent country?		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Yes, should continue to be based in Scotland		43	22	59	21
No, should not continue to be based in Scotland		39	68	22	46
Don't know		18	10	18	33

6. Imagine Scotland became an independent country after the 2014 referendum, but the rest of the United Kingdom wished to continue leasing the Faslane Naval Base. In these circumstances, do you think the UK's nuclear weapons submarines should or should not continue to be based in Scotland?

	%	ALL	Should Scotland be an independent country?		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Yes, should continue to be based in Scotland		35	23	44	22
No, should not continue to be based in Scotland		50	68	41	49
Don't know		15	9	16	29

7. Some people think Britain needs nuclear weapons less these days than it did during the Cold War when there was a threat from the Soviet Union. Other people think there are now other potential nuclear states and Britain still needs nuclear weapons. Do you think the UK needs nuclear weapons more than it did during the Cold War, less than it did during the Cold War, or about the same as it did during the Cold War?

	%	ALL	Should Scotland be an independent country?		
			Yes	No	Don't know
Britain needs nuclear weapons <u>more</u> than it did during the Cold War		10	9	12	5
Britain needs nuclear weapons <u>just as much</u> as during the Cold War		29	27	30	25
Britain needs nuclear weapons <u>less</u> than it did during the Cold War		22	5	32	18
Britain <u>did not need</u> them during the Cold War and does not today		25	44	15	23
Don't know		14	14	10	28