



## The ComRes Darling Index

Q. How confident or otherwise are you in the ability of each of the following?

	Confident																														
	Oct 07	Nov 07	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	Mar 08	Apr 08	May 08	Jun 08	Jul 08	Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10
Alistair Darling	15%	17%	13%	17%	11%	14%	9%	12%	9%	12%	13%	11%	25%	27%	16%	15%	17%	11%	22%	16%	14%	21%	19%	25%	21%	25%	20%	29%	24%	21%	32%
George Osborne	49%	44%	49%	48%	56%	55%	52%	55%	44%	41%	44%	40%	36%	34%	29%	34%	33%	36%	41%	39%	39%	49%	41%	36%	55%	50%	45%	42%	45%	42%	49%
Vince Cable											43%	31%	45%	46%	41%	58%	49%	51%	62%	59%	61%	69%	53%	60%	58%	60%	58%	60%	63%	57%	66%
Gordon Brown	30%	31%	22%	26%	20%	20%	18%	17%	12%	17%	20%	13%	42%	39%	28%	30%	20%	15%	30%	20%	16%	22%	18%	20%	20%	20%	17%	24%	26%	19%	28%
David Cameron	55%	49%	55%	59%	62%	62%	67%	67%	60%	60%	62%	55%	47%	54%	46%	56%	51%	53%	61%	64%	62%	60%	53%	60%	67%	63%	61%	62%	60%	55%	65%
Nick Clegg											19%	9%	13%	18%	11%	21%	13%	13%	19%	27%	27%	33%	21%	20%	24%	22%	26%	24%	26%	20%	41%
Peter Mandelson																		23%	35%	29%	31%	41%	34%	40%	41%	41%	34%	39%	35%	25%	35%
Ken Clarke																		62%	69%	63%	65%	69%	62%	66%	73%	71%	62%	67%	70%	66%	76%



	Not Confident																														
	Oct 07	Nov 07	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	Mar 08	Apr 08	May 08	Jun 08	Jul 08	Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10
Alistair Darling	76 %	77 %	83 %	76 %	86 %	83 %	90 %	87 %	89 %	85 %	85 %	87 %	73 %	72 %	81 %	82 %	79 %	83 %	78 %	84 %	86 %	78 %	81 %	75 %	79 %	75 %	80 %	71 %	76 %	79 %	68 %
George Osborne	37 %	47 %	39 %	43 %	38 %	41 %	42 %	36 %	46 %	47 %	44 %	47 %	57 %	66 %	66 %	58 %	60 %	56 %	59 %	62 %	61 %	51 %	59 %	63 %	45 %	50 %	55 %	58 %	55 %	58 %	51 %
Vince Cable											41 %	49 %	41 %	54 %	46 %	34 %	40 %	39 %	38 %	41 %	38 %	31 %	47 %	40 %	42 %	40 %	42 %	40 %	37 %	43 %	34 %
Gordon Brown	64 %	67 %	73 %	69 %	80 %	79 %	82 %	82 %	83 %	81 %	80 %	87 %	56 %	61 %	70 %	68 %	78 %	81 %	70 %	81 %	84 %	77 %	81 %	80 %	80 %	80 %	83 %	76 %	74 %	81 %	72 %
David Cameron	38 %	49 %	39 %	35 %	37 %	37 %	31 %	32 %	38 %	36 %	36 %	43 %	49 %	46 %	53 %	41 %	47 %	41 %	39 %	36 %	39 %	40 %	42 %	40 %	33 %	37 %	39 %	38 %	40 %	45 %	35 %
Nick Clegg											68 %	76 %	72 %	82 %	79 %	68 %	76 %	76 %	81 %	73 %	73 %	67 %	79 %	80 %	76 %	78 %	74 %	76 %	74 %	80 %	59 %
Peter Mandelson																		70 %	65 %	71 %	69 %	59 %	66 %	60 %	59 %	59 %	66 %	61 %	65 %	75 %	65 %
Ken Clarke																		30 %	32 %	37 %	35 %	31 %	38 %	34 %	28 %	29 %	38 %	33 %	30 %	34 %	24 %



