

Smith Commission Survey: Devolution Preferences in England, Scotland and Wales

SCOTLAND QUESTIONNAIRE

BASE: ALL

1 Some people are more interested in politics than others. Please could you tell us how interested you are in:

START GRID

Politics in general
UK politics at Westminster
Scottish politics at Holyrood
The Scottish referendum on independence

BY

Very interested
Fairly interested
Not very interested
Not at all interested
Don't know

END GRID

BASE: ALL

2 Using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means very little knowledge and 10 means a very large amount of knowledge, how much knowledge do you think you have about?

START GRID

Politics in general
The issues raised during the referendum campaign
The consequences if Scotland had voted to become an independent country
The consequences of Scotland having voted to remain within the UK

BY

0 – I feel I have very little knowledge
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10 – I feel I have a very large amount of knowledge
Don't know

END GRID

BASE: ALL

3 Here is a scale I would like you to use to describe your national identity. To what extent do you

START GRID

Think of yourself as Scottish
Think of yourself as British
Think of yourself as European

BY

0 – Not at all
1

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2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 – Very strongly

Don't know

END GRID

BASE: ALL

4 And which, if any, of the following best describes how you see yourself?

Scottish not British

More Scottish than British

Equally Scottish and British

More British than Scottish

British not Scottish

Other nationality

Don't know

BASE: ALL

5 Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people? Please tell me on a score of 0 to 10, where 0 means you can't be too careful and 10 means that most people can be trusted.

0-You can't be too careful

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10-Most people can be trusted

Don't know

BASE: ALL

6 Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements

START GRID [ROTATE OPTIONS]

Private enterprise is the best way to solve Britain's economic problems

It is the government's responsibility to provide a job for everyone who wants one

Major public services and industries ought to be in state ownership

Ordinary working people get a fair share of the nation's wealth

There is no need for strong trade unions to protect employees' working conditions and wages

The UK government should step in to even out economic differences between the different parts of the UK.

Money should be transferred from the richer parts of the UK to the poorer parts to ensure that everyone can have similar levels of public services.

Because Scotland is poorer than the rest of the UK it should get transfers to ensure that everyone can have similar levels of public services.

Because Scotland gets more money for public services than any other part of the UK it should get fewer transfers to ensure that everyone receives similar levels of government funding.

I would like to see an increase in government spending in Scotland even if it has to be financed exclusively by taxpayers in Scotland.

BY

Agree strongly

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Disagree strongly

END GRID

BASE: ALL

7 Using a 0 to 10 scale, where 0 means that government should cut taxes a lot and spend much less on health and social services, and 10 means that government should raise taxes a lot and spend much more on health and social services, where would you place yourself?

0 – Government should cut taxes a lot and spend much less

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 – Government should raise taxes a lot and spend much more

Don't know

8 Some people argue that governments should raise taxes in order to provide public services for all and redistribute wealth. Some other people argue that governments should lower taxes in order to make more money available to people to spend it the way they want. What do you think about it?

Taxes should be increased to provide more funding for public services in Scotland

The current level of taxation is appropriate

Taxes should be decreased so that people have more money to spend as they want

BASE: ALL

9 In political matters people talk of ‘the left’ and ‘the right’. On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is the most left and 10 is the most right, where would place your views on this scale, generally speaking?

0 – Left

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 – Right

Don’t know

BASE: ALL

10 On the whole, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way that democracy works in

START GRID

The UK as a whole

Scotland

BY

Very dissatisfied

Somewhat dissatisfied

Somewhat satisfied

Very satisfied

END GRID

BASE: ALL

11 Can you tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statements?

START GRID

The Scottish Parliament doesn’t care much about what people like me think

The UK Parliament doesn’t care much about what people like me think

People like me don’t have any say about what the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh does

People like me don’t have any say about what the UK Parliament in London does

Sometimes Scottish politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can’t really understand what’s going on

