

# ITV News – Tax Credits Survey

## METHODOLOGY NOTE

**Methodology Note:** ComRes interviewed 2,053 British adults online between 13th and 15th November 2015. Data were weighted to be representative of all GB adults aged 18+. ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.

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To commission a voting intention poll or a public opinion survey please contact Andrew Hawkins: [andrew.hawkins@comres.co.uk](mailto:andrew.hawkins@comres.co.uk)

To register for Pollwatch, a monthly newsletter update on the polls, please email: [pollwatch@comres.co.uk](mailto:pollwatch@comres.co.uk)

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

Q.1 Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

	Gender		Age							Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Private
Unweighted base	2053	1071	982	258	283	330	396	297	489	607	583	334	529	253	853
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
<b><u>The way the Government is going about cutting public spending is fair</u></b>															
Agree	524 26%	297 30%	227 22%	49 20%	73 21%	83 25%	76 21%	76 26%	167 36%	181 33%	154 28%	88 20%	100 20%	68 25%	225 25%
Disagree	1144 56%	564 56%	580 55%	121 51%	191 54%	203 60%	228 62%	181 61%	220 48%	275 50%	300 54%	269 60%	300 60%	169 62%	473 53%
Don't know	385 19%	139 14%	246 23%	69 29%	92 26%	52 15%	63 17%	38 13%	72 16%	96 17%	99 18%	90 20%	100 20%	35 13%	191 21%
<b><u>Things in this country are generally heading in the right direction</u></b>															
Agree	750 37%	432 43%	318 30%	68 28%	92 26%	101 30%	124 34%	122 41%	243 53%	248 45%	206 37%	150 34%	146 29%	85 31%	330 37%
Disagree	969 47%	436 44%	533 51%	119 50%	188 53%	189 56%	185 51%	133 45%	154 34%	227 41%	251 46%	214 48%	277 55%	124 46%	418 47%
Don't know	334 16%	132 13%	202 19%	51 21%	77 22%	47 14%	57 16%	41 14%	62 13%	78 14%	95 17%	84 19%	78 16%	63 23%	141 16%
<b><u>The UK economy has been fixed</u></b>															
Agree	206 10%	122 12%	84 8%	25 11%	47 13%	37 11%	30 8%	21 7%	45 10%	64 12%	51 9%	44 10%	48 10%	25 9%	102 11%
Disagree	1495 73%	751 75%	744 71%	159 67%	245 69%	259 77%	274 75%	235 79%	323 70%	405 73%	409 74%	321 72%	359 72%	207 76%	631 71%
Don't know	352 17%	127 13%	225 21%	54 23%	64 18%	41 12%	62 17%	40 13%	92 20%	83 15%	92 17%	83 18%	94 19%	41 15%	156 18%

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	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Private
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
<b>It would be better to slow the rate of spending cuts even if it makes it take longer to get the country's finances back on track</b>															
Agree	1212	597	615	134	196	207	230	193	252	309	309	275	319	178	510
	59%	60%	58%	56%	55%	62%	63%	65%	55%	56%	56%	61%	64%	65%	57%
Disagree	426	256	170	39	58	66	67	64	132	150	133	73	70	42	202
	21%	26%	16%	16%	16%	19%	18%	22%	29%	27%	24%	16%	14%	15%	23%
Don't know	415	147	268	66	101	64	69	38	76	93	110	99	112	53	177
	20%	15%	25%	28%	29%	19%	19%	13%	16%	17%	20%	22%	22%	20%	20%

