

Tuition Fees Survey

Fieldwork Dates: 4th-8th October 2011

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

Q.1 The Government has announced an increase in tuition fees for going to university. To what extent, if at all, has this put you off going to university?

Base: All respondents

	Gender		Age			Fee Increase on University Intention				Region			
	Total	Male	Female	16	17	18	Definitely put off	Puts off a bit but will still go	Hasn't put off and will definitely still go	Never planning to go	North	Mid-lands	South
Base	1009	482	527	488	393	128	102	544	287	74	293	302	414
It has definitely put me off going to university	102 10%	50 10%	52 10%	53 11%	39 10%	10 8%	102 100%	-	-	-	35 12%	25 8%	42 10%
It puts me off a bit, but I will probably still go to university	544 54%	248 51%	296 56%	280 57%	196 50%	68 53%	-	544 100%	-	-	155 53%	165 55%	224 54%
It hasn't really put me off and I will definitely still go to university	287 28%	140 29%	147 28%	118 24%	129 33%	40 31%	-	-	287 100%	-	84 29%	87 29%	116 28%
I was never planning on going to university	74 7%	42 9%	32 6%	37 8%	28 7%	9 7%	-	-	-	74 100%	19 6%	24 8%	31 7%
Don't know	2 *	2 *	-	-	1 *	1 1%	-	-	-	-	-	1 *	1 *

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Table 2

Q.2 Thinking about the increase in tuition fees, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

	Gender		Age			Fee Increase on University Intention				Region			
	Total	Male	Female	16	17	18	Defin- itely put off	Puts off a bit but will still go	Hasn't put off and will defin- itely still go	Never plan- ning to go	North	Mid- lands	South
Base	1009	482	527	488	393	128	102	544	287	74	293	302	414
<u>The long term benefits of going to university still outweigh the costs</u>													
Agree	774 77%	387 80%	387 73%	371 76%	307 78%	96 75%	42 41%	427 78%	263 92%	41 55%	219 75%	246 81%	309 75%
Disagree	221 22%	92 19%	129 24%	111 23%	82 21%	28 22%	58 57%	108 20%	23 8%	31 42%	65 22%	55 18%	101 24%
Don't know	14 1%	3 1%	11 2%	6 1%	4 1%	4 3%	2 2%	9 2%	1 *	2 3%	9 3%	1 *	4 1%
<u>The financial burden of going to university is too much for me personally</u>													
Agree	486 48%	235 49%	251 48%	257 53%	175 45%	54 42%	91 89%	265 49%	75 26%	54 73%	144 49%	141 47%	201 49%
Disagree	515 51%	246 51%	269 51%	228 47%	214 54%	73 57%	11 11%	273 50%	210 73%	20 27%	148 51%	158 52%	209 50%
Don't know	8 1%	1 *	7 1%	3 1%	4 1%	1 1%	- -	6 1%	2 1%	- -	1 *	3 1%	4 1%
<u>I think it's right that students should pay more towards the cost of their education</u>													
Agree	161 16%	95 20%	66 13%	75 15%	63 16%	23 18%	17 17%	65 12%	61 21%	18 24%	49 17%	43 14%	69 17%
Disagree	842 83%	386 80%	456 87%	411 84%	327 83%	104 81%	85 83%	476 88%	223 78%	56 76%	244 83%	257 85%	341 82%
Don't know	6 1%	1 *	5 1%	2 *	3 1%	1 1%	- -	3 1%	3 1%	- -	- -	2 1%	4 1%

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Table 3

**Q.2 Thinking about the increase in tuition fees, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
Base: All respondents (except those who were never planning on going to university)**

