



REFERENDUM FOR AN INDEPENDENT SCOTLAND POLL

published 2 November 2008

In August 2007, the SNP published a white paper on Scotland's future, containing the bill which would authorise a referendum on Scottish independence and setting out the proposed ballot paper. Through the Scottish Opinion Survey, TNS System Three has conducted a series of periodic polls since then to establish how the Scottish electorate would respond to the two options specified if such a referendum were to be held now. This poll is the fifth in the series and was conducted in October 2008.

The results of this poll were published in the Sunday Herald on 2nd November 2008.

TNS System Three is a member of the British Polling Council (BPC) and abides by its rules. We also operate within the Code of Conduct of the Market Research Society (MRS). In accordance with these rules the following information is provided:

Sample size	978
Sampling points	43
Fieldwork dates	22nd – 29th October 2008
Interview method	Face-to-face, in-home
Population sampled	All adults aged 18+ in Scotland
Sampling method	The poll was conducted through our Omnibus, Scottish Opinion Survey. For this survey, a sample of constituencies is selected to be representative of Scotland geographically and by party of current first-vote MSP. Within each constituency, a quota sampling method is used for respondent selection.
Data weighting	Data are weighted to the profile of all adults aged 18+ in Scotland, based on population profile estimates from the National Readership Survey. Weighting is carried out in relation to working status within gender, age, social grade and electoral region. Unweighted and weighted bases are shown at the top of each computer table.
Questions	The electronic tables show the question wording in full.
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SCOTTISH OPINION SURVEY - INDEPENDENCE : OCTOBER 2008 : J574944

Table 1

Q1. The SNP have outlined their plans for a possible referendum on Scottish independence in the future.

If such a referendum were to be held tomorrow, how would you vote?

BASE: All aged 18+

	Total	SEX		AGE							SEG				AREA				
		Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	18-34	35-54	55+	AB	C1	C2	DE	West	East/ South	North
Unweighted base	978	444	534	86	138	157	153	161	283	224	310	444	197	270	188	323	384	326	268
Weighted base	978	466	512	107	127	180	165	167	232	234	345	399	223	275	208	272	399	374	205
I AGREE that the Scottish Government should negotiate a settlement with the Government of the United Kingdom so that Scotland becomes an independent state	340 35%	158 34%	182 36%	44 42%	53 42%	70 39%	62 37%	50 30%	60 26%	98 42%	132 38%	110 28%	62 28%	105 38%	64 31%	109 40%	128 32%	118 32%	94 46%
I DO NOT AGREE that the Scottish Government should negotiate a settlement with the Government of the United Kingdom so that Scotland becomes an independent state	422 43%	220 47%	201 39%	32 30%	35 28%	69 38%	72 43%	99 59%	115 50%	67 29%	141 41%	214 54%	118 53%	116 42%	93 45%	94 35%	177 44%	171 46%	73 36%
Don't know	216 22%	87 19%	129 25%	30 28%	39 31%	40 22%	32 19%	18 11%	57 25%	69 29%	72 21%	75 19%	42 19%	54 20%	51 24%	69 25%	94 23%	85 23%	38 18%

	Page	Table	Title	Base Description	Base
	1	1	Q1. The SNP have outlined their plans for a possible referendum on Scottish independence in the future. If such a referendum were to be held tomorrow, how would you vote?	BASE: All aged 18+	978