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**Q.1 Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**  
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	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber- side	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Good	Bad	Neither	Fair	Unfair
Unweighted base	2053	197	112	1744	88	209	199	159	147	223	235	299	185	237	410	1294	631	1065
Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
<b><u>The way the Government is going about cutting public spending is fair</u></b>																		
Agree	524 26%	35 20%	29 28%	459 26%	23 27%	48 21%	52 30%	52 28%	37 24%	54 27%	68 25%	82 29%	43 24%	147 59%	56 14%	313 24%	379 59%	96 9%
Disagree	1144 56%	121 68%	64 61%	960 54%	46 54%	149 63%	86 49%	97 52%	86 57%	110 55%	146 54%	137 48%	103 57%	72 29%	311 77%	715 56%	160 25%	835 80%
Don't know	385 19%	22 13%	12 11%	351 20%	16 19%	39 16%	37 21%	36 20%	29 19%	34 17%	57 21%	68 24%	35 20%	32 13%	37 9%	253 20%	98 15%	114 11%
<b><u>Things in this country are generally heading in the right direction</u></b>																		
Agree	750 37%	52 29%	26 25%	672 38%	32 37%	71 30%	59 34%	78 42%	49 33%	88 44%	95 35%	128 45%	71 39%	158 63%	74 18%	495 39%	419 66%	229 22%
Disagree	969 47%	90 50%	62 59%	818 46%	46 53%	139 59%	79 45%	75 40%	80 52%	86 43%	126 46%	108 37%	80 44%	70 28%	270 67%	583 46%	146 23%	678 65%
Don't know	334 16%	36 20%	17 16%	281 16%	9 10%	25 11%	36 21%	32 17%	23 15%	25 13%	50 18%	51 18%	29 16%	23 9%	60 15%	203 16%	71 11%	139 13%
<b><u>The UK economy has been fixed</u></b>																		
Agree	206 10%	15 8%	8 7%	184 10%	9 10%	16 7%	17 9%	21 12%	17 11%	22 11%	39 14%	31 11%	11 6%	62 25%	33 8%	105 8%	111 17%	79 8%
Disagree	1495 73%	137 77%	88 84%	1270 72%	69 80%	186 79%	118 67%	136 74%	108 71%	135 68%	181 67%	206 72%	131 73%	154 61%	315 78%	966 75%	420 66%	842 81%
Don't know	352 17%	26 15%	9 9%	316 18%	8 10%	34 14%	40 23%	27 15%	27 18%	42 21%	50 19%	51 18%	38 21%	36 14%	56 14%	210 16%	106 17%	125 12%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

Q.1 Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

	Region													Tax Credit Cuts Personally			Cuts Fair/Unfair	
	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber- side	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Good	Bad	Neither	Fair	Unfair
Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
<b><u>It would be better to slow the rate of spending cuts even if it makes it take longer to get the country's finances back on track</u></b>																		
Agree	1212 59%	118 66%	66 63%	1028 58%	52 61%	162 69%	96 55%	99 54%	94 62%	112 56%	162 60%	150 52%	101 56%	122 49%	292 72%	758 59%	251 39%	798 76%
Disagree	426 21%	28 16%	26 25%	372 21%	15 17%	39 17%	44 25%	41 22%	30 20%	50 25%	47 17%	64 22%	42 23%	90 36%	49 12%	280 22%	279 44%	99 10%
Don't know	415 20%	32 18%	13 12%	370 21%	19 22%	35 15%	34 20%	44 24%	28 18%	38 19%	62 23%	73 25%	37 21%	39 15%	63 15%	243 19%	107 17%	148 14%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 2

**Q.2 Which of the following would you prefer the Government to do in order to reduce the budget deficit?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender		Age						Social Grade				Employment Sector		
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Pri- vate
Unweighted base	2053	1071	982	258	283	330	396	297	489	607	583	334	529	253	853
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
Reducing foreign aid	1305 64%	659 66%	646 61%	92 39%	209 59%	198 59%	232 63%	202 68%	371 81%	311 56%	347 63%	322 72%	325 65%	155 57%	561 63%
Cutting Trident	539 26%	297 30%	241 23%	73 31%	77 22%	91 27%	113 31%	96 32%	89 19%	147 27%	156 28%	102 23%	133 27%	87 32%	223 25%
Cutting tax credits	414 20%	254 25%	160 15%	35 15%	63 18%	53 16%	81 22%	63 21%	119 26%	147 27%	115 21%	88 20%	64 13%	68 25%	182 21%
Increasing the basic rate of income tax	217 11%	121 12%	97 9%	22 9%	20 5%	21 6%	45 12%	44 15%	65 14%	81 15%	42 8%	32 7%	63 13%	23 8%	60 7%
Borrow more money, slowing the rate at which the deficit is reduced	201 10%	93 9%	109 10%	26 11%	45 13%	32 9%	35 10%	32 11%	32 7%	50 9%	65 12%	36 8%	50 10%	27 10%	87 10%
Increasing VAT	97 5%	52 5%	45 4%	19 8%	12 3%	20 6%	12 3%	13 5%	21 5%	33 6%	29 5%	14 3%	22 4%	13 5%	41 5%
Reducing spending on education	34 2%	17 2%	17 2%	4 2%	4 1%	13 4%	4 1%	7 2%	3 1%	9 2%	5 1%	12 3%	8 2%	10 4%	16 2%
Reducing the basic state pension	33 2%	23 2%	10 1%	8 3%	12 3%	8 2%	1 *	* *	4 1%	17 3%	3 1%	7 2%	6 1%	5 2%	20 2%
Reducing spending on the NHS	24 1%	14 1%	10 1%	3 1%	7 2%	8 2%	5 1%	- -	- -	10 2%	7 1%	5 1%	1 *	2 1%	19 2%
Don't know	221 11%	66 7%	156 15%	54 23%	56 16%	44 13%	31 8%	19 6%	17 4%	50 9%	50 9%	55 12%	66 13%	27 10%	108 12%

