



RESOLUTION – COHABITING COUPLES RESEARCH

ComRes surveyed 2,033 British adults aged 18+ online between 8th and 9th November 2017. Data were weighted to be representative of British adults aged 18+ by age, gender, region and social grade. ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.

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Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

Q1. Please read the statements below, and indicate whether you believe them to be true or false.

Base: All respondents

Summary table

	After living together for more than two years, unmarried couples have similar rights to married couples if they break up	Unmarried couples who have lived together for more than two years benefit from what is known as a 'common law marriage'	If one partner in an unmarried couple has contributed to household finances (e.g. paying utility bills, sharing costs of home improvements)..	If one partner - the property owner - in an unmarried couple dies without making a will, the property they lived in together automatically passes to their partner
Unweighted base	2033	2033	2033	2033
Weighted base	2033	2033	2033	2033
True	549 27%	744 37%	454 22%	269 13%
False	853 42%	569 28%	853 42%	1212 60%
Don't know	631 31%	721 35%	726 36%	553 27%

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 2

Q1. Please read the statements below, and indicate whether you believe them to be true or false.

Base: All respondents

After living together for more than two years, unmarried couples have similar rights to married couples if they break up

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Private (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
True	549 27%	286 29%	263 25%	46 20%	96 28% ^c	87 27%	116 32% ^{CH}	95 32% ^{CH}	110 24%	142 25%	203 29% ⁱ	205 27%	125 23%	151 27%	122 29% ^l	151 30% ^L	86 34% ^q	246 27%
False	853 42%	399 40%	454 44%	97 43%	149 43%	141 43%	141 39%	114 38%	211 45% ^g	246 43%	282 41%	325 42%	266 49% ^{MNO}	238 42% ^o	164 39%	184 37%	111 43%	391 43%
Don't know	631 31%	307 31%	324 31%	85 37% ^{df}	104 30%	100 30%	105 29%	91 30%	147 31%	189 33%	205 30%	237 31%	153 28%	178 31%	132 32%	168 33% ^l	59 23%	278 30% ^p

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 2

Q1. Please read the statements below, and indicate whether you believe them to be true or false.

Base: All respondents

After living together for more than two years, unmarried couples have similar rights to married couples if they break up

	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humberside (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Married/ Civil partnership / co habiting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Partnership (q)	Co Habiting (r)	NET: Widowed/ separated/ divorced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separated (u)	Divorced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
True	549 27%	54 30%M	27 26%	468 27%	25 29%m	77 33%iM	44 26%	49 27%	37 24%	51 26%	71 26%m	81 29%M	33 19%	132 22%	340 28%NR	269 31%NR	4 21%	66 22%	76 34%NR	20 29%	11 43%	45 35%NR
False	853 42%	81 45%	53 52%DFIJ KI	719 41%	35 41%	92 39%	74 43%	79 43%	60 39%	76 39%	107 40%	117 41%	79 44%	251 41%	513 43%	351 40%	8 47%	154 51%NOPS V	85 38%	32 47%	6 23%	47 36%
Don't know	631 31%	44 25%	22 22%	565 32%AB	26 31%	64 27%	53 31%	55 30%	55 36%ABf	68 35%AB	92 34%AB	84 30%	66 37%ABf	227 37%OPRS TV	339 28%	252 29%	6 32%	81 27%	62 28%	16 24%	9 34%	37 29%

Proportions/Means: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/ef/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v

*** small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing**

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 3

Q1. Please read the statements below, and indicate whether you believe them to be true or false.

Base: All respondents

Unmarried couples who have lived together for more than two years benefit from what is known as a 'common law marriage'

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Pri- vate (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
True	744 37%	394 40%B	350 34%	66 29%	111 32%	110 34%	159 44%CDEH	132 44%CDEH	165 35%	177 31%	269 39%I	298 39%I	188 34%	196 35%	162 39%	198 39%	90 35%	333 36%
False	569 28%	253 25%	316 30%A	45 20%	92 26%	98 30%C	102 28%C	85 29%C	146 31%C	137 24%	200 29%i	231 30%I	179 33%MO	153 27%	122 29%o	115 23%	84 33%	250 27%
Don't know	721 35%	346 35%	375 36%	116 51%DEFGH	146 42%FGH	119 36%FG	101 28%	81 27%	156 33%g	263 46%JK	220 32%	238 31%	178 33%	217 38%In	135 32%	191 38%I	83 32%	332 36%

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

Cohabiting Couples Survey

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Q1. Please read the statements below, and indicate whether you believe them to be true or false.

Base: All respondents

Unmarried couples who have lived together for more than two years benefit from what is known as a 'common law marriage'

	Region												Marital Status									
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humberside (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Married/Civil partnership / cohabiting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Partnership (q)	Co Habiting (r)	NET: Widowed/separated/divorced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separated (u)	Divorced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
True	744 37%	77 43% d jkl M	38 38%	628 36%	37 43% m	89 38%	58 34%	73 40%	65 42% jlm	65 33%	92 34%	95 34%	55 31%	180 29%	461 39% N	350 40% NR	11 63%	99 33%	101 45% NoR	29 42% N	16 59%	57 44% NR
False	569 28%	51 29%	27 26%	491 28%	22 26%	68 29%	43 25%	52 28%	37 24%	54 28%	71 26%	89 31%	56 31%	153 25%	351 29% n	247 28%	3 19%	101 34% N	63 28%	26 38% N	3 10%	35 27%
Don't know	721 35%	51 28%	37 36%	633 36% a	27 31%	77 33%	70 41% A	58 32%	51 33%	77 39% A	108 40% A	99 35%	68 38% a	277 45% OPRS 32% t TV	380 32% t	276 32% t	3 18%	101 33% T	60 27%	14 20%	8 31%	38 29%

Proportions/Means: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v

*** small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing**

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 4

Q1. Please read the statements below, and indicate whether you believe them to be true or false.