Sometimes UK politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can’t really understand what’s going on

BY

Agree strongly

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Disagree strongly

Don’t know

END GRID

BASE: ALL

12 Which, if any, of the following parties do you think best stands up for the interests of the UK as a whole?

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

- The British National Party
- The Conservative Party
- The Scottish Greens
- The Labour Party
- The Liberal Democrats
- The UK Independence Party (UKIP)
- The Scottish National Party (SNP)
- Another party (please specify)
- Not applicable, I do not think any party stands up for the interests of the UK
- Don't know

BASE: ALL

13 And which, if any, of the following parties do you think best stands up for the interests of Scotland?

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

- The British National Party
- The Conservative Party
- The Scottish Greens
- The Labour Party
- The Liberal Democrats
- The UK Independence Party (UKIP)
- The Scottish National Party (SNP)
- Another party (please specify)
- Not applicable, I do not think any party stands up for the interests of Scotland
- Don't know

BASE: ALL

14a Recently the UK government created the Smith Commission. Have you heard of the Smith Commission?

- Yes [go to 14b]
- No [go to 15]

BASE: ALL

14b Can you recall what the Smith Commission was intended to do? The Smith Commission is:

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

1. Investigating the prevention of cruelty to animals [
2. Negotiating a new budget rebate with the EU
3. Investigating a new electoral system for the UK
4. Investigating constitutional change for Scotland following the referendum

15 The Smith Commission is exploring further powers for the Scottish Parliament. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following sentences?

START GRID

If a deal isn't reached quickly we won't get more powers

The 'Vow' for more powers made by the UK party leaders during the referendum was not very well thought through and we should not feel bound by it.

There is no need to change tax and benefit rates in Scotland at the moment but I would prefer future decisions on taxes and benefits to be made at Holyrood rather than Westminster

The Scottish Referendum should have included an option on more powers for the Scottish Parliament

Scottish MPs should be prevented from voting at Westminster on laws that apply only to England.

BY

Agree strongly

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Disagree strongly

END GRID

BASE: ALL

16a Please, now look at the following picture for a few seconds:



[Here, a 'Next screen' button]

Could you tell me what position the person in the previous picture currently occupies?

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State for Education

Secretary of State for Health

Don't know

BASE: ALL

16b Please, look at the following picture for a few seconds:



[Here, a 'Next screen' button]

Could you tell me what position the person in the previous picture currently occupies?

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

- The leader of the SNP
- The leader of the Scottish Labour Party
- The leader of the Scottish Conservative Party
- The leader of the Scottish Green Party
- Don't know

BASE: ALL

16c Which of the following positions does the Conservative Party hold in Westminster?

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

- The Conservative party heads a minority government
- The Conservative party heads a coalition government
- The Conservative party heads a majority government
- The Conservative party is in the opposition
- Don't know

BASE: ALL

17 Many people don't vote in elections these days. Did you vote in the referendum on Scottish independence that was held on 18th September 2014?

- Yes, I voted
- No, I did not vote
- No, I was not eligible to vote
- Don't know

18a And how did you vote in the independence referendum?

- I voted "Yes" (Scotland should be an independent country)
- I voted "No" (Scotland should not be an independent country)
- Don't know

18b And how would you vote if there was a referendum on independence tomorrow?

- I would vote "Yes" (Scotland should be an independent country)
- I would vote "No" (Scotland should not be an independent country)
- Don't know

BASE: ALL

19 Would you say that compared with other parts of the UK, each of these gets pretty much its fair share of government spending, more than its fair share or less than its fair share.

Scotland

England

Wales

Northern Ireland

By

Gets its fair share

Gets more than its fair share

Gets less than its fair share

BASE: ALL

20a Some people have more than one preference for how Scotland could be run in the future. Please assess how appealing each of the following options is to you. The scale runs from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all appealing to me and 10 is very appealing to me:

START GRID

Scotland should be an independent country

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should have more powers

Scotland should remain within the UK and the Scottish Parliament should have the same powers as it has right now

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should have fewer powers

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should be abolished

BY

11 point scale: 0 to 10

END GRID

BASE: ALL

20b And of the options listed above, which one is more appealing to you?