## Public Spending Survey

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**Q.2 Which of the following would you prefer the Government to do in order to reduce the budget deficit?**

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	Region													Tax Credit Cuts Personally			Cuts Fair/Unfair	
	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber- side	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Good	Bad	Neither	Fair	Unfair
Unweighted base	2053	197	112	1744	88	209	199	159	147	223	235	299	185	237	410	1294	631	1065
Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
Reducing foreign aid	1305 64%	100 56%	65 62%	1141 64%	54 62%	160 68%	107 62%	119 64%	105 69%	140 70%	148 55%	198 69%	110 61%	156 62%	248 61%	851 66%	479 75%	617 59%
Cutting Trident	539 26%	87 49%	28 27%	424 24%	26 30%	59 25%	35 20%	33 18%	35 23%	43 22%	83 31%	65 23%	45 25%	36 14%	130 32%	351 27%	67 10%	385 37%
Cutting tax credits	414 20%	21 12%	24 23%	370 21%	19 22%	36 15%	45 26%	48 26%	29 19%	44 22%	44 16%	65 23%	40 22%	112 45%	28 7%	268 21%	332 52%	46 4%
Increasing the basic rate of income tax	217 11%	20 11%	11 11%	186 11%	9 10%	28 12%	24 14%	17 9%	17 11%	25 12%	22 8%	26 9%	19 10%	19 7%	42 10%	151 12%	49 8%	127 12%
Borrow more money, slowing the rate at which the deficit is reduced	201 10%	17 10%	12 11%	172 10%	13 15%	29 12%	12 7%	16 9%	20 13%	18 9%	25 9%	22 8%	16 9%	10 4%	64 16%	122 9%	13 2%	168 16%
Increasing VAT	97 5%	7 4%	7 6%	83 5%	5 5%	8 3%	9 5%	7 4%	6 4%	10 5%	16 6%	16 6%	8 4%	13 5%	22 6%	58 5%	27 4%	54 5%
Reducing spending on education	34 2%	3 2%	2 2%	29 2%	1 2%	1 *	1 1%	8 4%	4 2%	5 3%	3 1%	1 *	5 3%	12 5%	4 1%	17 1%	11 2%	18 2%
Reducing the basic state pension	33 2%	2 1%	1 1%	30 2%	-	-	3 2%	3 2%	7 4%	4 2%	8 3%	2 1%	4 2%	15 6%	5 1%	14 1%	16 2%	17 2%
Reducing spending on the NHS	24 1%	2 1%	1 1%	21 1%	1 1%	1 *	2 1%	7 4%	-	3 2%	3 1%	1 *	4 2%	13 5%	1 *	10 1%	14 2%	4 *
Don't know	221 11%	15 8%	12 11%	195 11%	5 6%	31 13%	19 11%	20 11%	15 10%	10 5%	40 15%	35 12%	19 11%	20 8%	43 11%	106 8%	29 5%	95 9%

**Public Spending Survey**  
**ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015**

Absolutes/col percents

Table 3

**Q.3 Do you think that the Government is right or wrong to be reducing spending on each of the following in its attempt to reduce the budget deficit?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender		Age						Social Grade				Employment Sector		
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Private
Unweighted base	2053	1071	982	258	283	330	396	297	489	607	583	334	529	253	853
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
<b><u>Child tax credits</u></b>															
Right	697	390	307	58	96	98	115	113	217	233	192	142	129	87	310
	34%	39%	29%	24%	27%	29%	32%	38%	47%	42%	35%	32%	26%	32%	35%
Wrong	1051	475	576	129	195	208	209	144	166	235	273	244	298	150	450
	51%	47%	55%	54%	55%	62%	57%	49%	36%	43%	50%	54%	60%	55%	51%
Don't know	306	136	170	52	65	31	42	39	77	83	86	62	74	36	129
	15%	14%	16%	22%	18%	9%	11%	13%	17%	15%	16%	14%	15%	13%	15%
<b><u>Working tax credits</u></b>															
Right	635	367	267	53	80	97	103	98	204	234	165	113	123	81	281
	31%	37%	25%	22%	22%	29%	28%	33%	44%	42%	30%	25%	24%	30%	32%
Wrong	1092	497	595	126	214	195	225	155	176	248	285	259	300	152	477
	53%	50%	56%	53%	60%	58%	61%	53%	38%	45%	52%	58%	60%	56%	54%
Don't know	327	136	191	59	62	45	38	43	79	70	102	76	78	40	131
	16%	14%	18%	25%	17%	13%	10%	14%	17%	13%	19%	17%	16%	15%	15%
<b><u>Spending on benefits</u></b>															
Right	972	513	459	95	149	148	148	154	278	318	271	205	178	133	443
	47%	51%	44%	40%	42%	44%	40%	52%	61%	58%	49%	46%	36%	49%	50%
Wrong	786	368	418	92	145	148	168	112	122	178	186	179	244	100	322
	38%	37%	40%	39%	41%	44%	46%	38%	26%	32%	34%	40%	49%	37%	36%
Don't know	294	119	176	51	62	41	50	31	60	56	95	63	79	40	125
	14%	12%	17%	21%	17%	12%	14%	10%	13%	10%	17%	14%	16%	15%	14%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 3