Base: All respondents

If one partner in an unmarried couple has contributed to household finances (e.g. paying utility bills, sharing costs of home improvements), then they automatically have a right to property owned by their partner should the relationship break down

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Pri- vate (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
True	454 22%	241 24%b	213 20%	51 22%	75 21%	68 21%	76 21%	70 23%	114 24%	125 22%	144 21%	184 24%	125 23%	128 23%	98 23%	104 21%	65 25%	194 21%
False	853 42%	393 40%	460 44%a	73 32%	147 42%C	141 43%C	163 45%C	130 44%C	197 42%C	220 38%	305 44%i	328 43%	250 46%NO	250 44%n	156 37%	197 39%	111 43%	396 43%
Don't know	726 36%	358 36%	368 35%	104 46% dEFGH	128 37%	118 36%	122 34%	98 33%	156 33%	231 40% jK	240 35%	254 33%	170 31%	189 33%	164 39% Lm	203 40% LM	81 31%	325 36%

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

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	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humber (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Married/ Civil partnership / cohabiting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Partnership (q)	Co Habiting (r)	NET: Widowed/separated/divorced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separated (u)	Divorced (v)
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Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
True	454 22%	49 27%hJkm	19 19%	386 22%	25 29%Jkm	71 30%BHiJ KIM	40 23%	35 19%	32 21%	35 18%	52 19%	64 23%	32 18%	109 18%	287 24%NR	232 27%NR	8 43%	47 16%	57 25%NR	21 31%NR	2 9%	33 26%nR
False	853 42%	73 41%	47 46%	733 42%	36 42%	91 39%	71 42%	74 40%	67 44%	83 43%	118 44%	118 42%	75 42%	237 39%	517 43%n	358 41%	5 30%	153 51%NOPv	97 43%	28 41%	16 61%	52 41%
Don't know	726 36%	57 32%	36 35%	633 36%	25 29%	72 31%	59 35%	74 41%ef	53 35%	77 39%f	100 37%	101 36%	72 40%f	264 43%OPRS	388 33%	283 32%	5 27%	101 33%	71 32%	19 28%	8 29%	44 34%

Proportions/Means: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v

*** small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing**

Cohabiting Couples Survey
ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 5

Q1. Please read the statements below, and indicate whether you believe them to be true or false.

Base: All respondents

If one partner - the property owner - in an unmarried couple dies without making a will, the property they lived in together automatically passes to their partner

	Gender		Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector		
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Pri- vate (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
True	269 13%	147 15%b	121 12%	45 20%fGH	70 20%FGH	50 15%GH	49 14%gH	26 9%	29 6%	115 20%JK	99 14%K	55 7%	82 15%	71 12%	49 12%	68 13%	41 16%	150 16%
False	1212 60%	556 56%	656 63%A	89 39%	178 51%C	177 54%C	228 63%CDE	195 65%CDE	345 74%CDEFG	266 46%	405 59%I	540 70%IJ	348 64%nO	341 60%	241 58%	281 56%	156 61%	498 55%
Don't know	553 27%	289 29%b	264 25%	94 41%DEFGH	102 29%H	101 31%fH	85 23%	78 26%h	94 20%	196 34%JK	185 27%k	171 22%	115 21%	155 27%L	128 31%L	155 31%L	59 23%	266 29%p

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

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Base: All respondents

If one partner - the property owner - in an unmarried couple dies without making a will, the property they lived in together automatically passes to their partner

	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scot-land (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	York-shire & Humb-erside (g)	West Mid-lands (h)	East Mid-lands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Mar-ried/ Civil part-nership / co hab-iting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Part-nership (q)	Co Hab-iting (r)	NET: Wid-owed/ separ-ated/ div-orced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separ-ated (u)	Div-orced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
True	269 13%	28 16%hj	9 9%	231 13%	17 20%BgHI J	40 17%bgHI J	18 10%	16 9%	14 9%	19 10%	41 15%hj	40 14%	27 15%	86 14%Sv	166 14%Sv	125 14%Sv	5 25%	36 12%	17 8%	5 7%	2 6%	11 8%
False	1212 60%	107 60%	60 59%	1045 60%	47 55%	141 60%	102 60%	114 63%	88 58%	129 66%eK	147 54%	169 60%	106 59%	304 50%	740 62%N	534 61%N	11 59%	196 65%N	161 72%NOP	50 74%NoP	18 68%	93 72%NOP
Don't know	553 27%	44 25%	32 32%f	476 27%	22 26%	53 23%	51 30%	52 29%	50 33%Fj	47 24%	82 30%f	74 26%	46 26%	219 36%OPRS TV	286 24%	213 24%	3 16%	70 23%	46 20%	13 19%	7 26%	26 20%

Proportions/Means: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v

*** small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing**

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 6

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

Summary table

		In light of the rise of unmarried cohabitation in the UK, there is a need for greater legal protection for unmarried couples upon separation	The legal rights of unmarried cohabitating couples who separate are currently unclear (for example, with regard to financial provisions...	The government should take steps to ensure unmarried cohabitating couples are aware they do not have the same legal protection as married...	If one partner in an unmarried couple has given up their career to look after their children, they should be entitled to financial support...	Unmarried couples who live together should be encouraged by the government to have legal agreements in place to cover what will happen...	When unmarried couples buy a home together, advice should be provided to them as part of the purchasing process to ensure they are aware...
Unweighted base		2033	2033	2033	2033	2033	2033
Weighted base		2033	2033	2033	2033	2033	2033
NET: Agree		1603 79%	1493 73%	1701 84%	1551 76%	1708 84%	1804 89%
Strongly agree	(4)	866 43%	687 34%	1014 50%	758 37%	999 49%	1237 61%
Tend to agree	(3)	737 36%	807 40%	687 34%	793 39%	709 35%	566 28%
Tend to disagree	(2)	135 7%	119 6%	110 5%	130 6%	86 4%	56 3%
Strongly disagree	(1)	60 3%	30 1%	25 1%	45 2%	28 1%	7 *
NET: Disagree		195 10%	149 7%	135 7%	175 9%	114 6%	63 3%
Don't know		235 12%	390 19%	198 10%	307 15%	211 10%	167 8%
Mean		3.34	3.31	3.47	3.31	3.47	3.63
Standard deviation		0.76	0.68	0.67	0.72	0.66	0.56
Standard error		0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 7