Scotland should be an independent country

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should have more powers

Scotland should remain within the UK and the Scottish Parliament should have the same powers as it has right now

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should have fewer powers

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should be abolished

BASE: ALL

20c You have indicated that you would like the Scottish Parliament to have more powers. Please select the single most important reason why.

Because Scottish people should make decisions about Scotland

Because it would encourage the Scottish Parliament to be more fiscally accountable

Because it combines the best of both worlds: devolution and membership in the UK

Because it would put more control over the economy in Scotland's hands

Because Scottish people have different values and should be able to have policies that reflect this

Because the standard of living in Scotland would increase

Other (please specify)

Don't know

BASE: ALL

21a Which of the following do you think currently HAS the most influence over the way Scotland is run?

- Local councils
- Scottish Parliament
- MPs representing Scottish constituencies
- UK Parliament
- European Union
- Other
- Don't Know

BASE: ALL

21b And which of the following do you think SHOULD have the most influence over the way Scotland is run?

- Local councils
- Scottish Parliament
- MPs representing Scottish constituencies
- UK Parliament
- European Union
- Other
- Don't Know

BASE: ALL

22a Of the following policy areas, which level of government in the UK is responsible for making decisions?

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

START GRID

- Education
- Agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- Health/NHS
- Local government
- Environment
- Defence
- Foreign Affairs
- Taxes
- Pensions
- Welfare benefits including unemployment
- Energy
- Immigration
- Other (please specify)

BY

- Scottish Parliament currently makes decisions
- UK Parliament currently makes decisions

END GRID

BASE: ALL

22b Which level of government do you think SHOULD make the decisions for the following policy areas.

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

START GRID

- Education

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Agriculture, forestry and fisheries
Health/NHS
Local government
Environment
Defence
Foreign Affairs
Taxes
Pensions
Welfare benefits including unemployment
Energy
Immigration
Other (please specify)

BY

Scottish Parliament should make the decisions
UK Parliament should make the decisions
Local authorities should make the decisions
European Union should make the decisions

END GRID

BASE: RANDOM 1/2

22c. What percentage of the Scottish Parliament's spending should be raised by taxes in Scotland?

—

BASE: RANDOM 1/2

22d. Both the Scottish Labour Party and the Scottish Conservative Party have said that they would like to see 40% of the Scottish Parliament's spending raised by taxes in Scotland. What about you? What percentage of the Scottish Parliament's spending should be raised by taxes in Scotland?

—

BASE: ALL

23 Here are a list of policy areas. Can you tell me whether you think each policy should be uniform across the whole of the UK could vary across the UK if regions decide they want different policies?

START GRID

Unemployment benefit
Tuition fees for higher education
Paying for the care of vulnerable old people
Punishment of young offenders
Income tax
Prescription charges

BY

Uniform across the UK
Could vary across the UK if regions want to be different

END GRID

BASE: ALL

23a Thinking about public services decided by the Scottish Parliament like health and education, do you think those services should be paid for out of a sum of money decided by the UK government and funded out of taxes collected across the UK, out of taxes decided and collected by the Scottish Government in Scotland or a mix of the two.

Paid for out of a sum of money decided by the UK government and funded by taxes collected across the UK

Paid for out of taxes decided and collected by the Scottish Government

A mix of the two

Don't know

BASE: ALL

24 Some people think that only one level of government should be responsible for policy areas because it is less complicated for voters to identify who is responsible and makes government more accountable. Other people think that there should be shared responsibility across levels of government to ensure cooperation and coordination. What about you?