**Q.3 Do you think that the Government is right or wrong to be reducing spending on each of the following in its attempt to reduce the budget deficit?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender			Age						Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Private
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
<b>Spending on local government</b>															
Right	647 32%	361 36%	286 27%	75 32%	112 31%	106 31%	105 29%	97 33%	152 33%	203 37%	162 29%	158 35%	124 25%	83 30%	324 36%
Wrong	961 47%	482 48%	479 45%	84 35%	149 42%	173 51%	187 51%	158 54%	210 46%	259 47%	251 45%	186 42%	264 53%	145 53%	382 43%
Don't know	445 22%	157 16%	288 27%	79 33%	95 27%	59 17%	74 20%	40 14%	98 21%	90 16%	140 25%	103 23%	113 23%	45 17%	183 21%

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Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
<b><u>Child tax credits</u></b>																		
Right	697 34%	38 21%	35 33%	624 35%	36 42%	81 34%	64 37%	78 42%	54 36%	81 41%	71 26%	99 34%	58 32%	180 72%	46 11%	460 36%	473 74%	143 14%
Wrong	1051 51%	114 64%	59 56%	878 50%	41 47%	125 53%	83 47%	75 41%	81 54%	89 45%	152 56%	143 50%	90 50%	49 19%	334 83%	633 49%	102 16%	804 77%
Don't know	306 15%	27 15%	11 11%	268 15%	9 10%	30 13%	28 16%	31 17%	16 11%	29 14%	47 18%	46 16%	32 18%	22 9%	24 6%	188 15%	62 10%	98 9%
<b><u>Working tax credits</u></b>																		
Right	635 31%	42 23%	35 33%	558 32%	30 35%	60 26%	57 33%	70 38%	52 34%	74 37%	72 26%	97 34%	47 26%	171 68%	35 9%	417 33%	472 74%	98 9%
Wrong	1092 53%	105 59%	54 52%	932 53%	48 56%	145 61%	90 52%	88 47%	83 55%	91 46%	141 52%	145 50%	102 57%	56 23%	347 86%	649 51%	102 16%	847 81%
Don't know	327 16%	32 18%	15 15%	280 16%	8 10%	31 13%	27 15%	27 15%	17 11%	34 17%	58 21%	46 16%	31 17%	24 10%	22 5%	215 17%	63 10%	101 10%
<b><u>Spending on benefits</u></b>																		
Right	972 47%	64 36%	42 40%	866 49%	42 48%	93 39%	91 52%	99 54%	80 52%	101 51%	107 39%	155 54%	99 55%	186 74%	107 26%	652 51%	530 83%	305 29%
Wrong	786 38%	83 47%	52 49%	651 37%	33 39%	113 48%	58 34%	57 31%	57 38%	68 34%	108 40%	95 33%	61 34%	45 18%	260 64%	456 36%	67 11%	618 59%
Don't know	294 14%	31 17%	11 11%	252 14%	11 13%	29 12%	25 14%	29 16%	15 10%	30 15%	55 20%	37 13%	21 12%	20 8%	38 9%	173 14%	39 6%	123 12%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 3

