

# Unite Economy Survey

## METHODOLOGY NOTE

ComRes interviewed 2,004 GB adults online between 9th and 11th September 2016. Data were weighted to be demographically representative of all GB adults. Data were also weighted by past vote recall. ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.

To commission a voting intention poll or a public opinion survey please contact Tom Mludzinski:

[tom.mludzinski@comresglobal.com](mailto:tom.mludzinski@comresglobal.com)

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

## Steel Industry & The Economy Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork : 9th - 11th September 2016

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1  
**Q.1 To what extent do you think the government's handling of the British steel industry has been effective or ineffective?**  
**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	2004	1017	987	264	314	338	362	291	435	515	573	381	535	240	794
Weighted base	2004	976	1028	233	347	329	357	289	449	539	539	437	489	277	857
NET: Effective	305 15%	154 16%	151 15%	49 21%	79 23%	55 17%	26 7%	41 14%	55 12%	105 20%	87 16%	61 14%	52 11%	45 16%	163 19%
Very effective	(+2) 72 4%	35 4%	36 4%	10 4%	33 9%	15 5%	6 2%	2 1%	5 1%	36 7%	20 4%	9 2%	7 2%	10 4%	48 6%
Fairly effective	(+1) 233 12%	119 12%	115 11%	39 17%	46 13%	39 12%	20 6%	38 13%	50 11%	70 13%	67 12%	52 12%	45 9%	35 13%	115 13%
Neither effective nor ineffective	(0) 480 24%	262 27%	218 21%	50 22%	79 23%	73 22%	95 27%	68 24%	114 25%	124 23%	125 23%	118 27%	113 23%	60 22%	204 24%
Fairly ineffective	(-1) 505 25%	257 26%	248 24%	46 20%	67 19%	67 20%	88 25%	90 31%	147 33%	145 27%	144 27%	109 25%	107 22%	79 29%	190 22%
Very ineffective	(-2) 370 18%	216 22%	153 15%	29 13%	43 12%	59 18%	93 26%	57 20%	89 20%	78 14%	88 16%	80 18%	124 25%	43 16%	145 17%
NET: Ineffective	875 44%	474 49%	402 39%	75 32%	111 32%	126 38%	181 51%	147 51%	235 52%	223 41%	232 43%	188 43%	232 47%	123 44%	335 39%
Don't know	344 17%	87 9%	257 25%	58 25%	78 23%	75 23%	55 15%	33 11%	45 10%	86 16%	96 18%	70 16%	92 19%	50 18%	155 18%
Mean	-0.52	-0.56	-0.48	-0.26	-0.16	-0.45	-0.80	-0.63	-0.65	-0.35	-0.48	-0.54	-0.75	-0.49	-0.38
Standard deviation	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.16	1.24	1.18	1.02	1.02	1.00	1.16	1.10	1.06	1.08	1.10	1.18
Standard error	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.08	0.05

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**Q.1 To what extent do you think the government's handling of the British steel industry has been effective or ineffective?**

**Base: All respondents**

	Region													General Election Vote			
	Total	Scotland	Wales	NET: England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humberside	West Midlands	East Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP
Unweighted base	2004	182	114	1708	76	229	185	169	147	234	254	247	167	534	590	109	290
Weighted base	2004	174	102	1728	84	230	170	180	148	194	264	280	176	647	545	142	227
NET: Effective	305 15%	20 11%	9 9%	276 16%	10 12%	29 12%	24 14%	33 18%	23 15%	24 13%	53 20%	58 21%	23 13%	159 25%	84 15%	22 16%	21 9%
Very effective (+2)	72 4%	5 3%	1 1%	66 4%	2 3%	5 2%	7 4%	6 3%	4 3%	6 3%	20 8%	8 3%	7 4%	33 5%	28 5%	8 6%	3 1%
Fairly effective (+1)	233 12%	15 9%	8 8%	211 12%	8 10%	23 10%	17 10%	27 15%	19 13%	19 10%	33 12%	50 18%	16 9%	126 19%	57 10%	14 10%	18 8%
Neither effective nor ineffective (0)	480 24%	35 20%	29 28%	416 24%	12 15%	48 21%	45 27%	44 24%	42 29%	49 25%	53 20%	78 28%	44 25%	184 28%	115 21%	45 32%	48 21%
Fairly ineffective (-1)	505 25%	55 31%	24 24%	426 25%	22 26%	48 21%	52 31%	44 25%	39 26%	43 22%	63 24%	67 24%	47 27%	168 26%	134 25%	39 27%	66 29%
Very ineffective (-2)	370 18%	44 25%	25 25%	300 17%	28 34%	65 28%	23 14%	30 17%	18 12%	41 21%	43 16%	22 8%	29 16%	35 5%	144 27%	18 13%	70 31%
NET: Ineffective	875 44%	99 57%	49 48%	727 42%	51 60%	113 49%	75 44%	75 41%	57 38%	84 43%	107 40%	90 32%	76 43%	203 31%	279 51%	57 40%	135 60%
Don't know	344 17%	20 12%	15 15%	308 18%	11 13%	41 18%	26 15%	29 16%	26 18%	36 19%	52 20%	55 20%	33 19%	101 16%	67 12%	18 13%	23 10%
Mean	-0.52	-0.77	-0.74	-0.48	-0.91	-0.76	-0.46	-0.43	-0.40	-0.60	-0.36	-0.21	-0.52	-0.09	-0.65	-0.36	-0.88
Standard deviation	1.11	1.07	1.02	1.12	1.13	1.14	1.05	1.12	1.03	1.10	1.23	1.00	1.09	1.02	1.19	1.07	1.03
Standard error	0.03	0.09	0.10	0.03	0.14	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.09	0.05	0.05	0.11	0.06

