

ENGLAND AND THE UNION POLL – OCTOBER 2019

LORD ASHCROFT KCMG

1,558 adults in England were interviewed online on 13 and 14 October 2019.

Data have been weighted to be representative of all adults in England. Full data tables are available at LordAshcroftPolls.com

1. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view about Scotland?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
Scotland should remain part of the UK	43		52	43	60	51	45	65	49	47	39
Scotland should no longer be part of the UK	8		11	5	7	5	13	3	15	4	8
I don't have a view – it's for the people of Scotland to decide	41		32	48	32	40	37	30	33	45	47
Don't know	8		5	5	2	4	5	3	4	4	6

Those answering c) it's for the people of Scotland to decide

2. If the people of Scotland were to vote in a referendum to leave the UK, which of the following would be your view?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
I would be sorry to see Scotland leave the UK	39		32	44	54	54	28	50	28	54	29
I would be happy to see Scotland leave the UK	6		15	4	2	5	10	12	14	4	6
I wouldn't mind either way	51		52	46	32	37	61	32	56	39	63
Don't know	5		2	6	12	3	1	5	1	3	3

3. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view about Northern Ireland?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
NI should remain part of the UK	35		44	34	38	38	39	53	42	36	36
NI should no longer be part of the UK	13		13	13	16	14	16	9	15	12	16
I don't have a view – it's for the people of NI to decide	43		37	47	37	42	38	35	39	46	40
Don't know	10		5	7	9	6	6	3	3	6	8

Those answering c) it's for the people of Northern Ireland to decide

4. If the people of Northern Ireland were to vote in a referendum to leave the UK, which of the following would be your view?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
I would be sorry to see NI leave the UK	29	29	33	37	40	25	30	29	42	20	
I would be happy to see NI leave the UK	8	8	6	19	8	8	12	8	5	6	
I wouldn't mind either way	59	60	58	39	50	64	54	61	52	72	
Don't know	5	3	3	4	3	2	4	2	1	2	

5. Do you think Brexit makes Irish unification (Northern Ireland leaving the UK and joining the Republic of Ireland) in the foreseeable future more likely, less likely, or has it made no difference?

Brexit makes Irish unification in the foreseeable future...%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
		Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
... more likely	28	23	33	55	43	19	38	18	40	22
... less likely	8	6	11	5	12	5	10	6	15	4
Brexit makes no difference to the likelihood of Irish unification	27	44	16	18	15	43	29	49	9	33
Don't know	36	27	40	22	31	33	23	27	36	40

6. Do you think Brexit makes Scottish independence in the foreseeable future more likely, less likely, or has it made no difference?

Brexit makes Scottish independence in the foreseeable future...%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
		Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
... more likely	43	36	54	69	62	32	47	33	66	34
... less likely	5	6	3	2	4	5	6	6	3	5
Brexit makes no difference to the likelihood of Scottish independence	23	36	13	12	11	37	26	39	7	31
Don't know	29	23	29	16	23	26	21	22	25	30

7. Which of the following is closer to your own view?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
Scotland would probably vote for independence in the next few years whether Brexit was happening or not	23	28	18	20	18	31	29	29	15	28	
Scotland would probably vote for independence eventually, but Brexit means it will happen sooner than it otherwise would	36	25	50	56	56	21	39	21	61	27	
Scotland probably would not vote for independence in the near future, whether Brexit were happening or not	12	22	8	5	6	21	13	26	4	18	
Scotland might have voted for independence in the next few years, but Brexit makes that less likely	3	3	2	1	1	4	1	4	1	3	
<i>Don't know</i>	27	21	23	17	19	22	18	20	19	24	