**Q.3 Do you think that the Government is right or wrong to be reducing spending on each of the following in its attempt to reduce the budget deficit?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Region													Tax Credit Cuts Personally			Cuts Fair/Unfair	
	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber- side	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Good	Bad	Neither	Fair	Unfair
Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
<b>Spending on local government</b>																		
Right	647 32%	40 22%	39 37%	569 32%	26 30%	72 30%	48 28%	67 36%	59 39%	65 33%	87 32%	87 30%	58 32%	138 55%	107 26%	379 30%	319 50%	259 25%
Wrong	961 47%	97 54%	52 50%	811 46%	40 46%	119 51%	86 50%	74 40%	71 46%	88 44%	120 44%	125 44%	88 49%	74 29%	234 58%	638 50%	206 32%	619 59%
Don't know	445 22%	42 23%	14 13%	390 22%	21 24%	45 19%	40 23%	44 24%	22 15%	46 23%	64 24%	74 26%	34 19%	39 15%	64 16%	263 21%	112 18%	168 16%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 4

**Q.4 As you may know, the Government is proposing to cut the amount of tax credits given to those receiving Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit, do you think that this will generally be good or bad for each of the following?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender			Age						Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Private
Unweighted base	2053	1071	982	258	283	330	396	297	489	607	583	334	529	253	853
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
<b><u>You personally</u></b>															
Good	251 12%	146 15%	105 10%	30 12%	58 16%	47 14%	36 10%	31 11%	49 11%	99 18%	60 11%	51 12%	41 8%	42 15%	128 14%
Bad	404 20%	184 18%	220 21%	55 23%	111 31%	101 30%	93 25%	31 11%	13 3%	65 12%	115 21%	93 21%	131 26%	58 21%	212 24%
Neither	1281 62%	621 62%	660 63%	121 51%	148 42%	176 52%	226 62%	225 76%	386 84%	368 67%	344 62%	276 62%	293 59%	158 58%	491 55%
Don't know	117 6%	49 5%	67 6%	33 14%	39 11%	14 4%	11 3%	8 3%	12 3%	21 4%	33 6%	27 6%	36 7%	15 6%	58 7%
<b><u>The country as a whole</u></b>															
Good	641 31%	368 37%	274 26%	53 22%	97 27%	88 26%	95 26%	96 32%	212 46%	217 39%	183 33%	134 30%	109 22%	73 27%	287 32%
Bad	894 44%	415 41%	479 46%	116 48%	162 45%	168 50%	194 53%	131 44%	123 27%	201 36%	240 44%	193 43%	260 52%	131 48%	373 42%
Neither	208 10%	100 10%	108 10%	19 8%	25 7%	45 13%	34 9%	27 9%	59 13%	60 11%	45 8%	57 13%	45 9%	24 9%	95 11%
Don't know	310 15%	117 12%	192 18%	51 21%	72 20%	36 11%	43 12%	42 14%	66 14%	74 13%	84 15%	64 14%	88 18%	45 17%	135 15%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 4

**Q.4 As you may know, the Government is proposing to cut the amount of tax credits given to those receiving Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit, do you think that this will generally be good or bad for each of the following?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender			Age						Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Private
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
<b>People in my local area</b>															
Good	253 12%	150 15%	103 10%	29 12%	49 14%	41 12%	33 9%	39 13%	61 13%	98 18%	56 10%	56 12%	44 9%	31 11%	133 15%
Bad	1021 50%	492 49%	529 50%	120 50%	191 54%	189 56%	217 59%	141 48%	163 36%	233 42%	270 49%	231 52%	287 57%	148 54%	432 49%
Neither	325 16%	169 17%	156 15%	36 15%	40 11%	48 14%	49 13%	56 19%	97 21%	110 20%	88 16%	70 16%	57 11%	42 15%	138 16%
Don't know	454 22%	190 19%	264 25%	54 22%	76 21%	59 18%	68 19%	59 20%	138 30%	112 20%	139 25%	90 20%	112 22%	52 19%	186 21%
<b>The state of the British economy</b>															
Good	767 37%	402 40%	365 35%	81 34%	102 29%	110 33%	121 33%	114 38%	239 52%	258 47%	210 38%	159 36%	141 28%	93 34%	328 37%
Bad	715 35%	337 34%	378 36%	81 34%	145 41%	139 41%	155 42%	104 35%	90 20%	155 28%	190 34%	157 35%	212 42%	108 40%	305 34%
Neither	272 13%	156 16%	116 11%	24 10%	48 14%	47 14%	43 12%	41 14%	68 15%	68 12%	72 13%	68 15%	63 13%	31 11%	125 14%
Don't know	298 15%	106 11%	193 18%	52 22%	61 17%	41 12%	46 13%	37 12%	62 14%	71 13%	80 15%	63 14%	84 17%	40 15%	131 15%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 4