	Gender		Age			Fee Increase on University Intention				Region			
	Total	Male	Female	16	17	18	Defin- itely put off	Puts off a bit but will still go	Hasn't put off and will defin- itely still go	Never plan- ning to go	North	Mid- lands	South
Base	935	440	495	451	365	119	102	544	287	-	274	278	383
<u>I am really worried that after university I will have a large amount of debt given the tight jobs market</u>													
Agree	726 78%	321 73%	405 82%	366 81%	274 75%	86 72%	95 93%	465 85%	164 57%	-	199 73%	224 81%	303 79%
Disagree	202 22%	115 26%	87 18%	81 18%	88 24%	33 28%	7 7%	75 14%	120 42%	-	73 27%	52 19%	77 20%
Don't know	7 1%	4 1%	3 1%	4 1%	3 1%	-	-	4 1%	3 1%	-	2 1%	2 1%	3 1%
<u>I am confident that in the long run going to university will improve my career prospects</u>													
Agree	868 93%	409 93%	459 93%	420 93%	339 93%	109 92%	74 73%	511 94%	282 98%	-	254 93%	260 94%	354 92%
Disagree	64 7%	30 7%	34 7%	29 6%	25 7%	10 8%	28 27%	30 6%	5 2%	-	19 7%	17 6%	28 7%
Don't know	3 *	1 *	2 *	2 *	1 *	-	-	3 1%	-	-	1 *	1 *	1 *

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Table 4

Q.3 Has the increase in tuition fees made you rethink the subject or subjects that you were planning to study at university, or not?

Base: All respondents (except those who were never planning on going to university)

	Gender		Age			Fee Increase on University Intention				Region			
	Total	Male	Female	16	17	18	Defin- itely put off	Puts off a bit but will still go	Hasn't put off and will defin- itely still go	Never plan- ning to go	North	Mid- lands	South
Base	935	440	495	451	365	119	102	544	287	-	274	278	383
Yes	212 23%	78 18%	134 27%	97 22%	91 25%	24 20%	35 34%	146 27%	30 10%	-	72 26%	58 21%	82 21%
No	717 77%	359 82%	358 72%	351 78%	272 75%	94 79%	66 65%	394 72%	256 89%	-	200 73%	219 79%	298 78%
Don't know	6 1%	3 1%	3 1%	3 1%	2 1%	1 1%	1 1%	4 1%	1 *	-	2 1%	1 *	3 1%

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Table 5
Q.4 Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
Base: All respondents

	Gender		Age			Fee Increase on University Intention				Region			
	Total	Male	Female	16	17	18	Defin- itely put off	Puts off a bit but will still go	Hasn't put off and will defin- itely still go	Never plan- ning to go	North	Mid- lands	South
Base	1009	482	527	488	393	128	102	544	287	74	293	302	414
<u>It is incredibly hard for university graduates to find jobs</u>													
Agree	649 64%	279 58%	370 70%	313 64%	247 63%	89 70%	77 75%	365 67%	154 54%	52 70%	196 67%	198 66%	255 62%
Disagree	306 30%	176 37%	130 25%	147 30%	125 32%	34 27%	21 21%	152 28%	117 41%	16 22%	87 30%	84 28%	135 33%
Don't know	54 5%	27 6%	27 5%	28 6%	21 5%	5 4%	4 4%	27 5%	16 6%	6 8%	10 3%	20 7%	24 6%
<u>Even if tuition fees were reduced to £6,000 a year, that would still be too expensive</u>													
Agree	462 46%	210 44%	252 48%	229 47%	167 42%	66 52%	62 61%	256 47%	90 31%	53 72%	136 46%	142 47%	184 44%
Disagree	530 53%	268 56%	262 50%	250 51%	220 56%	60 47%	39 38%	276 51%	194 68%	21 28%	154 53%	153 51%	223 54%
Don't know	17 2%	4 1%	13 2%	9 2%	6 2%	2 2%	1 1%	12 2%	3 1%	- -	3 1%	7 2%	7 2%
<u>It is easier to get a job as a university graduate than straight out of school</u>													
Agree	738 73%	371 77%	367 70%	356 73%	289 74%	93 73%	60 59%	393 72%	245 85%	39 53%	209 71%	225 75%	304 73%
Disagree	244 24%	94 20%	150 28%	120 25%	95 24%	29 23%	40 39%	133 24%	38 13%	32 43%	75 26%	67 22%	102 25%
Don't know	27 3%	17 4%	10 2%	12 2%	9 2%	6 5%	2 2%	18 3%	4 1%	3 4%	9 3%	10 3%	8 2%

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Table 6

Q.4 Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents (except those who were never planning on going to university)