## Steel Industry & The Economy Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork : 9th - 11th September 2016

Absolutes/col percents

Table 2

**Q.2 As you may know, last year Tata Steel announced that it was looking to sell its steel factories in the UK. One year on, some of Tata Steel's plants have not yet been sold. Which of the following comes closest to your opinion about what should happen about the steel plants?**

**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	2004	1017	987	264	314	338	362	291	435	515	573	381	535	240	794
Weighted base	2004	976	1028	233	347	329	357	289	449	539	539	437	489	277	857
If buyers cannot be found, the Government should use public money to take a stake in the steel plants so that they can remain open	1116 56%	594 61%	522 51%	93 40%	166 48%	155 47%	208 58%	178 62%	314 70%	289 54%	298 55%	254 58%	275 56%	144 52%	447 52%
If buyers cannot be found, the Government should not spend public money on the steel plants	437 22%	234 24%	203 20%	72 31%	83 24%	74 23%	70 19%	62 21%	77 17%	148 27%	124 23%	84 19%	82 17%	73 26%	213 25%
Don't know	452 23%	149 15%	303 29%	68 29%	98 28%	99 30%	79 22%	49 17%	58 13%	103 19%	117 22%	99 23%	132 27%	60 22%	197 23%

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Weighted base	2004	174	102	1728	84	230	170	180	148	194	264	280	176	647	545	142	227
If buyers cannot be found, the Government should use public money to take a stake in the steel plants so that they can remain open	1116 56%	101 58%	60 58%	955 55%	52 62%	131 57%	101 59%	99 55%	93 63%	104 53%	145 55%	134 48%	97 55%	351 54%	337 62%	81 57%	146 64%
If buyers cannot be found, the Government should not spend public money on the steel plants	437 22%	30 17%	25 25%	381 22%	21 25%	46 20%	35 21%	39 22%	24 16%	41 21%	60 23%	73 26%	42 24%	170 26%	100 18%	35 25%	41 18%
Don't know	452 23%	43 24%	17 17%	391 23%	11 13%	54 23%	34 20%	42 23%	31 21%	50 25%	59 22%	73 26%	38 21%	125 19%	107 20%	26 18%	40 17%

## Steel Industry & The Economy Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork : 9th - 11th September 2016

Absolutes/col percents

Table 3

**Q.3 Some have argued that the government should ensure greater use of steel manufactured in the UK within publicly-funded construction contracts (e.g. railways and roads) to support the steel industry. However, others have argued that the government should instead import steel from other countries, such as China, because it is cheaper. Which of the following statements is closest to your opinion?**

**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	2004	1017	987	264	314	338	362	291	435	515	573	381	535	240	794
Weighted base	2004	976	1028	233	347	329	357	289	449	539	539	437	489	277	857
The government should do all that it can to ensure publicly-funded construction contracts support the UK steel industry	1484 74%	759 78%	724 70%	132 57%	227 65%	230 70%	273 77%	242 84%	379 84%	404 75%	387 72%	337 77%	356 73%	215 78%	594 69%
The government should import steel from other countries to seek the lowest price, regardless of country of origin	218 11%	108 11%	110 11%	43 18%	44 13%	42 13%	36 10%	19 7%	35 8%	71 13%	72 13%	39 9%	36 7%	30 11%	117 14%
Don't know	302 15%	108 11%	194 19%	57 25%	76 22%	58 18%	48 13%	28 10%	35 8%	64 12%	80 15%	61 14%	97 20%	32 12%	146 17%

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Weighted base	2004	174	102	1728	84	230	170	180	148	194	264	280	176	647	545	142	227
The government should do all that it can to ensure publicly-funded construction contracts support the UK steel industry	1484 74%	138 79%	80 78%	1266 73%	67 80%	165 72%	127 75%	142 79%	118 80%	136 70%	187 71%	195 70%	127 72%	487 75%	415 76%	111 78%	187 82%
The government should import steel from other countries to seek the lowest price, regardless of country of origin	218 11%	16 9%	14 14%	188 11%	9 10%	27 12%	16 9%	11 6%	12 8%	23 12%	38 15%	30 11%	22 12%	83 13%	59 11%	14 10%	13 6%
Don't know	302 15%	20 12%	9 8%	274 16%	8 10%	39 17%	27 16%	27 15%	17 12%	35 18%	39 15%	54 19%	28 16%	77 12%	71 13%	18 12%	27 12%