**Q.4 As you may know, the Government is proposing to cut the amount of tax credits given to those receiving Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit, do you think that this will generally be good or bad for each of the following?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Region												Tax Credit Cuts Personally			Cuts Fair/Unfair		
	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber- side	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Good	Bad	Neither	Fair	Unfair
Unweighted base	2053	197	112	1744	88	209	199	159	147	223	235	299	185	237	410	1294	631	1065
Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
<b><u>You personally</u></b>																		
Good	251 12%	13 7%	17 16%	221 12%	11 13%	20 9%	26 15%	26 14%	28 18%	23 12%	35 13%	35 12%	16 9%	251 100%	-	-	182 29%	41 4%
Bad	404 20%	39 22%	25 24%	340 19%	16 19%	43 18%	33 19%	27 15%	40 26%	32 16%	54 20%	58 20%	37 20%	-	404 100%	-	29 5%	325 31%
Neither	1281 62%	119 67%	59 56%	1103 62%	54 63%	157 67%	108 62%	114 62%	81 53%	138 69%	160 59%	179 62%	112 62%	-	-	1281 100%	414 65%	650 62%
Don't know	117 6%	8 4%	4 4%	106 6%	4 5%	15 6%	7 4%	17 9%	4 2%	6 3%	22 8%	15 5%	15 8%	-	-	-	12 2%	29 3%
<b><u>The country as a whole</u></b>																		
Good	641 31%	44 25%	37 36%	559 32%	30 35%	62 26%	59 34%	66 36%	43 29%	72 36%	72 27%	98 34%	56 31%	197 78%	36 9%	402 31%	483 76%	94 9%
Bad	894 44%	93 52%	47 45%	755 43%	39 46%	116 49%	70 40%	64 35%	73 48%	76 38%	115 42%	128 45%	74 41%	29 12%	308 76%	540 42%	49 8%	754 72%
Neither	208 10%	15 8%	7 7%	186 11%	5 5%	22 9%	22 13%	19 10%	19 13%	25 13%	36 13%	20 7%	17 10%	18 7%	31 8%	155 12%	60 9%	92 9%
Don't know	310 15%	27 15%	13 12%	270 15%	12 14%	37 16%	23 13%	35 19%	16 11%	26 13%	47 17%	41 14%	33 18%	7 3%	29 7%	184 14%	44 7%	105 10%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 4

**Q.4 As you may know, the Government is proposing to cut the amount of tax credits given to those receiving Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit, do you think that this will generally be good or bad for each of the following?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Region													Tax Credit Cuts Personally			Cuts Fair/Unfair	
	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber- side	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Good	Bad	Neither	Fair	Unfair
Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
<b>People in my local area</b>																		
Good	253 12%	16 9%	11 10%	226 13%	6 7%	28 12%	18 10%	20 11%	29 19%	31 15%	31 11%	39 13%	25 14%	134 53%	11 3%	103 8%	196 31%	37 4%
Bad	1021 50%	115 65%	63 60%	843 48%	58 68%	127 54%	84 48%	78 42%	79 52%	74 37%	133 49%	120 42%	89 49%	44 17%	347 86%	622 49%	142 22%	750 72%
Neither	325 16%	18 10%	15 14%	292 16%	9 11%	35 15%	34 19%	29 16%	20 13%	54 27%	32 12%	53 19%	26 14%	40 16%	26 6%	251 20%	149 23%	117 11%
Don't know	454 22%	29 16%	16 15%	409 23%	13 15%	46 19%	39 23%	57 31%	23 15%	40 20%	75 28%	75 26%	40 22%	33 13%	21 5%	306 24%	149 23%	141 13%
<b>The state of the British economy</b>																		
Good	767 37%	45 25%	40 38%	682 39%	38 45%	78 33%	79 45%	72 39%	56 37%	85 43%	89 33%	113 39%	72 40%	195 78%	46 11%	521 41%	513 81%	161 15%
Bad	715 35%	78 44%	41 40%	596 34%	26 30%	85 36%	53 31%	61 33%	58 38%	55 27%	104 38%	95 33%	58 32%	27 11%	273 68%	398 31%	40 6%	597 57%
Neither	272 13%	24 14%	13 13%	234 13%	11 13%	34 14%	22 13%	26 14%	20 13%	33 16%	31 11%	37 13%	21 12%	22 9%	51 13%	190 15%	59 9%	156 15%
Don't know	298 15%	31 17%	10 9%	258 15%	11 12%	38 16%	20 11%	26 14%	18 12%	27 14%	47 17%	42 15%	29 16%	7 3%	33 8%	172 13%	25 4%	132 13%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 5

