

LORD ASHCROFT KCMG PC SCOTTISH POLITICAL ATTITUDES POLL SEPTEMBER 2013

A: 10,007 adults in Scotland were interviewed by telephone and online between 22 February and 9 May 2013.

B: 1,000 adults in Scotland were interviewed online between 7 and 17 June 2013.

C: 1,013 adults in Scotland were interviewed by telephone between 2 and 9 August 2013.

Results have been weighted to be representative of all adults in Scotland.

1. If an election for the Scottish Parliament were to be held tomorrow, how would you vote?
2. As you probably know, in elections for the Scottish Parliament you also have a second, or 'list' vote. How would you use your second vote? [Poll B]

%	1 st vote	2 nd vote
SNP	40	36
Labour	35	24
Conservative	15	10
Lib Dem	5	13
UKIP	4	11
Other	1	5

3. Please tell me whether you have a favourable or unfavourable view of each of the following. If you have never heard of the person please say so. [Poll A]

%	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem	Other
Alex Salmond						
Favourable	45	35	90	22	31	31
Unfavourable	49	61	8	75	65	64
Net favourable	-4	-26	+83	-53	-35	-33
Never heard of them/no opinion	6	4	3	3	4	5
Ruth Davidson						
Favourable	21	15	13	55	31	24
Unfavourable	41	47	56	18	35	47
Net favourable	-20	-32	-43	+37	-4	-23
Never heard of them/no opinion	38	38	31	27	35	29
Johann Lamont						
Favourable	31	51	21	23	28	20
Unfavourable	28	14	45	41	30	43
Net favourable	+3	+38	-24	-18	-2	-23
Never heard of them/no opinion	40	35	34	37	42	37
Willie Rennie						
Favourable	21	19	21	23	53	17
Unfavourable	29	29	38	31	11	41
Net favourable	-8	-10	-17	-8	+43	-24
Never heard of them/no opinion	50	52	41	47	36	42

4. Which election would you say is more important – the Westminster general election, or the Scottish Parliament election? [Poll C]

%	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem
The Westminster general election	27	31	10	47	32
The Scottish Parliament election	18	11	38	6	6
They are of equal importance	53	58	52	46	62

- Men (33%) were more likely than women (21%) to say the Westminster general election was more important. Women (61%) were more likely than men (45%) to say they were of equal importance.
- 37% of those in the South of Scotland said the Westminster general election was more important, compared to 19% of those in the Highlands & Islands. Those in the Highlands & Islands were the most likely to say the two elections were of equal importance (65%).

5. What do you think the Scottish Government is treating as its main priority at the moment? [Poll C]

<i>% unprompted</i>	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem
Independence	49	54	41	58	59
The economy/jobs	7	7	14	4	4
Improving the NHS	5	5	9	2	4
Improving schools	2	1	4	2	4
Environment/renewable energy	2	2	2	2	6
Welfare reform	2	2	2	1	0
Something else	6	8	4	5	2
Don't know	25	20	22	25	21

6. And do you think that is the right priority for the Scottish Government, or should it have a different priority? [Poll C]

%	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem
Right priority	36	24	69	22	24
Should have a different priority	61	73	28	76	76

- 77% of those in favour of Scottish independence said they thought the Scottish Government currently had the right priority. 79% of those who opposed independence thought it had the wrong priority.

7. What do you think the Scottish Government's main priority should be? [Poll C]
 [Those not saying the Scottish Government currently has the right priority]

<i>% unprompted</i>	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem
The economy/jobs	41	42	40	42	59
Improving the NHS	15	15	17	19	5
Improving schools	7	10	7	1	8
Welfare reform	7	8	5	4	5
Independence	3	1	7	0	0
Controlling immigration	2	1	4	2	2
Dealing with crime	2	2	3	4	0
Something else	12	11	8	19	16

8. Thinking about some of the specific things the Scottish Parliament has done since devolution in 1999, what would you say are the three main achievements of the Scottish Parliament? [Poll C]

<i>% naming in top three – unprompted</i>	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem
Free prescriptions	27	25	34	25	23
Free university tuition	16	18	23	13	24
Free social care	13	9	17	13	11
Standing up for/being a voice for Scotland	6	4	13	4	2
Smoking ban	4	4	7	1	4
Campaigning for independence	4	2	8	3	2
Scrapping road tolls	3	3	5	3	0
Environment/renewable energy	3	-	4	3	7
Free eye tests	2	2	3	2	4
Something else	25	24	36	17	34
None	13	15	7	22	6
Don't know	31	33	20	29	32

9. Thinking about Members of the Scottish Parliament, and Scottish MPs at Westminster, which do you think... [Poll C]

%	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem
...are more likely to have an impact on decisions that are important to you?					
Members of the Scottish Parliament	23	18	40	11	17
Both equally	50	51	45	45	50
Scottish MPs at Westminster	25	29	13	44	34
...are more likely to be in touch and committed to their local communities?					
Members of the Scottish Parliament	49	44	65	39	40
Both equally	37	40	28	44	50
Scottish MPs at Westminster	11	12	6	14	7
...are more likely to do a good job representing people like you?					
Members of the Scottish Parliament	38	32	62	17	20
Both equally	42	46	31	47	55
Scottish MPs at Westminster	16	18	5	29	25
...are more likely to be 'career politicians' who put their own interests above the people they represent?					
Members of the Scottish Parliament	12	14	7	21	17
Both equally	50	55	35	48	62
Scottish MPs at Westminster	31	26	52	23	20

10. Following devolution in 1999, the Scottish Parliament was given control over some areas of government, while others were retained by the Westminster parliament. Which of the following statements would you say most applies to you? [Poll C]

	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem
I have a <u>very good idea</u> of which areas are the responsibility of the Scottish Parliament, and which are the responsibility of Westminster	14	14	21	15	13
I have <u>some idea</u> which areas of government are the responsibility of which parliament	44	40	49	44	45
I have <u>very little idea</u> which areas of government are the responsibility of which parliament	40	43	29	39	42

- 21% of men, but 8% of women, said they had a very good idea which areas of government were the responsibility of which parliament. 51% of women said they had very little idea, compared to 28% of men.

11. Leaving aside for now the question of whether Scotland should become an independent country, some people have proposed that the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government should have more powers, and be responsible for all areas of policy except defence and foreign affairs. This is sometimes called ‘Devo Max’. This would mean the Scottish Parliament would be responsible for all decisions about the level of tax and spending in Scotland. If this were to happen, do you think... [Poll C]

%	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem
...taxes in Scotland would...?					
...rise	59	66	37	80	60
...stay about the same	29	23	48	12	28
...fall	7	6	10	5	4
...public services in Scotland would...?					
...improve	29	22	52	16	27
...stay about the same	42	46	37	38	48
...get worse	25	30	8	43	23
...the amount of government spending in Scotland would...?					
...go up	46	41	46	53	41
...stay about the same	30	30	35	25	25
...go down	19	24	14	19	26
...the amount of government borrowing and debt would...?					
...go up	55	66	38	70	57
...stay about the same	27	21	38	18	22
...go down	10	7	19	4	11

12. Should Scotland be an independent country? [Poll A]

	ALL	Lab	SNP	Con	Lib Dem	Other
Yes	26	14	69	5	12	21
No	65	78	20	92	83	72
Don't know	10	8	11	3	5	7