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

In light of the rise of unmarried cohabitation in the UK, there is a need for greater legal protection for unmarried couples upon separation

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Pri- vate (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
NET: Agree	1603 79%	769 78%	834 80%	154 68%	258 74%	254 77% C	290 80% Cd	244 82% CD	403 86% CDEF	412 71%	544 79% l	647 84% lJ	426 78%	441 78%	329 79%	407 81%	206 80%	688 75%
Strongly agree	(4) 866 43%	379 38%	486 47% A	68 30%	143 41% C	139 42% C	154 43% C	136 46% C	225 48% Cd	211 37%	293 43% i	361 47% l	215 39%	239 42%	174 42%	238 47% L	111 43%	362 40%
Tend to agree	(3) 737 36%	390 39% B	348 33%	86 38%	115 33%	115 35%	136 38%	108 36%	178 38%	201 35%	251 36%	286 37%	212 39% o	202 36%	155 37%	169 33%	94 37%	326 36%
Tend to disagree	(2) 135 7%	87 9% B	48 5%	11 5%	22 6%	26 8%	21 6%	19 7%	36 8%	33 6%	46 7%	56 7%	46 8% No	44 8% n	18 4%	27 5%	10 4%	75 8% P
Strongly disagree	(1) 60 3%	29 3%	31 3%	10 4%	14 4%	10 3%	9 3%	6 2%	10 2%	24 4% k	19 3%	17 2%	25 5% nO	16 3%	10 2%	9 2%	11 4%	32 3%
NET: Disagree	195 10%	116 12% B	78 8%	22 10%	35 10%	36 11%	30 8%	26 9%	46 10%	57 10%	66 9%	72 9%	71 13% NO	60 11% no	28 7%	35 7%	20 8%	107 12%
Don't know	235 12%	107 11%	128 12%	52 23% dEFGH	56 16% GH	38 12% H	41 11% H	29 10% H	18 4%	108 19% JK	80 12% K	47 6%	47 9%	65 12%	61 15% L	62 12% l	30 12%	119 13%
Mean	3.34	3.26	3.41 A	3.20	3.32	3.32	3.36 c	3.39 C	3.37 C	3.28	3.34	3.38 l	3.24	3.32	3.38 L	3.44 LM	3.36	3.28
Standard deviation	0.76	0.77	0.74	0.80	0.80	0.78	0.73	0.72	0.73	0.81	0.75	0.73	0.82	0.77	0.71	0.70	0.77	0.79
Standard error	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.03

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

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Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

In light of the rise of unmarried cohabitation in the UK, there is a need for greater legal protection for unmarried couples upon separation

	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humber (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Married/ Civil partnership / cohabiting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Partnership (q)	Co Habiting (r)	NET: Widowed/ separated/ divorced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separated (u)	Divorced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
NET: Agree	1603 79%	143 80%	86 85%K	1374 78%	68 79%	196 84%KI	138 81%	140 77%	124 81%	151 78%	201 74%	216 77%	139 78%	441 72%	953 80%N	688 79%N	17 95%	248 82%N	204 91%NOPR	60 89%Nop	24 92%	119 92%NOPR
Strongly agree	(4) 866 43%	83 47%L	44 44%	738 42%	32 37%	95 41%	84 49%ejL	84 46%l	72 47%L	78 40%	116 43%	103 36%	74 41%	236 39%	507 43%	347 40%	8 44%	153 51%NOP	119 53%NOP	34 49%	10 36%	76 59%NOP
Tend to agree	(3) 737 36%	59 33%	42 41%hk	636 36%	36 42%	102 43%aGHIK	54 32%	56 31%	52 34%	73 37%	85 31%	114 40%ghk	66 37%	205 34%	446 37%r	342 39%nR	9 51%	95 32%	85 38%	27 39%	15 56%	43 33%
Tend to disagree	(2) 135 7%	12 7%	3 3%	121 7%b	8 9%bh	14 6%	14 8%bh	6 3%	11 7%	16 8%bh	22 8%bh	16 6%	13 7%	42 7%t	85 7%st	70 8%ST	-	15 5%	9 4%	1 1%	1 5%	7 5%
Strongly disagree	(1) 60 3%	4 2%	3 3%gj	52 3%	1 2%	8 3%gj	1 *	14 8%AefGIJKI	3 2%	1 1%	7 3%	10 4%gj	7 4%GJ	23 4%	32 3%	27 3%	-	5 2%	4 2%	2 2%	-	2 2%
NET: Disagree	195 10%	16 9%	6 6%	173 10%	9 11%	22 9%	15 9%	20 11%	14 9%	18 9%	29 11%	26 9%	21 12%	64 11%rSt	117 10%st	97 11%rSt	-	20 7%	12 6%	2 3%	1 5%	9 7%
Don't know	235 12%	20 11%	9 9%	205 12%	9 10%	16 7%	18 10%	23 12%f	15 10%	26 14%F	41 15%F	40 14%F	19 10%	104 17%OPRSI0%SVIV	122 10%SV	87 10%SV	1 5%	33 11%SV	8 4%	6 8%V	1 3%	2 1%
Mean	3.34	3.40	3.38	3.33	3.28	3.30	3.45fLm	3.31	3.41	3.35	3.35	3.27	3.29	3.30	3.33	3.28	3.46	3.48NOP	3.48NOP	3.48p	3.33	3.51NOP
Standard deviation	0.76	0.73	0.73	0.76	0.72	0.74	0.68	0.90	0.72	0.69	0.78	0.76	0.81	0.80	0.75	0.77	0.51	0.69	0.66	0.65	0.58	0.68
Standard error	0.02	0.06	0.07	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.12	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.11	0.06

Proportions/Means: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v

*** small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing**

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 8

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

The legal rights of unmarried cohabitating couples who separate are currently unclear (for example, with regard to financial provisions, inheritance or housing)