**Q.5 For each of the following pairs of words, which do you think is more applicable to the Government's proposed changes to tax credits?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender		Age						Social Grade				Employment Sector		
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Private
Unweighted base	2053	1071	982	258	283	330	396	297	489	607	583	334	529	253	853
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
<b><u>Fair or Unfair</u></b>															
Fair	637	354	283	61	95	81	103	91	207	213	169	140	114	83	276
	31%	35%	27%	25%	27%	24%	28%	31%	45%	39%	31%	31%	23%	30%	31%
Unfair	1046	495	550	123	189	191	211	157	175	249	286	227	283	150	441
	51%	50%	52%	52%	53%	57%	58%	53%	38%	45%	52%	51%	57%	55%	50%
Don't know	371	151	220	55	72	65	52	48	78	90	97	81	103	40	172
	18%	15%	21%	23%	20%	19%	14%	16%	17%	16%	18%	18%	21%	15%	19%
<b><u>Necessary or Unnecessary</u></b>															
Necessary	807	435	372	90	116	102	130	123	246	263	231	167	146	102	360
	39%	44%	35%	38%	33%	30%	36%	41%	54%	48%	42%	37%	29%	37%	41%
Unnecessary	879	427	452	92	165	167	186	130	139	213	231	193	242	133	369
	43%	43%	43%	38%	46%	50%	51%	44%	30%	39%	42%	43%	48%	49%	41%
Don't know	367	137	230	56	75	68	50	43	74	76	90	87	114	37	160
	18%	14%	22%	24%	21%	20%	14%	15%	16%	14%	16%	19%	23%	14%	18%
<b><u>Relevant to me or Not relevant to me</u></b>															
Relevant to me	546	275	270	65	153	135	117	45	32	136	150	105	154	81	295
	27%	28%	26%	27%	43%	40%	32%	15%	7%	25%	27%	24%	31%	30%	33%
Not relevant to me	1133	566	567	119	149	149	194	189	333	341	303	261	228	151	429
	55%	57%	54%	50%	42%	44%	53%	64%	73%	62%	55%	58%	45%	56%	48%
Don't know	374	159	215	55	54	53	55	62	95	75	99	81	119	41	165
	18%	16%	20%	23%	15%	16%	15%	21%	21%	14%	18%	18%	24%	15%	19%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 5

**Q.5 For each of the following pairs of words, which do you think is more applicable to the Government's proposed changes to tax credits?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender			Age						Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	Public	Pri- vate
Weighted base	2053	1000	1053	238	356	337	366	296	460	552	552	448	501	273	889
<b><u>Conservatives breaking an election promise or Conservatives carrying out the welfare reform they said they would</u></b>															
Conservatives breaking an election promise	894 44%	441 44%	453 43%	103 43%	166 47%	155 46%	177 48%	140 47%	153 33%	235 43%	223 40%	197 44%	239 48%	129 47%	390 44%
Conservatives carrying out the welfare reform they said they would	682 33%	364 36%	318 30%	66 28%	95 27%	104 31%	121 33%	91 31%	205 45%	209 38%	186 34%	147 33%	139 28%	88 32%	287 32%
Don't know	477 23%	195 19%	282 27%	70 29%	95 27%	79 23%	68 19%	64 22%	102 22%	108 20%	143 26%	103 23%	123 25%	56 21%	212 24%
<b><u>An example of George Osborne making the right decisions as Chancellor or An example of George Osborne making bad decisions as Chancellor</u></b>															
An example of George Osborne making the right decisions as Chancellor	573 28%	331 33%	242 23%	45 19%	70 20%	80 24%	97 27%	90 30%	192 42%	192 35%	163 29%	113 25%	106 21%	63 23%	263 30%
An example of George Osborne making bad decisions as Chancellor	996 49%	494 49%	502 48%	111 47%	180 51%	176 52%	203 55%	148 50%	178 39%	259 47%	252 46%	220 49%	265 53%	152 56%	404 45%
Don't know	484 24%	175 17%	309 29%	83 35%	106 30%	81 24%	66 18%	58 20%	90 20%	101 18%	138 25%	115 26%	130 26%	58 21%	223 25%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 5