Policy areas should be decided by only one level of government

Policy areas should be shared by different levels of government

It depends on the policy area

Don't know

BASE: If B or C in the previous question

24b Please indicate which levels of government should share responsibility for the following policy areas. Please select all the levels of government that you think should be involved.

START GRID

Education

Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Health/NHS

Local government

Environment

Defence

Foreign Affairs

Taxes

Pensions

Welfare benefits including unemployment

Energy

Immigration

Other (please specify)

BY

Scottish Parliament

UK Parliament

Local authorities

European Union

END GRID

BASE: ALL

25 Some people argue that the Scottish Parliament should have more control over welfare, benefits and taxes in Scotland, whereas other people argue that Westminster should retain control over welfare, benefits and taxes. To what extent do you believe that the Scottish Parliament should make decisions about the following?

START GRID

State Pension

Unemployment and low-income benefits

Housing Benefit

Disability benefits

Income tax

Corporation tax
VAT
North Sea oil and gas tax on revenues
Alcohol duties
Primary and secondary education
Universities

BY

1. Responsibility should be shared across the Scottish Parliament and the UK Parliament
2. The UK Parliament should make decisions
3. The Scottish Parliament should make decisions

END GRID

Q26 – split sample into 3

BASE: 1/3 get [power]

26a Some people argue that the Scottish Parliament should have the power to set its own tax rates while other people argue that the UK Parliament should set tax levels across the UK. What about you?

BASE: 1/3 get [different systems]

26b Some people want the UK Parliament to have control over taxes because they do not want different tax systems within the UK. Other people want there to be different tax systems in different parts of the UK and are therefore are happy for the Scottish Parliament to have control over taxes. What about you?

BASE: 1/3 get [power vs different systems]

26c Some people argue that the Scottish Parliament should have the power to set its own tax rates while other people do not want there to be different tax systems in different parts of the UK and therefore want the UK Parliament to control taxes. What about you?

The Scottish Parliament should control taxes

The UK Parliament should control taxes

BASE: ALL

27 As of 2015 the Scottish Parliament will have new taxation powers. What do you think the Scottish Parliament should do with these new powers?

The Scottish Parliament should increase tax rates

The Scottish Parliament should not raise or lower the tax rate

The Scottish Parliament should lower taxes

BASE: ALL

28 Below are some statements. For each can you tell me whether you agree strongly, agree, disagree or disagree strongly?

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

START GRID

We should keep tax levels the same across the UK because it would not be fair if people in different parts of the UK received higher levels of **benefits**

We should keep tax levels the same across the UK because it would not be fair if people in different parts of the UK who earned similar wages pay higher **tax** rates

We should keep tax levels the same to avoid tax competition across the different parts of the UK

We should raise tax levels in Scotland so that there is more money to spend on public services in Scotland

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We should raise tax levels in Scotland even if it means people's take home pay would decrease.

We should lower tax levels in Scotland to promote business growth

We should lower tax levels in Scotland even if it means there is less money to spend on public services in Scotland

Free university tuition in Scotland is not sustainable in the long term

You should not be entitled to a free bus pass if you are over 60 but are still employed

Levels of public spending in Scotland should be reduced to the levels in the rest of the UK

Scotland should be able to control the number of immigrants coming into Scotland

We should focus less on powers for the Scottish Parliament and more on increasing powers for local authorities

BY

Agree strongly

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Disagree strongly

END GRID

BASE: ALL

29 Imagine that each of the taxes and benefits that we have just discussed was partly or fully devolved to Scotland. For each, please say whether you think the Scottish Government should set the tax or benefit at a lower rate than in the UK, at the same rate as in the UK, or at a higher rate than in the UK.

START GRID

Income tax

Corporation tax

VAT

North Sea oil and gas tax on revenues

State Pension

Unemployment and low-income benefits

Housing Benefit

Disability benefits

BY

Lower rate than in the UK currently

Same rate as in the UK currently

Higher rate than in the UK currently

END GRID

BASE: ALL

30 Because Scotland voted to remain within the UK, some services might be paid for by taxes collected across the entire UK while others might be paid for only by taxes collected in Scotland. For each of the policy areas below can you indicate how you think they should be funded?