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Pri- vate (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
NET: Agree	1493 73%	718 72%	775 75%	145 64%	246 70%	236 72% ^c	263 73% ^C	236 79% ^{CDef}	367 78% ^{CDef}	391 68%	499 72% ⁱ	603 79% ^{IJ}	413 76%	423 75%	298 71%	360 71%	195 76%	649 71%
Strongly agree	(4) 687 34%	303 31%	384 37% ^A	61 27%	108 31%	113 35% ^c	123 34% ^c	120 40% ^{CD}	162 35% ^C	169 29%	236 34% ⁱ	282 37% ^l	190 35%	196 35%	133 32%	168 33%	100 39% ^q	291 32%
Tend to agree	(3) 807 40%	415 42% ^b	392 38%	84 37%	137 39%	123 38%	140 39%	117 39%	205 44%	222 38%	263 38%	322 42%	223 41%	228 40%	165 39%	191 38%	94 37%	358 39%
Tend to disagree	(2) 119 6%	67 7%	52 5%	21 9% ^{GH}	24 7% ^g	24 7% ^{gh}	21 6%	10 3%	19 4%	44 8% ^K	45 7% ^K	30 4%	38 7% ^m	24 4%	26 6%	31 6%	14 5%	72 8%
Strongly disagree	(1) 30 1%	20 2% ^b	10 1%	4 2%	7 2%	5 2%	7 2%	1 *	6 1%	11 2%	12 2%	7 1%	8 2%	10 2%	9 2% ^o	3 1%	6 2%	13 1%
NET: Disagree	149 7%	87 9% ^B	62 6%	25 11% ^{GH}	30 9% ^{Gh}	29 9% ^{Gh}	29 8% ^g	12 4%	25 5%	55 9% ^K	58 8% ^K	37 5%	46 8%	34 6%	35 8%	35 7%	20 8%	85 9%
Don't know	390 19%	187 19%	204 20%	58 26% ^{eGH}	74 21% ^h	62 19%	70 19%	51 17%	76 16%	132 23% ^K	132 19%	127 17%	86 16%	109 19%	86 21% ^l	109 22% ^L	42 16%	181 20%
Mean	3.31	3.24	3.37 ^A	3.19	3.26	3.30	3.30	3.43 ^{CDEFh}	3.34 ^C	3.23	3.30	3.37 ^{Ij}	3.30	3.33	3.27	3.33	3.34	3.26
Standard deviation	0.68	0.71	0.66	0.73	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.60	0.64	0.72	0.71	0.63	0.69	0.67	0.72	0.66	0.73	0.71
Standard error	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.03

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 8

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

The legal rights of unmarried cohabitating couples who separate are currently unclear (for example, with regard to financial provisions, inheritance or housing)

	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scot-land (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	York-shire & Humb-erside (g)	West Mid-lands (h)	East Mid-lands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Mar-ried/ Civil part-nership / co hab-iting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Part-nership (q)	Co Hab-iting (r)	NET: Wid-owed/ separ-ated/ div-orced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separ-ated (u)	Div-orced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
NET: Agree	1493 73%	140 78%kl	73 71%	1281 73%	66 77%	178 76%k	129 75%	135 74%	116 76%	143 73%	185 68%	197 70%	132 74%	403 66%	908 76%N	643 74%N	15 83%	250 83%NOP	178 80%Np	52 76%	18 69%	108 84%NoP
Strongly agree	(4) 687 34%	65 36%	39 38%l	583 33%	31 37%	74 32%	57 33%	70 38%l	59 39%l	58 30%	89 33%	81 29%	64 36%	175 29%	426 36%N	294 34%n	4 24%	127 42%NoPt	84 38%N	20 30%	10 38%	54 42%Np
Tend to agree	(3) 807 40%	75 42%	34 33%	698 40%	35 41%	104 44%bk	72 42%	65 36%	58 38%	85 43%b	96 36%	116 41%	68 38%	228 37%	482 40%	349 40%	11 59%	123 41%	94 42%	32 46%	8 31%	54 42%
Tend to disagree	(2) 119 6%	6 3%	10 10%dAHM	103 6%	5 6%	13 6%	12 7%	7 4%	7 5%	10 5%	23 8%ah	19 7%	7 4%	43 7%sv	70 6%S	52 6%S	3 17%	14 5%	5 2%	1 2%	1 2%	3 3%
Strongly disagree	(1) 30 1%	1 1%	1 1%	28 2%	2 2%	3 1%	1 1%	9 5%AbfGj kLM	2 1%	3 1%	4 2%	3 1%	* *	12 2%	15 1%	11 1%	- -	4 1%	2 1%	1 1%	- -	2 1%
NET: Disagree	149 7%	7 4%	11 11%AM	131 7%	7 8%	17 7%	13 8%	16 9%a	9 6%	12 6%	27 10%Am	22 8%	7 4%	56 9%sv	84 7%sv	63 7%sv	3 17%	18 6%	8 4%	2 3%	1 2%	5 4%
Don't know	390 19%	32 18%	18 17%	341 19%	12 15%	40 17%	29 17%	31 17%	27 18%	40 20%	58 22%	64 23%	39 22%	151 25%OPRSI V	200 17%R	166 19%Rv	- -	33 11%	38 17%r	14 21%R	8 29%	16 12%
Mean	3.31	3.38l	3.32	3.30	3.31	3.28	3.30	3.29	3.39	3.28	3.27	3.25	3.40l	3.23	3.33N	3.31n	3.06	3.40N	3.40N	3.32	3.50	3.42N
Standard deviation	0.68	0.62	0.73	0.69	0.71	0.66	0.66	0.82	0.66	0.66	0.73	0.67	0.60	0.73	0.67	0.68	0.66	0.65	0.62	0.60	0.58	0.63
Standard error	0.02	0.05	0.07	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.15	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.13	0.06

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v

*** small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing**

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 9

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

The government should take steps to ensure unmarried cohabitating couples are aware they do not have the same legal protection as married couples if they separate, or if one of them should die