**Q.5 For each of the following pairs of words, which do you think is more applicable to the Government's proposed changes to tax credits?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Region													Tax Credit Cuts Personally			Cuts Fair/Unfair	
	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber-side	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Good	Bad	Neither	Fair	Unfair
Unweighted base	2053	197	112	1744	88	209	199	159	147	223	235	299	185	237	410	1294	631	1065
Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
<b><u>Fair or Unfair</u></b>																		
Fair	637 31%	38 21%	26 25%	573 32%	31 36%	69 29%	69 40%	71 39%	48 32%	72 36%	64 23%	96 33%	54 30%	182 72%	29 7%	414 32%	637 100%	-
Unfair	1046 51%	110 62%	64 62%	871 49%	41 48%	127 54%	72 41%	77 42%	74 49%	94 47%	144 53%	147 51%	94 52%	41 16%	325 80%	650 51%	-	1046 100%
Don't know	371 18%	30 17%	14 13%	326 18%	14 17%	41 17%	33 19%	36 20%	29 19%	34 17%	63 23%	44 15%	32 18%	28 11%	51 13%	217 17%	-	-
<b><u>Necessary or Unnecessary</u></b>																		
Necessary	807 39%	58 33%	35 33%	714 40%	33 39%	77 33%	77 44%	89 48%	62 41%	86 43%	88 32%	125 43%	77 43%	191 76%	54 13%	543 42%	591 93%	134 13%
Unnecessary	879 43%	96 54%	50 48%	733 41%	38 45%	112 48%	66 38%	65 35%	60 39%	78 39%	119 44%	119 41%	75 42%	31 12%	289 72%	533 42%	28 4%	820 78%
Don't know	367 18%	24 14%	20 19%	323 18%	14 17%	47 20%	31 18%	31 17%	30 19%	35 17%	64 24%	44 15%	28 16%	29 12%	60 15%	206 16%	18 3%	91 9%
<b><u>Relevant to me or Not relevant to me</u></b>																		
Relevant to me	546 27%	54 31%	29 28%	463 26%	23 27%	61 26%	38 22%	49 27%	47 31%	43 21%	74 27%	76 27%	51 28%	84 34%	310 77%	141 11%	136 21%	368 35%
Not relevant to me	1133 55%	101 57%	54 52%	977 55%	47 55%	130 55%	101 58%	103 56%	81 53%	125 63%	141 52%	157 55%	94 52%	121 48%	68 17%	901 70%	410 64%	576 55%
Don't know	374 18%	23 13%	22 21%	330 19%	16 18%	45 19%	36 20%	33 18%	24 16%	31 16%	56 21%	54 19%	36 20%	45 18%	26 6%	239 19%	90 14%	101 10%

## Public Spending Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 13th-15th November 2015

Absolutes/col percents

Table 5

**Q.5 For each of the following pairs of words, which do you think is more applicable to the Government's proposed changes to tax credits?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Region													Tax Credit Cuts Personally			Cuts Fair/Unfair	
	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber- side	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Good	Bad	Neither	Fair	Unfair
Weighted base	2053	178	105	1770	86	236	174	185	152	199	271	287	180	251	404	1281	637	1046
<b><u>Conservatives breaking an election promise or Conservatives carrying out the welfare reform they said they would</u></b>																		
Conservatives breaking an election promise	894 44%	88 49%	50 47%	756 43%	37 43%	117 50%	65 37%	70 38%	69 46%	80 40%	119 44%	122 42%	77 43%	74 29%	249 62%	542 42%	122 19%	700 67%
Conservatives carrying out the welfare reform they said they would	682 33%	46 26%	32 31%	603 34%	34 40%	62 26%	68 39%	68 37%	52 34%	77 39%	76 28%	99 34%	69 38%	125 50%	88 22%	453 35%	393 62%	214 21%
Don't know	477 23%	44 25%	22 21%	411 23%	15 17%	57 24%	42 24%	47 25%	31 20%	42 21%	75 28%	67 23%	35 19%	53 21%	67 17%	286 22%	122 19%	131 12%
<b><u>An example of George Osborne making the right decisions as Chancellor or An example of George Osborne making bad decisions as Chancellor</u></b>																		
An example of George Osborne making the right decisions as Chancellor	573 28%	30 17%	28 27%	515 29%	25 30%	58 25%	56 32%	68 37%	51 34%	62 31%	56 21%	83 29%	56 31%	147 59%	32 8%	387 30%	487 76%	53 5%
An example of George Osborne making bad decisions as Chancellor	996 49%	118 66%	61 58%	817 46%	41 47%	111 47%	83 47%	71 39%	60 39%	96 48%	123 46%	143 50%	88 49%	52 21%	301 74%	612 48%	69 11%	876 84%
Don't know	484 24%	30 17%	16 15%	438 25%	20 23%	66 28%	36 20%	45 25%	40 27%	41 21%	92 34%	61 21%	36 20%	52 21%	72 18%	283 22%	81 13%	116 11%