START GRID

Old age pensions of people in Scotland

Scottish public services like health and education

Other welfare benefits

BY

Taxes collected across the UK as a whole

Taxes collected in Scotland only

END GRID

BASE: ALL

31 Generally speaking, do you think that the UK's membership of the European Union is a good thing or a bad thing or neither good nor bad?

- Good thing
- Bad thing
- Neither
- Don't know

BASE: ALL

32 If there was a referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union, how would you vote?

- I would vote for the UK to remain a member of the European Union
- I would vote for the UK to leave the European Union
- I would not vote
- Don't know

BASE: ALL

33 How much trust do you have in...?

START GRID

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

- The UK Government
- The Scottish Government

BY

0-None at all

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10-Very much

END GRID

BASE: ALL

Are you a man or a woman?

- Man
- Woman

BASE: ALL

How old are you?

BASE: ALL

Where were you born?

- England
- Scotland
- Wales
- Northern Ireland
- Another European country
- A non-European country

BASE: ALL

Where were your parents born?

START GRID

- Father
- Mother

BY

- England
- Scotland
- Wales
- Northern Ireland
- Another European country
- A non-European country

END GRID

BASE: ALL

How often do you travel outside the UK either for business or on holiday?

- Several times a year
- Once or twice a year
- Once every few years
- Less often than that
- Never or practically never
- Don't know

BASE: ALL

Have you ever lived outside Scotland for a period of 3 months or longer?

- No
- Yes

BASE: IF YES

And where was that? Please select all that apply

- England
- Wales
- Northern Ireland

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Republic of Ireland
Somewhere else in the European Union
Somewhere else outside the European Union

BASE: All

How often do you read a daily morning newspaper?

Every day
Quite often
Rarely
Never

BASE: All

Which daily morning newspaper do you read most often?

Scottish Daily Express
Scottish Daily Mail
Scottish Daily Mirror
Daily Star
Scottish Sun
Daily Record
Daily Telegraph
Financial Times
Guardian
Independent
Times
Scotsman
(Glasgow) Herald
(Aberdeen) Press and Journal
Courier/Dundee Courier
Other

BASE: All

Are you a citizen of the UK?

Yes
No

BASE: All

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Postgraduate degree
University or CNAA first degree, e.g. BA, BSc
University or CNAA diploma
Teaching qualification (not degree)
Nursing qualification (e.g. SEN, SRC, SCM, RGC)
Higher National Certificate (HNC) or Higher National Diploma (HND), City & Guilds level 4 (Full Technological), NVW4/ SVQ4 or NVQ5/ SVQ5
Scottish Higher/Higher Still Grades, Scottish SLC/ SUPE at Higher Grade, Scottish Higher School Certificate
GCE A level, S level, A2 level, AS level, International Baccalaureate
Ordinary National Certificate (ONC) or Diploma (OND), City & Guilds level 3 (Advanced/ Final), NVQ/ SVQ level 3
Scottish Ordinary Bands A-C or pass, Scottish Standard Grades 1-3 or Pass/ Lower Certificate
GCSE A*-C, CSE grade 1, GCE O level grade A –C, School Certificate

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GCSE grades D-G, CSE grades 2-5, GCE O level grade D –E, Short Course GCSE, Vocational GCSE
City & Guilds level 2 (Craft/ Intermediate/ Ordinary) or Scotvec Higher National Units or NVQ2/ SVQ2
City & Guilds level 1, Scotvec National Certificate Modules, NVQ1/ SVQ1
Clerical and commercial qualification (e.g. typing, shorthand, book-keeping)
Recognised trade apprenticeship completed
Youth training certificate, skill seekers
Other technical, professional or higher qualification [ba16o]{open}