8. Which of the following is closer to your own view?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
NI would probably vote to leave the UK and join the ROI in the next few years whether Brexit was happening or not	7	6	7	4	6	8	6	6	7	9	
NI would probably vote to leave the UK and join the ROI eventually, but Brexit means it will happen sooner than it otherwise would	17	12	23	29	28	10	23	9	28	13	
NI probably would not vote to leave the UK and join the ROI any time soon, whether Brexit were happening or not	30	43	24	27	25	40	37	46	21	36	
NI might have voted to leave the UK and join the ROI in the next few years, but Brexit makes that less likely	2	3	2	0	1	3	2	3	1	6	
<i>Don't know</i>	44	36	43	40	40	39	32	36	42	36	

9. Who would you say benefits more from Scotland being part of the United Kingdom?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
England and the rest of the UK	9	6	15	7	15	5	8	5	19	6	
Scotland	37	60	23	30	25	57	42	66	17	41	
They both benefit equally	31	25	38	50	42	26	41	21	41	32	
Neither benefits	3	2	3	0	2	3	3	2	2	3	
Don't know	19	7	22	13	16	10	6	6	20	19	

10. Who would you say benefits more from Northern Ireland being part of the United Kingdom?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
England and the rest of the UK	7	5	9	5	9	5	9	4	11	5	
Northern Ireland	35	48	30	47	34	45	42	51	28	38	
They both benefit equally	28	27	32	31	33	26	33	26	35	28	
Neither benefits	5	4	4	3	4	5	5	4	4	6	
Don't know	25	15	26	14	20	18	12	15	23	22	

11. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
England subsidises Scotland financially, but I'm happy with that	25	27	30	37	32	24	33	24	33	31	
England subsidises Scotland financially, and I'm not happy with that	26	48	13	17	15	45	33	54	8	25	
England does not subsidise Scotland financially	9	4	15	15	13	5	6	3	17	9	
Don't know	40	21	43	31	40	27	28	18	43	35	

12. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
England subsidises NI financially, but I'm happy with that	30		37	31	44	34	34	38	37	33	35
England subsidises NI financially, and I'm not happy with that	16		22	12	15	14	22	19	24	11	17
England does not subsidise NI financially	7		5	8	7	7	6	4	6	9	6
Don't know	47		36	48	34	45	38	38	34	47	42

13. It has been suggested that in order to avoid a 'hard border' between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland after Brexit, some EU laws and regulations could still apply in Northern Ireland that do not apply in the rest of the UK. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
NI is part of the UK, so it would be completely unacceptable for it to have different laws and regulations from the rest of the UK after Brexit	27		31	26	27	27	32	25	33	28	29
NI having different laws and regulations from the rest of the UK after Brexit would not be ideal, but would be an acceptable compromise to get a sensible Brexit arrangement	34		43	30	44	34	40	47	43	28	37
It would be perfectly acceptable for NI to have different laws and regulations from the rest of the UK after Brexit	12		9	14	15	14	9	11	8	16	9
Don't know	28		17	30	14	24	19	17	15	29	25

14. Some have suggested that if Scotland becomes independent, it could still use the pound sterling as its currency. Would you be happy for Scotland to continue using sterling as its currency if it became independent from the UK?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
Yes, happy	44		32	57	56	56	34	34	30	63	39
No, unhappy	32		52	17	29	22	48	42	57	12	32
Don't know	24		17	26	15	23	18	24	13	25	28

15. If it were not possible to do both, which of the following would you choose to do?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
Leave the European Union	36		61	17	11	9	69	17	76	7	48
Keep Scotland in the UK	45		29	62	76	75	20	70	16	76	33
<i>Don't know</i>	19		10	21	13	16	11	13	8	17	19

16. If it were not possible to do both, which of the following would you choose to do?

	%	ALL	2017 GE vote			EU ref vote		2017 GE + EU ref vote			
			Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Con Remain	Con Leave	Lab Remain	Lab Leave
Leave the European Union	36		60	20	15	10	68	21	74	7	52
Keep Northern Ireland in the UK	42		29	57	70	70	19	64	17	71	28
<i>Don't know</i>	21		12	24	14	19	12	16	9	22	20