	Gender		Age			Fee Increase on University Intention				Region			
	Total	Male	Female	16	17	18	Defin- itely put off	Puts off a bit but will still go	Hasn't put off and will defin- itely still go	Never plan- ning to go	North	Mid- lands	South
Base	935	440	495	451	365	119	102	544	287	-	274	278	383
<u>The current lack of graduate jobs would not stop me going to university</u>													
Agree	682 73%	319 73%	363 73%	322 71%	275 75%	85 71%	49 48%	401 74%	231 80%	-	198 72%	207 74%	277 72%
Disagree	243 26%	117 27%	126 25%	124 27%	86 24%	33 28%	50 49%	136 25%	56 20%	-	73 27%	67 24%	103 27%
Don't know	10 1%	4 1%	6 1%	5 1%	4 1%	1 1%	3 3%	7 1%	-	-	3 1%	4 1%	3 1%
<u>I am thinking about going to a more local university so I can save money</u>													
Agree	458 49%	198 45%	260 53%	226 50%	172 47%	60 50%	66 65%	302 56%	89 31%	-	156 57%	135 49%	167 44%
Disagree	466 50%	236 54%	230 46%	220 49%	187 51%	59 50%	35 34%	236 43%	194 68%	-	113 41%	139 50%	214 56%
Don't know	11 1%	6 1%	5 1%	5 1%	6 2%	-	1 1%	6 1%	4 1%	-	5 2%	4 1%	2 1%

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Table 7

Q.5 Would you consider going to study at a university abroad, or not?**Base: All respondents**

	Gender		Age			Fee Increase on University Intention				Region			
	Total	Male	Female	16	17	18	Defin- itely put off	Puts off a bit but will still go	Hasn't put off and will defin- itely still go	Never plan- ning to go	North	Mid- lands	South
Base	1009	482	527	488	393	128	102	544	287	74	293	302	414
NET: Yes	466 46%	228 47%	238 45%	227 47%	182 46%	57 45%	42 41%	258 47%	143 50%	23 31%	143 49%	132 44%	191 46%
Yes definitely	135 13%	65 13%	70 13%	52 11%	65 17%	18 14%	13 13%	78 14%	34 12%	10 14%	41 14%	36 12%	58 14%
Yes maybe	331 33%	163 34%	168 32%	175 36%	117 30%	39 30%	29 28%	180 33%	109 38%	13 18%	102 35%	96 32%	133 32%
No	540 54%	252 52%	288 55%	261 53%	209 53%	70 55%	60 59%	285 52%	144 50%	50 68%	150 51%	168 56%	222 54%
Don't know	3 *	2 *	1 *	- -	2 1%	1 1%	- -	1 *	- -	1 1%	- -	2 1%	1 *

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Table 8
Q.6 If you were able to gain qualifications, while working, through an apprenticeship scheme, would you consider this as an alternative to going to university, or not?

Base: All respondents

	Gender		Age			Fee Increase on University Intention				Region			
	Total	Male	Female	16	17	18	Definitely put off	Puts off a bit but will still go	Hasn't put off and will definitely still go	Never planning to go	North	Mid-lands	South
Base	1009	482	527	488	393	128	102	544	287	74	293	302	414
NET: Yes	613 61%	299 62%	314 60%	291 60%	242 62%	80 63%	81 79%	359 66%	116 40%	55 74%	178 61%	177 59%	258 62%
Yes, I would consider it	477 47%	222 46%	255 48%	225 46%	187 48%	65 51%	56 55%	279 51%	103 36%	37 50%	136 46%	136 45%	205 50%
Yes, I am already considering it	136 13%	77 16%	59 11%	66 14%	55 14%	15 12%	25 25%	80 15%	13 5%	18 24%	42 14%	41 14%	53 13%
No, I would not consider it	388 38%	180 37%	208 39%	196 40%	147 37%	45 35%	21 21%	180 33%	170 59%	17 23%	113 39%	122 40%	153 37%
Don't know	8 1%	3 1%	5 1%	1 *	4 1%	3 2%	- -	5 1%	1 *	2 3%	2 1%	3 1%	3 1%