BASE: ALL

55 Do you consider yourself as belonging to any particular religion or denomination?

Yes → Q56

No → Q57

BASE: ALL

56. If yes to Q55: Which?

Christianity (Catholic)

Christianity (Protestant – including Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Free
Presbyterian, United Reform, Congregational)

Christianity (other)

Islam

Other (please specify)

BASE: ALL

57. In general, how often do you attend religious ceremonies?

Almost Never

A few times a year

Monthly

Almost every week

More often

BASE: ALL

49. Which of these descriptions best describes your current situation?

In full-time paid work → Q50

In part-time paid work → Q50

In education → Q54

On maternity/paternity leave → Q54

Unemployed and actively looking for a job → Q54

Unemployed and not actively looking for a job → Q54

Permanently sick or disabled → Q54

In retirement → Q52

Doing housework/looking after children/other persons → Q54

BASE: ALL

50. If in paid work in Q49: In your main job are you an employee, self-employed or working for your family's own business?

Employee → Q51

Self-employed → Q54

Working in family business → Q54

BASE: ALL

51. If an employee in Q50: Are you an employee in the public or private sector?

Public sector → Q54

Private sector → Q54

BASE: ALL

52. If in retirement in Q49: In your main job were you an employee, self-employed or working for your family's own business?

Employee → Q53

Self-employed → Q54

Working in family business → Q54

BASE: ALL

53. If an employee in Q52: Were you an employee in the public or private sector?

Public sector

Private sector

BASE: ALL

54 Are you or have you ever been a member of a trade union or similar organisation?

Yes

No

BASE: ALL

And, which of the following represents the total income of your household from all sources before tax – including benefits, saving and so on?

Less than £5,000

£5,000 to £10,000

£10,001 to £15,000

£15,001 to £20,000

£20,001 to- £25,000

£25,001 to £30,000

£30,001 to £35,000

£35,001 to £40,000

£40,001 to £45,000

£45,001 to £50,000

£50,001 to £60,000

£60,001 to £70,000

£70,001 and more

Prefer not to say

Don't know

BASE: ALL

Which of these applies to you at present?

Married

Married, but separated

Single

Divorced

Widowed

In a civil partnership

BASE: ALL

Do you belong to a minority ethnic group in the UK?

Yes

No

BASE: ALL

Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a little closer to one political party than to the others?

Yes

No

Don't know

BASE: All who say 'Yes'

Which one?

Conservative

Labour

Liberal Democrat

Scottish National Party

Green Party

United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP)

British National Party (BNP)/ National Front

RESPECT/Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)/Solidarity/Socialist Labour

Other (please specify)

Don't know

BASE: ALL

41 Thinking back to the last UK general election – that is the one in 2010 – do you remember which party you voted for then, or perhaps you didn't vote in that election?

Did not vote/not eligible/too young to vote

Voted Conservative

Voted Labour

Voted Liberal Democrat

Voted SNP

Voted Green

Voted Scottish Socialist

Voted for Other party

Don't know/can't remember

BASE: ALL

42 Thinking about the last election to the Scottish Parliament – held in 2011 – you had two votes, one for an individual member of the parliament for your constituency and one for a regional party list. Do you remember which party you voted for on the CONSTITUENCY vote, or perhaps you didn't vote in that election?

Did not vote/not eligible/too young to vote

Voted Conservative

Voted Labour

Voted Liberal Democrat

Voted SNP

Voted Green

Voted Scottish Socialist

Voted for Other party (please specify)

Don't know/can't remember

BASE: ALL

43 And what about the vote for a Party List for your region? Do you remember which party you voted for?

Did not vote/not eligible/too young to vote

Voted Conservative

Voted Labour

Voted Liberal Democrat

Voted SNP

Voted Green

Voted Scottish Socialist

Voted for Other party (please specify)

Don't know/can't remember