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Private (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
NET: Agree	1701 84%	830 84%	871 84%	169 74%	275 79%	265 81% ^c	310 86% ^{CD}	263 88% ^{CDE}	419 90% ^{CDE}	443 77%	576 84% ^l	682 89% ^{lJ}	463 85%	466 82%	350 84%	423 84%	217 85%	744 81%
Strongly agree	(4) 1014 50%	466 47%	548 53% ^A	82 36%	143 41%	159 49% ^{Cd}	176 49% ^{Cd}	164 55% ^{CD}	291 62% ^{CDEFg}	224 39%	335 49% ^l	454 59% ^{lJ}	265 49%	282 50%	201 48%	266 53%	129 50%	407 45%
Tend to agree	(3) 687 34%	364 37% ^B	323 31%	87 38% ^H	132 38% ^H	106 32%	134 37% ^H	99 33%	128 27%	219 38% ^K	241 35% ^k	227 30%	198 36% ^o	184 32%	149 36%	157 31%	88 34%	337 37%
Tend to disagree	(2) 110 5%	58 6%	52 5%	20 9% ^{fGh}	24 7% ^G	21 6% ^G	16 4%	7 2%	22 5%	44 8% ^K	37 5%	29 4%	37 7% ^o	33 6%	19 5%	20 4%	7 3%	65 7% ^P
Strongly disagree	(1) 25 1%	15 2%	10 1%	* *	5 1%	3 1%	6 2%	3 1%	8 2%	5 1%	9 1%	11 1%	8 1%	10 2%	3 1%	3 1%	5 2%	11 1%
NET: Disagree	135 7%	73 7%	62 6%	20 9% ^G	29 8% ^G	24 7% ^G	21 6%	10 3%	30 6% ^g	49 9% ^K	46 7%	40 5%	45 8% ^O	44 8% ^o	23 5%	24 5%	12 5%	76 8% ^p
Don't know	198 10%	89 9%	108 10%	39 17% ^{eFGH}	46 13% ^{fgH}	38 12% ^H	30 8% ^H	26 9% ^H	19 4%	85 15% ^{JK}	68 10% ^K	45 6%	37 7%	57 10% ^l	46 11% ^L	57 11% ^L	27 11%	95 10%
Mean	3.47	3.42	3.51 ^A	3.33	3.36	3.45 ^c	3.45 ^c	3.55 ^{CD}	3.56 ^{CD}	3.35	3.45 ^l	3.56 ^{lJ}	3.42	3.45	3.47	3.53 ^{Lm}	3.49	3.39
Standard deviation	0.67	0.69	0.65	0.67	0.70	0.68	0.67	0.60	0.67	0.69	0.67	0.64	0.69	0.71	0.64	0.62	0.67	0.69
Standard error	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.03

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 9

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

The government should take steps to ensure unmarried cohabitating couples are aware they do not have the same legal protection as married couples if they separate, or if one of them should die

	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humber (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Married/ Civil partnership / co-habiting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Partnership (q)	Co Habiting (r)	NET: Widowed/separated/divorced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separated (u)	Divorced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
NET: Agree	1701	152	91	1458	73	206	146	155	133	163	216	216	150	476	1013	739	15	259	206	61	25	120
	84%	85%L	89%KL	83%	85%l	88%KL	86%L	85%l	87%kL	84%l	80%	76%	84%	78%	85%N	85%N	84%	86%N	92%N	89%N	94%	93%NOPr
Strongly agree	(4) 1014	86	56	872	44	112	88	106	80	93	140	114	95	260	611	448	8	155	138	43	14	81
	50%	48%	55%L	50%	52%l	48%	51%L	58%afjL	53%L	48%	52%L	40%	53%L	43%	51%N	51%N	46%	52%N	62%N	63%Nop	54%	63%NOPr
Tend to agree	(3) 687	66	35	586	29	94	58	49	53	70	76	102	54	216	401	291	7	103	68	18	11	39
	34%	37%hk	34%	33%	34%	40%HKm	34%	27%	35%	36%h	28%	36%hk	30%	35%	34%	33%	37%	34%	30%	26%	40%	30%
Tend to disagree	(2) 110	10	3	97	4	13	7	4	6	10	16	20	16	40	62	44	2	16	7	3	-	4
	5%	6%	3%	6%	4%	5%	4%	2%	4%	5%	6%	7%H	9%bH	7% _s	5%	5%	9%	5%	3%	5%	-	3%
Strongly disagree	(1) 25	1	-	24	3	1	2	1	-	1	4	9	3	6	17	16	-	1	2	*	-	2
	1%	1%	-	1%	3%bl	1%	1%	1%	-	1%	2%	3%abfhl	1%	1%	1%	2% _r	-	*	1%	1%	-	1%
NET: Disagree	135	11	3	121	6	14	9	5	6	12	20	29	18	46	79	61	2	16	9	3	-	5
	7%	6%	3%	7%	7%	6%	5%	3%	4%	6%	8%h	10%BgHI	10%BHI	8% _s	7%	7%	9%	5%	4%	5%	-	4%
Don't know	198	16	8	174	6	14	15	23	14	20	34	38	11	87	101	73	1	26	9	4	2	4
	10%	9%	8%	10%	7%	6%	9%	13%Fm	9%	10%	12%Fm	13%FM	6%	14%OPRST	8%SV	8%SV	8%	9%sv	4%	6%	6%	3%
Mean	3.47	3.45l	3.56L	3.46	3.44	3.44l	3.49L	3.62AeFgJKLM	3.54L	3.46l	3.49L	3.31	3.44	3.40	3.47n	3.46	3.41	3.50n	3.60NOP	3.61N	3.58	3.59Nop
Standard deviation	0.67	0.64	0.56	0.68	0.74	0.64	0.65	0.57	0.58	0.64	0.71	0.77	0.73	0.68	0.67	0.69	0.68	0.62	0.60	0.61	0.50	0.61
Standard error	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.02	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.16	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.10	0.05

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v
 * small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 10

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

If one partner in an unmarried couple has given up their career to look after their children, they should be entitled to financial support from their ex-partner if they separate