Q. Would you agree or disagree with each of these statements about Chancellor of the Exchequer Alistair Darling?

	Agree																														
	Oct 07	Nov 07	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	Mar 08	Apr 08	May 08	Jun 08	Jul 08	Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10
Understands business	19%	22%	20%	23%	17%	14%	15%	23%	18%	21%	19%	21%	31%	39%	18%	23%	23%	20%	33%	22%	24%	31%	33%	35%	29%	31%	24%	37%	27%	27%	37%
Out of his depth	57%	62%	59%	59%	67%	66%	73%	72%	69%	70%	70%	68%	62%	61%	70%	71%	70%	67%	68%	75%	77%	71%	68%	63%	67%	65%	74%	64%	71%	69%	60%
Promotes entrepreneurial culture	14%	17%	16%	18%	11%	11%	13%	14%	10%	14%	14%	14%	17%	29%	17%	20%	17%	15%	27%	15%	20%	22%	24%	26%	28%	23%	21%	26%	23%	22%	25%
Is handling the economy responsibly in the midst of a global economic downturn	-	-	-	-	-	-	16%	20%	18%	17%	13%	17%	31%	38%	20%	19%	19%	16%	31%	24%	26%	32%	30%	34%	29%	35%	24%	34%	30%	26%	41%



	Disagree																														
	Oct 07	Nov 07	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	Mar 08	Apr 08	May 08	Jun 08	Jul 08	Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10
Understands business	42%	71%	66%	63%	76%	78%	79%	72%	74%	71%	77%	71%	63%	61%	76%	69%	66%	72%	67%	78%	76%	69%	67%	65%	71%	69%	76%	63%	73%	73%	63%
Out of his depth	25%	25%	33%	27%	23%	23%	21%	25%	24%	21%	23%	25%	30%	39%	23%	20%	23%	23%	32%	25%	24%	29%	32%	36%	33%	35%	26%	36%	29%	31%	40%
Promotes entrepreneurial culture	63%	67%	65%	63%	80%	81%	78%	74%	79%	71%	78%	72%	67%	71%	69%	66%	69%	70%	73%	85%	81%	79%	76%	74%	72%	77%	79%	74%	77%	78%	75%
Is handling the economy responsibly in the midst of a global economic downturn	-	-	-	-	-	-	80%	76%	76%	72%	80%	76%	59%	62%	71%	71%	72%	74%	68%	75%	74%	69%	70%	66%	71%	65%	76%	66%	70%	74%	59%



**Q. Would you agree or disagree with each of these statements about Shadow Chancellor George Osborne?**

	Agree							
	Sept 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10
Seems like he understands business	65%	70%	65%	62%	64%	67%	64%	67%
Is out of his depth	46%	36%	40%	38%	42%	39%	46%	45%
Has the right ideas about how to manage the British economy	49%	64%	60%	56%	58%	63%	58%	63%
Lacks experience	75%	68%	75%	74%	73%	74%	78%	80%
Would make a better Chancellor than Alistair Darling	60%	73%	65%	65%	62%	67%	69%	65%

	Disagree							
	Sept 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10
Seems like he understands business	25%	30%	35%	38%	36%	33%	36%	33%
Is out of his depth	54%	64%	61%	62%	59%	61%	54%	55%
Has the right ideas about how to manage the British economy	51%	36%	40%	44%	42%	37%	42%	37%
Lacks experience	25%	32%	25%	26%	28%	26%	22%	20%
Would make a better Chancellor than Alistair Darling	40%	27%	35%	35%	38%	33%	31%	36%



**Q. Can you detect any signs of economic recovery in your firm's sector, or not?**

	February 09	April 09	May 09	June 09	July 09	August 09	September 09	October 09	November 09	December 09	January 10	February 10	March 10	April 10
Yes	18%	29%	32%	37%	33%	38%	49%	48%	49%	36%	48%	47%	49%	61%
No	71%	62%	55%	53%	57%	50%	41%	43%	44%	53%	46%	41%	45%	31%
Don't know	11%	9%	13%	10%	10%	12%	9%	9%	7%	11%	6%	12%	7%	8%

Methodology: ComRes surveyed 255 business leaders on 12-13<sup>th</sup> October, 100 business leaders on 13-19<sup>th</sup> November, 105 business leaders on 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> December 2007, 188 business leaders on 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2008, 100 business leaders on 11<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February, 106 business leaders on 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> March, 222 business leaders on the 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> April, 251 business leaders on 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> May, 143 business leaders on 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June, 275 business leaders on 15<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 231 business leaders on 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September, 287 business leaders on 13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October, 233 on the 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> November, 201 business leaders on 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> December, 220 business leaders on 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009, 161 business leaders on February 16<sup>th</sup> 2009, 204 business leaders on 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2009, 231 business leaders on 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2009, 205 business leaders on 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May 2009, 203 business leaders on 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June 2009, 178 business leaders on 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2009, 169 business leaders on 11<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> August 2009, 154 business leaders on 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2009, 184 business leaders on 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October 2009, 204 business leaders on 10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> November 2009, 155 business leaders on 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> December 2009, 185 business leaders on 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> January 2010, 165 business leaders on 16<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010, 185 business leaders on 9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> March 2010, 170 business leaders on 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> April 2010.