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Private (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
NET: Agree	1551 76%	734 74%	817 79%A	148 65%	248 71%	230 70%	291 80%CD	230 77%Ce	404 86%CDEFG	396 69%	521 76%I	634 83%IJ	423 78%	422 75%	329 79%	377 75%	188 73%	667 73%
Strongly agree	(4) 758 37%	325 33%	433 42%A	62 27%	120 34%	109 33%	138 38%C	113 38%C	216 46%CDEFG	182 32%	247 36%	329 43%IJ	192 35%	217 38%	164 39%	186 37%	95 37%	321 35%
Tend to agree	(3) 793 39%	409 41%b	384 37%	86 38%	128 37%	121 37%	152 42%	117 39%	188 40%	214 37%	274 40%	305 40%	231 42%M	206 36%	165 40%	191 38%	93 36%	346 38%
Tend to disagree	(2) 130 6%	75 8%b	56 5%	25 11%FGH	30 9%FGH	30 9%FGH	15 4%	11 4%	21 4%	55 10%JK	44 6%k	31 4%	42 8%N	45 8%N	15 4%	29 6%	18 7%	74 8%
Strongly disagree	(1) 45 2%	25 3%	19 2%	8 4%fh	14 4%fh	7 2%	5 1%	5 2%	6 1%	22 4%JK	12 2%	11 1%	12 2%	14 2%	7 2%	11 2%	7 3%	28 3%
NET: Disagree	175 9%	100 10%B	75 7%	33 14%FGH	44 13%FGH	37 11%FGH	19 5%	15 5%	27 6%	77 13%JK	56 8%k	42 5%	54 10%N	59 10%N	22 5%	40 8%	25 10%	101 11%
Don't know	307 15%	159 16%	148 14%	47 21%fh	57 16%H	60 18%H	51 14%H	53 18%H	38 8%	104 18%K	112 16%K	91 12%	67 12%	86 15%	67 16%	87 17%L	43 17%	146 16%
Mean	3.31	3.24	3.38A	3.12	3.21	3.24	3.37CDe	3.38CDE	3.43CDE	3.18	3.31I	3.41IJ	3.26	3.30	3.38L	3.32	3.30	3.25
Standard deviation	0.72	0.74	0.70	0.81	0.81	0.76	0.65	0.66	0.65	0.81	0.70	0.66	0.72	0.76	0.67	0.72	0.76	0.77
Standard error	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.03

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 10

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

If one partner in an unmarried couple has given up their career to look after their children, they should be entitled to financial support from their ex-partner if they separate

	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humber (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Married/Civil partnership / cohabiting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Partnership (q)	Co Habiting (r)	NET: Widowed/separated/divorced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separated (u)	Divorced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
NET: Agree	1551 76%	135 75%	82 80%	1335 76%	62 73%	179 77%	132 77%	139 76%	118 77%	145 74%	196 73%	223 79%	142 79%	409 67%	950 80%N	707 81%N	13 72%	231 77%N	184 82%N	53 78%n	22 83%	109 84%Nr
Strongly agree	(4) 758 37%	62 35%	40 39%	656 37%	28 33%	81 34%	70 41%	67 37%	54 36%	66 34%	106 39%	105 37%	80 45%aeJ	180 30%	478 40%N	355 41%N	4 22%	120 40%N	95 43%N	25 37%	14 54%	56 43%N
Tend to agree	(3) 793 39%	72 40%	42 41%	679 39%	34 40%	99 42%k	62 36%	72 39%	64 42%	79 41%	90 33%	118 42%k	62 34%	229 38%	472 40%	352 40%	9 50%	111 37%	89 40%	28 42%	8 29%	53 41%
Tend to disagree	(2) 130 6%	15 9%	4 4%	111 6%	6 8%	17 7%	12 7%	9 5%	9 6%	11 6%	15 5%	13 5%	19 10%bhKL	52 9%OPSt	67 6%	42 5%	1 6%	24 8%pt	11 5%	1 1%	2 9%	8 6%
Strongly disagree	(1) 45 2%	3 2%	-	42 2%	2 3%	8 3%b	1 1%	4 2%	4 3%b	4 2%	6 2%	7 2%	6 3%b	22 4%Oprs	20 2%	16 2%	-	4 1%	3 1%	-	-	3 2%
NET: Disagree	175 9%	18 10%b	4 4%	153 9%b	9 10%	25 11%b	13 8%	12 7%	14 9%	15 8%	21 8%	20 7%	24 14%Bghj	74 12%OPST	88 7%t	59 7%t	1 6%	28 9%T	13 6%	1 1%	2 9%	10 8%t
Don't know	307 15%	26 14%m	16 16%M	265 15%	15 17%M	29 13%	26 15%M	32 18%M	21 14%m	35 18%M	54 20%fm	40 14%m	13 7%	126 21%OPRSI3%	154 13%	107 12%	4 22%	43 14%v	27 12%	14 21%opsV	2 8%	10 8%
Mean	3.31	3.27	3.42f	3.31	3.24	3.23	3.38f	3.34	3.28	3.29	3.37f	3.32	3.30	3.17	3.36N	3.37N	3.21	3.34N	3.40N	3.45N	3.50	3.36N
Standard deviation	0.72	0.72	0.58	0.73	0.74	0.76	0.67	0.70	0.74	0.70	0.73	0.71	0.80	0.79	0.69	0.69	0.59	0.71	0.66	0.53	0.68	0.71
Standard error	0.02	0.06	0.06	0.02	0.09	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.15	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.14	0.06

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v

* small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 11

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

Unmarried couples who live together should be encouraged by the government to have legal agreements in place to cover what will happen if they separate or if one partner dies

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Pri- vate (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
NET: Agree	1708 84%	807 81%	901 87%A	168 74%	285 81%C	261 80%	305 84%C	263 88%CDE	427 91%CDEF	453 78%	566 82%	690 90%IJ	470 86%O	481 85%	348 83%	408 81%	214 84%	737 81%
Strongly agree	(4) 999 49%	449 45%	550 53%A	79 35%	144 41%	150 46%C	185 51%CD	161 54%CD	280 60%CDEF	223 39%	335 49%I	441 58%IJ	271 50%	279 49%	193 46%	257 51%	129 50%	400 44%
Tend to agree	(3) 709 35%	358 36%	351 34%	89 39%h	141 40%fH	110 34%	120 33%	103 34%	146 31%	229 40%JK	231 33%	249 33%	199 37%O	203 36%o	156 37%O	151 30%	86 33%	337 37%
Tend to disagree	(2) 86 4%	58 6%B	28 3%	19 8%dFGH	15 4%g	19 6%G	12 3%	5 2%	17 4%	33 6%K	31 4%	22 3%	23 4%	26 5%	12 3%	25 5%	9 4%	50 5%
Strongly disagree	(1) 28 1%	20 2%B	8 1%	2 1%	5 1%	4 1%	4 1%	7 2%	5 1%	7 1%	8 1%	13 2%	5 1%	10 2%	6 2%	6 1%	4 2%	13 1%
NET: Disagree	114 6%	78 8%B	36 3%	20 9%FGh	20 6%	23 7%	16 4%	12 4%	23 5%	40 7%k	39 6%	35 5%	28 5%	36 6%	19 4%	31 6%	13 5%	63 7%
Don't know	211 10%	107 11%	104 10%	39 17%fGH	45 13%gH	43 13%gH	41 11%H	24 8%H	18 4%	85 15%K	84 12%K	42 5%	46 8%	49 9%	51 12%I	65 13%LM	29 11%	115 13%
Mean	3.47	3.40	3.54A	3.30	3.39	3.43c	3.51CD	3.51CD	3.56CDE	3.36	3.48I	3.54J	3.48	3.45	3.46	3.50	3.49	3.41
Standard deviation	0.66	0.71	0.60	0.68	0.66	0.68	0.63	0.66	0.63	0.67	0.66	0.64	0.64	0.68	0.65	0.67	0.66	0.68
Standard error	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.02

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 11

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

Unmarried couples who live together should be encouraged by the government to have legal agreements in place to cover what will happen if they separate or if one partner dies

	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humber (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Married / Civil Partnership / cohabiting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Partnership (q)	Co Habiting (r)	NET: Widowed / separated / divorced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separated (u)	Divorced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
NET: Agree	1708 84%	154 86%	91 89%KL	1464 84%	70 82%	201 86%	143 84%	151 83%	133 87%kl	163 83%	217 80%	226 80%	159 89%KL	473 78%	1022 86%N	759 87%Nr	15 82%	248 82%	207 93%N	62 90%N	24 89%	122 94%N
Strongly agree	(4) 999 49%	85 48%	55 54%l	859 49%	37 43%	113 48%	80 47%	100 55%L	80 52%l	97 50%	130 48%	119 42%	103 58%aEgkL	250 41%	610 51%N	454 52%N	9 49%	147 49%N	136 61%N	40 59%N	14 53%	82 63%N
Tend to agree	(3) 709 35%	68 38%h	36 36%	604 34%	33 39%h	88 38%h	63 37%h	51 28%	53 35%	66 34%	87 32%	107 38%h	56 31%	223 37%	412 35%	305 35%	6 33%	101 33%	71 32%	21 31%	10 36%	40 31%
Tend to disagree	(2) 86 4%	8 5%i	3 3%	75 4%	3 3%	10 4%i	6 3%	3 2%	1 1%	11 6%hl	20 7%HI	12 4%i	9 5%i	39 6%OPSV	42 3%	26 3%	3 18%	13 4%	6 3%	1 2%	2 8%	2 2%
Strongly disagree	(1) 28 1%	2 1%	-	26 1%	2 3%b	2 1%	2 1%	1 1%	2 1%	1 1%	2 1%	11 4%abfghJKm	1 1%	7 1%	18 1%	14 2%	-	3 1%	3 1%	2 2%	-	1 1%
NET: Disagree	114 6%	10 5%	3 3%	101 6%	5 6%	12 5%	7 4%	4 2%	4 2%	12 6%h	22 8%bHI	23 8%bHI	10 6%	46 8%OPsv	59 5%	40 5%	3 18%	16 5%	9 4%	3 5%	2 8%	4 3%
Don't know	211 10%	15 9%	8 8%	188 11%	10 11%	20 9%	20 12%M	27 15%afM	16 10%m	20 10%m	32 12%M	33 12%M	9 5%	91 15%OPSTV9%SV	111 9%SV	73 8%SV	-	38 13%pStV	8 4%	3 5%	1 3%	4 3%
Mean	3.47	3.45	3.55eL	3.47	3.39	3.46	3.47I	3.61AEF gjKL	3.54L	3.48I	3.44	3.34	3.54L	3.38	3.49N	3.50N	3.32	3.49n	3.57N	3.55n	3.47	3.61Nopr
Standard deviation	0.66	0.64	0.55	0.67	0.72	0.64	0.63	0.57	0.61	0.64	0.69	0.77	0.64	0.68	0.65	0.65	0.78	0.65	0.62	0.67	0.65	0.58
Standard error	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.02	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.18	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.13	0.05

Proportions/Means: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v
*** small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing**

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 12

Q2. Under current UK law, 'common law marriage' does not exist (i.e. cohabitating couples do not have the same legal rights as married couples, for example rights to the family home or financial support). With this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: All respondents

When unmarried couples buy a home together, advice should be provided to them as part of the purchasing process to ensure they are aware of their legal rights in the event of separation

	Gender			Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
	Total	Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Pri- vate (q)
Unweighted base	2033	976	1057	229	342	322	351	294	495	571	673	789	604	584	327	518	233	850
Weighted base	2033	992	1041	228	350	327	362	299	468	577	689	767	544	567	418	504	256	915
NET: Agree	1804 89%	869 88%	935 90%	181 80%	298 85%	277 85%	326 90% <i>Cde</i>	273 91% <i>CDE</i>	448 96% <i>CDEFG</i>	479 83%	603 88% <i>I</i>	721 94% <i>IJ</i>	483 89%	516 91% <i>no</i>	364 87%	441 88%	225 88%	785 86%
Strongly agree	(4) 1237 61%	577 58%	660 63% <i>A</i>	100 44%	171 49%	195 59% <i>CD</i>	222 61% <i>CD</i>	212 71% <i>CDEF</i>	338 72% <i>CDEF</i>	271 47%	417 61% <i>I</i>	550 72% <i>IJ</i>	328 60%	349 62%	240 57%	320 64%	154 60%	505 55%
Tend to agree	(3) 566 28%	292 29%	275 26%	82 36% <i>EGH</i>	127 36% <i>EFGH</i>	83 25%	104 29% <i>G</i>	62 21%	110 23%	209 36% <i>JK</i>	186 27% <i>k</i>	171 22%	154 28%	168 30% <i>o</i>	124 30%	121 24%	70 27%	280 31%
Tend to disagree	(2) 56 3%	35 4% <i>b</i>	21 2%	11 5% <i>fgH</i>	14 4% <i>H</i>	13 4% <i>H</i>	8 2%	5 2%	4 1%	25 4% <i>K</i>	21 3% <i>K</i>	10 1%	26 5% <i>Mo</i>	7 1%	10 2%	13 3%	9 3%	37 4%
Strongly disagree	(1) 7 *	5 *	3 *	2 1%	1 *	2 1%	2 *	- -	1 *	3 *	4 1%	1 *	1 *	4 1% <i>o</i>	2 *	- -	- -	4 *
NET: Disagree	63 3%	39 4% <i>B</i>	23 2%	13 6% <i>fGH</i>	15 4% <i>gH</i>	15 5% <i>gH</i>	9 3%	5 2%	5 1%	28 5% <i>K</i>	24 4% <i>K</i>	10 1%	27 5% <i>Mo</i>	11 2%	12 3%	13 3%	9 3%	41 5%
Don't know	167 8%	84 8%	83 8%	34 15% <i>FGH</i>	36 10% <i>H</i>	35 11% <i>H</i>	27 7% <i>H</i>	20 7% <i>H</i>	15 3%	70 12% <i>JK</i>	61 9% <i>K</i>	35 5%	35 6%	39 7%	42 10% <i>l</i>	50 10% <i>L</i>	23 9%	88 10%
Mean	3.63	3.59	3.66 <i>A</i>	3.44	3.49	3.61 <i>CD</i>	3.63 <i>CD</i>	3.74 <i>CDEF</i>	3.73 <i>CDEF</i>	3.47	3.62 <i>I</i>	3.74 <i>IJ</i>	3.59	3.63	3.60	3.68 <i>Ln</i>	3.62	3.56
Standard deviation	0.56	0.59	0.53	0.65	0.60	0.61	0.55	0.48	0.47	0.62	0.58	0.48	0.60	0.55	0.57	0.53	0.56	0.61
Standard error	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.02

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

Cohabiting Couples Survey

ONLINE Fieldwork: 8th - 9th November 2017

Absolutes/col percents

Table 12

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Base: All respondents

When unmarried couples buy a home together, advice should be provided to them as part of the purchasing process to ensure they are aware of their legal rights in the event of separation

	Region													Marital Status								
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humber (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Single (n)	NET: Married/Civil partnership / cohabiting (o)	Married (p)	Civil Partnership (q)	Co Habiting (r)	NET: Widowed/separated/divorced (s)	Widowed (t)	Separated (u)	Divorced (v)
Unweighted base	2033	194	121	1718	91	221	191	162	156	223	256	251	167	607	1169	865	18	286	247	73	27	147
Weighted base	2033	179	102	1752	85*	234	171	183	152	195	270	283	179	610	1192	873	18**	301	224	68*	26**	129
NET: Agree	1804 89%	161 90%	93 91%k	1550 88%	76 88%	214 92%K	149 87%	163 89%	137 90%k	171 88%	227 84%	245 87%	167 93%gkl	513 84%	1071 90%N	786 90%N	16 91%	269 89%n	213 95%Nopr	64 94%n	25 94%	124 96%Nopr
Strongly agree	(4) 1237 61%	111 62%	64 63%	1063 61%	52 60%	142 61%	102 60%	128 70%fgjkl	98 64%l	117 60%	158 59%	155 55%	111 62%	326 53%	748 63%N	554 64%N	9 48%	185 61%N	160 71%Nopr	47 69%N	16 59%	97 75%Nopr
Tend to agree	(3) 566 28%	50 28%h	29 29%h	487 28%	24 28%	72 31%H	47 28%h	36 19%	40 26%	54 28%h	68 25%	90 32%H	56 31%H	188 31%sv	323 27%	232 27%	8 43%	83 28%	53 24%	17 24%	9 35%	27 21%
Tend to disagree	(2) 56 3%	5 3%	2 2%	49 3%	4 4%	7 3%	5 3%	2 1%	2 2%	5 2%	13 5%h	6 2%	6 3%	19 3%sv	35 3%sv	25 3%sv	-	10 3%sv	1 *	1 1%	-	-
Strongly disagree	(1) 7 *	-	-	7 *	-	1 1%	-	1 *	-	-	3 1%	2 1%	-	4 1%	3 *	2 *	2 9%	-	-	-	-	-
NET: Disagree	63 3%	5 3%	2 2%	56 3%	4 4%	8 3%	5 3%	3 2%	2 2%	5 2%	16 6%Hij	8 3%	6 3%	23 4%sv	38 3%sv	27 3%sv	2 9%	10 3%sv	1 *	1 1%	-	-
Don't know	167 8%	14 8%	7 7%	146 8%	6 7%	11 5%	17 10%fm	17 9%fm	13 8%	19 10%fm	28 10%FM	29 10%FM	7 4%	73 12%OPrSV	83 7%	60 7%	-	23 7%	10 5%	4 5%	1 6%	5 4%
Mean	3.63	3.64	3.65	3.62	3.60	3.60	3.63	3.75aeF gjkLm	3.68	3.64	3.57	3.58	3.61	3.56	3.64N	3.65N	3.30	3.63	3.74NOP R	3.72N	3.62	3.78NOPR
Standard deviation	0.56	0.54	0.52	0.57	0.58	0.58	0.54	0.49	0.50	0.54	0.66	0.58	0.55	0.60	0.56	0.55	0.89	0.55	0.45	0.48	0.49	0.42
Standard error	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.21	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.10	0.04

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/ef/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v

* small base; ** very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing