

Public Services and Government



The Scottish
Government

Scottish Social Attitudes
Survey 2006
Core Module
Technical Report



SCOTTISH SOCIAL ATTITUDES SURVEY 2006
CORE MODULE
TECHNICAL REPORT

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Note on the use of ‘Scottish Executive’ in this report

On 3 September 2007 the Scottish Executive changed its name to The Scottish Government. This decision was based on clear evidence¹ that the term “Scottish Executive” was confusing or meaningless to many members of the public. The fieldwork on which this report is based was conducted in 2006, before the official name change, and the questions therefore referred to the Scottish Executive. The term Scottish Executive is therefore used throughout the following report.

¹ Including that reported in previous years *Scottish Social Attitudes* surveys

Introduction

The Scottish Social Attitudes series

1. The *Scottish Social Attitudes* (SSA) survey was launched by the Scottish Centre for Social Research² (part of the National Centre for Social Research) in 1999, following the advent of devolution. Based on annual rounds of interviews with 1,500-1,600 people drawn using random probability sampling (based on a stratified, clustered sample)³, its aims are to facilitate the study of public opinion and inform the development of public policy in Scotland. In this it has similar objectives to the British Social Attitudes (BSA) survey, which was launched by the National Centre in 1983. While BSA interviews people in Scotland, these are usually too few in any one year to permit separate analysis of public opinion in Scotland (see Park, et al, 2004 for more details of the BSA survey).

2. SSA is conducted annually and has a modular structure. In any one year it will typically contain four or five modules, each containing 40 questions. Funding for its first two years came from the Economic and Social Research Council, while from 2001 onwards different bodies have funded each year's individual modules. These bodies have included the Economic and Social Research Council, the Scottish Executive and various charitable and grant awarding bodies, such as the Nuffield and Leverhulme Foundations.

The 2006 survey

3. The 2006 survey contained modules of questions on:
- attitudes to government and public services in post-devolution Scotland (funded by the Scottish Executive's Office of Chief Researcher from 2004-2006)
 - discrimination in Scotland (funded by the Scottish Executive and Department for Trade and Industry)
 - attitudes towards young people and youth crime (funded by the Scottish Executive)
 - views about national identity (in collaboration with David McCrone and Frank Bechhofer at the University of Edinburgh, funded by the Leverhulme Foundation)
 - and, attitudes towards homelessness (funded by the Scottish Executive).
4. Findings from the 2006 modules will be available in separate publications produced by ScotCen and their collaborators. This technical report accompanies two reports on the 2006 Core module – *Attitudes towards Public Services in Scotland* (Ormston & Sharp, 2007) and *Perceptions of Government in Scotland* (Ormston & Sharp, 2007). It covers the methodological details of the 2006 survey as well as further discussion of the analysis techniques used in the reports.

² The Scottish Centre for Social Research was formed in February 2004 as the result of a merger between The National Centre's existing organisation within Scotland and Scottish Health Feedback, an independent research consultancy.

³ Like many national surveys of households or individuals, in order to attain the optimum balance between sample efficiency and fieldwork efficiency the sample was clustered. The first stage of sampling involved randomly selecting postcode sectors. The sample frame of postcode sectors was also stratified (by region, population density and the percentage of people in non-manual occupations) to improve the match between the sample profile and that of the Scottish population, while a further layer of stratification based on the Scottish Executive urban-rural classification enabled us to boost the number of addresses in remote and rural areas. For further details of the sample design, see para 6 below.

Technical details of the survey

5. The *Scottish Social Attitudes* survey involves a face-to-face interview with respondents and a self-completion questionnaire, completed by nine in ten of these people (90% in 2006). The numbers completing each stage in 2006 are shown in Table 1. See Bromley, Curtice and Given (2005) for technical details of the 1999-2004 surveys and Given and Ormston (2006) for technical details of the 2005 survey.

Table 1: 2006 Scottish Social Attitudes survey response

	Lower		Upper	
	No.	%		%
Addresses issued	3162		3162	
Vacant, derelict and other out of scope ¹	323	10.2	323	10.2
Unknown eligibility ²	89	3.2	89	3.2
In scope	2839		2750	
Interview achieved	1594	56.1	1594	58.0
Self-completion returned	1437	50.6	1437	52.3
Interview not achieved	1245	43.9	1245	42.0
<i>Refused</i> ³	916	32.3	916	33.3
<i>Non-contacted</i> ⁴	100	3.5	100	3.6
<i>Other non-response</i> ⁵	140	4.9	140	5.1

Notes to table

The table shows a ‘lower’ and an ‘upper’ response rate. The former is calculated on the assumption that all addresses whose eligibility to participate was unknown were in fact eligible to take part. The latter is calculated on the assumption that they were all ineligible (because they were empty/derelict, non-residential, etc). The ‘true’ response is likely to lie somewhere between the two, since some addresses whose eligibility was unknown are likely to have been ‘deadwood’ while others may have been eligible. See Lynn et al (2001)⁴ for a discussion of treatment of unknown eligibility in calculating response rates.

1This includes empty / derelict addresses, holiday homes, businesses and institutions.

2‘Unknown eligibility’ includes cases where the address could not be located, where it could not be determined if an address was a residence and where it could not be determined if an address was occupied or not.

3Refusals include refusals prior to selection of an individual, refusals to the office, refusal by the selected person, ‘proxy’ refusals made by someone on behalf of the respondent and broken appointments after which a respondent could not be re-contacted.

4Non-contacts comprise households where no one was contacted after at least 4 calls and those where the selected person could not be contacted.

5‘Other non-response’ includes people who were ill at home or in hospital during the survey period, people who were physically or mentally unable to participate and people who with insufficient English to participate.

Sample design

6. The survey is designed to yield a representative sample of adults aged 18 or over living in Scotland. The sample frame is the Postcode Address File (PAF), a list of postal delivery points compiled by the Post Office. The detailed procedure for selecting the 2006 sample was as follows:

⁴ Lynn, Peter, et al (2001) *Recommended standard final outcome categories and standard definitions of response rates for social surveys*, Institute for Social and Economic Research.

- I. 88 postcode sectors were selected from a list of all postal sectors in Scotland, with probability proportional to the number of addresses in each sector. Prior to selection the sectors were stratified by region, population density, and percentage of household heads recorded as being in non-manual occupations (SEG 1-6 and 13, taken from the 2001 Census). The list was also stratified using the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) six-fold classification of urban and rural areas (see below for a description of this), and sectors within rural and remote categories were over-sampled.
- II. In order to boost the number of respondents from remote and rural areas 31 addresses were selected in each sector located within the first three SHS urban-rural classifications (the four cities to accessible small towns), while 62 addresses were selected from the sectors within the three most rural categories (remote small towns to remote rural areas). The issued sample size is shown in Table 1.
- III. Interviewers called at each selected address and identified its eligibility for the survey. Where more than one dwelling unit was present at an address, all dwelling units were listed systematically and one was selected at random using a computer generated random selection table. In all eligible dwelling units with more than one adult aged 18 or over, interviewers also had to carry out a random selection of one adult using a similar procedure.

Weighting

7. The weights applied to the SSA 2006 data are intended to correct for three potential sources of bias in the sample:
 - I. Differential selection probabilities
 - II. Deliberate over-sampling of rural areas
 - III. Non-response.
8. Data were weighted to take account of the fact that not all households or individuals have the same probability of selection for the survey. For example, adults living in large households have a lower selection probability than adults who live alone. Weighting was also used to correct the over-sampling of rural addresses. Differences between responding and non-responding households were taken into account using information from the census about the area of the address as well as interviewer observations about participating and non-participating addresses. Finally, the weights were adjusted to ensure that the weighted data matched the age-sex profile of the Scottish population (based on 2005 mid-year estimates from GROS).
9. Prior to the 2005 dataset, SSA data was only weighted to take account of differential selection probabilities and over-sampling in rural areas. The decision to introduce non-response weighting and 'calibration' weighting to match the sex-age profile of the population was taken following experimentation with the 2004 British Social Attitudes (BSA) dataset. Both BSA and SSA weights now incorporate these new elements, which are designed to reduce non-response bias.

10. When reporting time-series analysis, there is of course a small possibility that changes to the weighting scheme could disrupt the results and suggest changes that would not have been found had the old weighting scheme been used. The SSA 2006 dataset therefore included a variable based on the old weighting scheme, and for any time-series reporting the 2006 figures were re-run using the old weighting structure to ensure that this did not present a radically different picture. However, unless otherwise specified, in this report all percentages are weighted using the new weighting scheme described above. The unweighted sample sizes are shown in the tables.

Fieldwork

11. Fieldwork ran between August 2006 and January 2007 (with 77% completed by the end of October). An advance letter was sent to all addresses and was followed up by a personal visit from a *Scottish Centre for Social Research* interviewer. Interviewers were required to make a minimum of 4 calls at different times of the day (including at least one evening and one weekend call) in order to try and contact respondents, although in practice interviewers often made many more calls than this. All interviewers attended a one day briefing conference prior to starting work on the study.

12. Interviews were conducted using face-to-face computer-assisted interviewing (a process which involves the use of a laptop computer, with questions appearing on screen and interviewers directly entering respondents' answers into the computer). All respondents were asked to fill in a self-completion questionnaire which was either collected by the interviewer or returned by post. Table 1 summarises the response rate and the numbers completing the self-completion in 2006.

Analysis variables

13. A number of standard analyses have been used in the two core module reports. Most of the analysis variables are taken directly from the questionnaire and to that extent are self-explanatory. These include age, sex, household income, and highest educational qualification obtained. The main analysis groups requiring further definition are set out below.

The Scottish Executive six-fold urban-rural classification (2005/6)

14. The six categories used in this classification are: 1) large urban, 2) other urban, 3) small accessible towns, 4) small remote towns, 5) accessible rural, 6) remote rural. For more details see Hope, S. *et al* (2000).

National Statistics Socio-Economic Classification (NS-SEC)

15. The most commonly used classification of socio-economic status used on government surveys is the National Statistics Socio-Economic Classification (NS-SEC). SSA respondents were classified according to their own occupation, rather than that of the 'head of household'. Each respondent was asked about their current or last job, so that all respondents, with the exception of those who had never worked, were classified. The seven NS-SEC categories are:

- Employers in large organisations, higher managerial and professional
- Lower professional and managerial; higher technical and supervisory
- Intermediate occupations
- Small employers and own account workers
- Lower supervisory and technical occupations
- Semi-routine occupations
- Routine occupations

The remaining respondents were grouped as ‘never had a job’ or ‘not classifiable’.

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

16. The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)⁵ 2006 measures the level of deprivation across Scotland – from the least deprived to the most deprived areas. It is based on 37 indicators in seven domains of: Current Income, Employment, Health, Education Skills and Training, Geographic Access to Services (including public transport travel times for the first time), Housing and, new for 2006, Crime. SIMD 2006 is presented at data zone level, enabling small pockets of deprivation to be identified. The data zones are ranked from most deprived (1) to least deprived (6,505) on the overall SIMD 2006 and on each of the individual domains. The result is a comprehensive picture of relative area deprivation across Scotland.

17. The SSA analysis used three variables created from SIMD data indicating the level of deprivation of the data zone in which the respondent lived.⁶ The first variable (nsimd06s) indicates which SIMD quintile the respondent lives in (with 1 being the least deprived and 5 being the most deprived)⁷; the second (SNIMD15) indicates whether or not the respondent lives in the most deprived 15% of data zones as measured on the SIMD; the third indicates which tertile the respondent lives in (with 1 being the least deprived and 3 being the most deprived). All three variables are based the SIMD scores for all datazones - not simply those included in the SSA sample.

Party identification

18. Respondents were classified as identifying with a particular political party on one of three counts: if they considered themselves to be a supporter of that party, if they said they were closer to it than to any other party or if they said they would be likely to support that party in the event of a general election.

⁵ See <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/Overview> for further details on the SIMD

⁶ These variables were created by the ScotCen/NatCen Survey Methods Unit. They are based on SIMD scores for all datazones, not just those included in the sample – so an individual who lives in the most deprived quintile of Scotland will also be included in the most deprived quintile in the SSA dataset.

⁷ NB although the quintiles otherwise match those identified on the Scottish Government website (footnote 5), the SSA variables run from 1 to 5 from least to most, rather than most to least, deprived.

Analysis techniques

Regression

19. For the more complex analysis in the reports, logistic regression models have been used to assess whether there is reliable evidence that particular variables are associated with each other.

20. Regression analysis aims to summarise the relationship between a ‘dependent’ variable and one or more ‘independent’ explanatory variables. It shows how well we can estimate a respondent’s score on the dependent variable from knowledge of their scores on the independent variables. This technique takes into account relationships between the different independent variables (for example, between education and income, or social class and housing tenure). Regression is often undertaken to support a claim that the phenomena measured by the independent variables cause the phenomenon measured by the dependent variable. However, the causal ordering, if any, between the variables cannot be verified or falsified by the technique. Causality can only be inferred through special experimental designs or through assumptions made by the analyst. All regression analyses assume that the relationship between the dependent and each of the independent variables takes a particular form.

21. The reports on the 2006 *Scottish Social Attitudes* Core Module use logistic regression – a method that summarises the relationship between a binary ‘dependent’ variable (one that takes the values ‘0’ or ‘1’) and one or more ‘independent’ explanatory variables. The tables in this report show how the odds ratios for each category in significant explanatory variables compares to the odds ratio for the reference category (always taken to be 1.00).

22. Taking Model 1 (below) as an example, the dependent variable is based on whether or not people think having a Scottish Parliament is increasing standards in the health service. If the respondent thinks that the Scottish Parliament is increasing standards in the health service, the dependent variable takes a value of 1. If not, it takes a value of 0. An odds ratio of above 1 means that, compared with respondents in the reference category, respondents in that category have higher odds of thinking the Scottish Parliament is increasing standards. Conversely, an odds ratio of below 1 means they have lower odds of thinking this than respondents in the reference category. If we look at age groups, we can see that the older age groups all have odds ratios of less than 1, indicating that they have lower odds of thinking that the Scottish Parliament is increasing standards in the health service, compared to those in the reference category (i.e. 18 to 24 year olds).

23. The significance of differences between the reference category and other categories are indicated by ‘P’. A p-value of 0.05 or less indicates that there is less than a 5% chance we would have found such a difference just by chance if in fact no such difference exists, while a p-value of 0.01 or less indicates that there is a less than 1% chance. P-values of 0.05 or less are generally considered to indicate that the difference is highly statistically significant, while a p-value of 0.06 to 0.10 may be considered marginally significant. As shorthand to aid interpretation, we have used symbols to summarise statistically significant differences:

- ‘+’ denotes results that are significantly different from 0 at the 10% level ($p = 0.06-0.10$)
- ‘*’ denotes results that are significant from 0 at the 5% level ($p = 0.015 - 0.05$) and

- ‘**’ denotes results that are significantly different from 0 at the 1% level (p = 0.01 or below)
- ‘NS’ denotes results that are not significantly different from the reference category.

24. It should be noted that the final regression models reported below were produced following a process involving several stages of analysis:

1. First, forward stepwise regression analysis was conducted in SPSS 12.0. The variables entered into these initial models are noted below each final model, below.
2. Second, those variables found to be significantly associated with the dependent variable by these SPSS forward stepwise models were entered into final regression models run through STATA. Unlike SPSS 12.0, STATA can account for complex sample designs (in particular, the effects of clustering and associated weighting) when calculating odds ratios and determining significance. The models shown below include only those variables found to be significant after the regression models were run in STATA.
3. In some cases, we ran several models for one dependent variable – for example, running a model including demographic factors only in the first instance, then running a second model including significant demographic factors from the first stage plus political attitudes and newspaper readership. A third model including significant factors from the second stage, plus other attitudes to devolution in principle and practice was also created. Running the analysis in these stages allowed us to explore how much each additional set of factors added to our ability to explain the dependent variable. Further, it allowed us to identify interesting demographic variations that might have been masked had we included political attitudes and attitudes to devolution in this analysis from the outset.
4. Where we created several models for one dependent variable, we have only reported the final model below. These include significant factors after all the various demographic and attitudinal variables listed have been taken into account. However, we have noted below these where additional factors were significant in earlier models. For example, in Model 1, occupational sector was *not* significant after non-demographic factors like constitutional preference and attitudes to devolution were taken into account, but was significant in the initial model which included demographic factors only. Copies of these additional models are available from ScotCen on request.

Regression models for Core Report 1: Attitudes towards public services in Scotland

Model 1 The Scottish Parliament is increasing the standard of the health service

Dependent variable coding 1 = Scottish Parliament increasing standard of health service 0 = decreasing or making no difference to standard of health service	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Age				
(18-24)	1.00			
25-39	0.52	0.30-0.90	0.02	*
40-64	0.59	0.33-1.10	0.07	+
65+	0.80	0.39-1.62	0.52	NS
Constitutional preference				
(Westminster rule)	1.00			
Devolution	4.44	2.25-8.77	0.00	**
Independence	3.79	1.89-7.62	0.00	**
Level of awareness of SE activities				
(Not much/nothing at all)	1.00			
A great deal	2.16	1.43-3.27	0.00	**
Who has most influence				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	1.65	1.07-2.55	0.02	*
Local councils	1.38	0.84-2.26	0.19	NS
EU	1.08	0.58-2.01	0.80	NS
How much trust SE to make fair decisions				
(Not very much/not at all)	1.00			
A great deal/quite a lot	9.69	4.75-19.78	0.00	**
Who is responsible for standards in health service				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	2.45	1.70-3.52	0.00	**
Self-reported disability or long term illness				
(Does not have disability or illness)				
Does have disability or illness	1.52	1.04-2.22	0.03	*

Cases included in model = 1,567

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors from the initial SPSS model.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS: sex, age, self-rated hardship, highest educational qualification, party-political identification, occupational sector, constitutional preference, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), newspaper readership, level of awareness of Scottish Executive activities, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, interest in politics, whether trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions, views on who is responsible for standards in the health service.

Note: although occupational sector was significant in the initial SPSS model, which included demographic factors only, it was not significant once general attitudinal factors were taken into account.

Model 2 The Scottish Parliament is increasing the standard of education

Dependent variable coding 1 = Scottish Parliament increasing standard of education 0 = decreasing or making no difference to standard of education	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Age				
(18-24)	1.00			
25-39	0.33	0.19-0.58	0.00	**
40-64	0.27	0.17-0.42	0.00	**
65+	0.29	0.18-0.48	0.00	**
Constitutional preference				
(Westminster rule)	1.00			
Devolution	2.90	1.80-4.66	0.00	**
Independence	3.32	1.98-5.54	0.00	**
Level of awareness of SE activities				
(Not much/nothing at all)	1.00			
A great deal	1.80	1.20-2.69	0.00	**
Who has most influence				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	1.43	0.92-2.23	0.11	NS
Local councils	1.61	0.99-2.60	0.05	*
EU	0.84	0.54-1.33	0.46	NS
How much trust SE to make fair decisions				
(Not very much/not at all)	1.00			
A great deal/quite a lot	4.64	3.21-6.70	0.00	**
Who is responsible for standards in education				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	2.28	1.42-3.65	0.00	**

Cases included in model = 1,567

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors from the initial SPSS model.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS: sex, age, self-rated hardship, highest educational qualification, party-political identification, occupational sector, constitutional preference, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), newspaper readership, level of awareness of Scottish Executive activities, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, interest in politics, whether trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions, views on who is responsible for standards in the education, and whether there are school aged children living in the household.

Note: although educational qualifications and whether there are school aged children in the household were significant in the initial SPSS model, which included demographic factors only, they were not significant once general attitudinal factors were taken into account.

Model 3 The Scottish Parliament is increasing the standard of public transport

Dependent variable coding 1 = Scottish Parliament increasing standard of public transport 0 = decreasing or making no difference to standard of public transport	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Age				
(18-24)	1.00			
25-39	0.33	0.18-0.60	0.00	**
40-64	0.39	0.21-0.72	0.00	**
65+	0.75	0.41-1.39	0.36	NS
Constitutional preference				
(Westminster rule)	1.00			
Devolution	2.60	1.24-5.41	0.01	*
Independence	2.84	1.20-6.70	0.02	*
Urban/rural area				
(Large urban)	1.00			
Other urban	1.43	0.89-2.30	0.13	NS
Accessible small towns	0.78	0.51-1.21	0.26	NS
Remote small towns	1.70	0.99-2.93	0.05	*
Accessible rural	1.99	1.35-2.95	0.00	**
Remote rural	0.96	0.54-1.70	0.88	NS
Level of awareness of SE activities				
(Not much/nothing at all)	1.00			
A great deal	1.61	1.06-2.45	0.03	*
How much trust SE to make fair decisions				
(Not very much/not at all)	1.00			
A great deal/quite a lot	2.79	1.85-4.20	0.00	**
Who is responsible for standards in transport				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	2.70	1.56-4.69	0.00	**
How often use public transport				
(Never)	1.00			
Once a week or more	1.75	1.04-2.91	0.03	*

Cases included in model = 1,574

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors from the initial SPSS model.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS: sex, age, self-rated hardship, party-political identification, occupational sector, constitutional preference, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), newspaper readership, level of awareness of Scottish Executive activities, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, interest in politics, whether trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions, views on who is responsible for standards in transport, and how often use public transport.

Model 4 Health service standards in the last 12 months have increased

Dependent variable coding 1 = Health service standards have increased in last 12 months 0 = Health service standards have decreased or not changed in the last 12 months	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Scottish party identification				
(SNP)	1.00			
Lib Dem	1.38	0.75-2.55	0.30	NS
Labour	1.62	0.99-2.63	0.05	*
Conservative	1.10	0.59-1.99	0.80	NS
None	1.60	0.98-2.60	0.06	+
How much trust SE to make fair decisions				
(Not very much/not at all)	1.00			
A great deal/quite a lot	3.95	2.61-5.97	0.00	**
Who is responsible for standards in health				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	2.86	1.85-4.42	0.00	**

Cases included in model = 1,594

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors from the initial SPSS model.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS: sex, age, self-rated hardship, highest educational qualification, party-political identification, occupational sector, constitutional preference, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), newspaper readership, level of awareness of Scottish Executive activities, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, interest in politics, whether trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions, views on who is responsible for standards in the health service, and whether the respondent has an illness/disability.

Model 5 Education standards in the last 12 months have increased

Dependent variable coding 1 = Education standards have increased in last 12 months 0 = Education standards have decreased or not changed in the last 12 months	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Age				
(18-24)	1.00			
25-39	0.52	0.28-0.98	0.04	*
40-64	0.43	0.22-0.82	0.01	*
65+	0.62	0.35-1.10	0.10	+
Urban/rural area				
(Large urban)	1.00			
Other urban	1.36	0.96-1.92	0.08	+
Accessible small towns	0.92	0.58-1.44	0.71	NS
Remote small towns	0.81	0.44-1.51	0.51	NS
Accessible rural	1.26	0.87-1.84	0.22	NS
Remote rural	0.57	0.38-0.86	0.00	**
Who has most influence				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	0.99	0.67-1.47	0.99	NS
Local councils	1.83	1.22-2.78	0.00	**
EU	1.01	0.61-1.67	0.96	NS
How much trust SE to make fair decisions				
(Not very much/not at all)	1.00			
A great deal/quite a lot	2.74	1.82-4.12	0.00	**
Who is responsible for standards in education				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	1.81	1.39-2.36	0.00	**
Whether school aged children live in household				
(No children aged 4-15)	1.00			
Children aged 4-15	1.63	1.23-2.17	0.00	**

Cases included in model = 1,591

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors from the initial SPSS model.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS: sex, age, self-rated hardship, highest educational qualification, party-political identification, occupational sector, constitutional preference, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), newspaper readership, level of awareness of Scottish Executive activities, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, interest in politics, whether trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions, views on who is responsible for standards in education, and there are school aged children living in the household.

Model 6 Public transport standards in the last 12 months have increased

Dependent variable coding 1 = Public transport standards have increased in last 12 months 0 = Public transport standards have decreased or not changed in the last 12 months	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Age				
(18-24)	1.00			
25-39	0.45	0.25-0.81	0.00	**
40-64	0.75	0.38-1.48	0.40	NS
65+	1.29	0.60-2.79	0.50	NS
Urban/rural area				
(Large urban)	1.00			
Other urban	0.82	0.54-1.23	0.34	NS
Accessible small towns	0.94	0.57-1.55	0.79	NS
Remote small towns	0.67	0.34-1.31	0.24	NS
Accessible rural	1.67	1.04-2.66	0.03	*
Remote rural	0.67	0.46-0.98	0.04	*
Who has most influence				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	1.07	0.76-1.49	0.69	NS
Local councils	1.44	0.92-2.24	0.11	NS
EU	1.63	1.03-2.58	0.04	*
How much trust SE to make fair decisions				
(Not very much/not at all)	1.00			
A great deal/quite a lot	2.27	1.55-3.33	0.00	**
Who is responsible for standards in transport				
(UK govt)	1.00			
SE	2.23	1.40-3.55	0.00	**
How often use public transport				
(Never)	1.00			
Once a week or more	2.34	1.51-3.62	0.00	**

Cases included in model = 1,591

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors from the initial SPSS model.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS: sex, age, self-rated hardship, NS-SEC socio-economic classification, party-political identification, occupational sector, constitutional preference, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), newspaper readership, level of awareness of Scottish Executive activities, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, interest in politics, whether trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions, views on who is responsible for standards in transport, and how often use public transport.

Model 7 The standard of the economy has increased in the last 12 months

Dependent variable coding 1 = Standard of the economy has increased in last 12 months 0 = Standard of the economy has decreased or not changed in the last 12 months	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P
Self rated hardship			
(Difficult to cope on present income)	1.00		
Living comfortably	2.04	1.24-3.36	0.00 **
Constitutional preference			
(Westminster rule)	1.00		
Devolution	2.03	1.21-3.39	0.00 **
Independence	2.30	1.30-4.07	0.00 **
How much trust SE to make fair decisions			
(Not very much/not at all)	1.00		
A great deal/quite a lot	3.82	2.73-5.33	0.00 **
Who is responsible for the economy			
(UK govt)	1.00		
SE	2.41	1.69-3.44	0.00 **

Cases included in model = 1,583

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors from the initial SPSS model.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS: sex, age, self-rated hardship, NS-SEC socio-economic classification, party-political identification, occupational sector, constitutional preference, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), newspaper readership, level of awareness of Scottish Executive activities, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, interest in politics, whether trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions, views on who is responsible for the economy.

Note: although sex and age were significant in the initial SPSS model, which included demographic factors only, they were not significant once general attitudinal factors were taken into account.

Model 8 The general standard of living has increased in the last 12 months

Dependent variable coding 1 = General standard of living has increased in last 12 months 0 = General standard of living has decreased or not changed in the last 12 months	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P
Self rated hardship			
(Difficult to cope on present income)	1.00		
Living comfortably	2.71	1.72-4.27	0.00 **
Level of awareness of SE activities			
(Not much/nothing at all)	1.00		
A great deal/a lot	1.51	1.11-2.06	0.01 **
How much trust SE to make fair decisions			
(Not very much/not at all)	1.00		
A great deal/quite a lot	2.42	1.69-3.47	0.00 **
Who is responsible for standard of living			
(UK govt)	1.00		
SE	2.30	1.62-3.26	0.00 **

Cases included in model = 1,566

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors from the initial SPSS model.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS: sex, age, self-rated hardship, NS-SEC socio-economic classification, party-political identification, occupational sector, constitutional preference, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), newspaper readership, level of awareness of Scottish Executive activities, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, interest in politics, whether trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions, views on who is responsible for the general standard of living.

Regression models for Core Report 2: Perceptions of Government in Scotland

Model 1 Trust in the Scottish Executive to act in Scotland’s best interests

Dependent variable encoding 1 = Trust always/most of the time 0 = NOT trust always/most of the time	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Highest educational qualification				
(None)	1.00			
Standard/GCSE	1.38	1.04-1.82	0.02	*
Highers/A levels	2.36	1.65-3.39	0.00	**
Degree/HE	2.54	1.77-3.63	0.00	**
Political party identification				
(SNP)	1.00			
Lib Dem	1.24	0.74-2.09	0.40	NS
Labour	1.72	1.21-2.43	0.00	**
Conservative	0.93	0.61-1.43	0.75	NS
None	0.91	0.60-1.37	0.64	NS
Interest in politics				
(Not very much/none at all)	1.00			
Some	1.67	1.29-2.15	0.00	**
A great deal/quite a lot	1.26	0.89-1.78	0.19	NS
Newspaper readership				
(Tabloid)	1.00			
Broadsheet	1.53	1.12-2.10	0.00	**
None	1.51	1.12-2.02	0.00	**
Urban/rural area				
(Large urban)	1.00			
Other urban	0.80	0.58-1.10	0.16	NS
Accessible small towns	0.77	0.54-1.10	0.15	NS
Remote small towns	0.74	0.47-1.14	0.17	NS
Accessible rural	0.59	0.38-0.92	0.02	*
Remote rural	1.20	0.85-1.69	0.29	NS
Social Trust				
(Most people can be trusted)	1.00			
You can’t be too careful dealing with people	0.72	0.55-0.93	0.01	**

Cases included in model = 1,578

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors after various stages of modelling including demographic and general attitudinal factors (see para 24 above).

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise models in SPSS:

Demographic factors: sex, age, education, self-rated hardship, occupational sector, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles).

General attitudinal factors: newspaper readership, party-political identification, general social trust, interest in politics, national identity.

Model 2 Trust in the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions

Dependent variable encoding 1 = Trust a great deal/quite a lot 0 = NOT trust a great deal/quite a lot	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Political party identification				
(SNP)	1.00			
Lib Dem	1.22	0.76-1.95	0.41	NS
Labour	1.73	1.21-2.48	0.00	**
Conservative	0.76	0.47-1.24	0.26	NS
None	0.87	0.54-1.42	0.58	NS
Highest educational qualification				
(None)	1.00			
Standard/GCSE	1.20	0.84-1.71	0.30	NS
Highers/A levels	1.98	1.39-2.82	0.00	**
Degree/HE	2.15	1.47-3.15	0.00	**
Interest in politics				
(Not very much/none at all)	1.00			
Some	1.42	0.93-2.14	0.09	+
A great deal/quite a lot	1.59	1.10-2.29	0.01	**
Social Trust				
(Most people can be trusted)	1.00			
You can't be too careful dealing with people	0.73	0.55-0.96	0.02	*

Cases included in model = 1,585

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors after various stages of modelling including demographic and general attitudinal factors (see para 24 above).

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise models in SPSS:

Demographic factors: sex, age, education, self-rated hardship, occupational sector, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles).

General attitudinal factors: newspaper readership, party-political identification, general social trust, interest in politics, national identity.

Model 3 Trust the Scottish Executive more than the UK government to act in Scotland's best interests

Dependent variable encoding 1 = Trust SE more than UK 0 = Do not trust SE more than UK	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Constitutional preference				
(Westminster rule)	1.00			
Devolution	2.71	1.69-4.34	0.00	**
Independence	3.75	2.28-6.17	0.00	**
Political party identification				
(SNP)	1.00			
Lib Dem	0.77	0.41-1.45	0.41	NS
Labour	0.43	0.27-0.71	0.00	**
Conservative	0.68	0.37-1.27	0.23	NS
None	0.54	0.29-1.01	0.05	*
Highest educational qualification				
(None)	1.00			
Standard/GCSE	1.10	0.79-1.55	0.56	NS
Highers/A levels	1.62	1.14-2.30	0.01	**
Degree/HE	1.68	1.21-2.31	0.00	**
Having a Scottish Parliament				
(More say in how Scotland is governed)	1.00			
Less say or makes no difference	0.65	0.50-0.86	0.00	**
Knowledge quiz score				
(0 correct)	1.00			
1 or 2 correct	1.40	1.00-1.94	0.05	*
3 or 4 correct	1.63	1.02-2.62	0.04	*
Urban/rural area				
(Large urban)	1.00			
Other urban	1.25	0.93-1.67	0.13	NS
Accessible small towns	1.25	0.68-2.28	0.47	NS
Remote small towns	1.02	0.68-1.52	0.93	NS
Accessible rural	0.80	0.48-1.31	0.36	NS
Remote rural	1.79	1.07-2.93	0.03	*
How good Scottish Executive is at listening to people's views				
(Very/quite good)	1.00			
Not very/not at all good	0.68	0.51-0.91	0.01	**
Awareness of Scottish Executive activities				
(Not much/nothing at all)	1.00			
Some	1.52	1.09-2.13	0.01	**
Great deal/quite a lot	1.38	0.96-1.98	0.08	+

Cases included in model = 1,514

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors after various stages of modelling including demographic factors, general attitudinal factors and attitudes to devolution (see para 24 above).

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise models in SPSS:

Demographic factors: sex, age, education, self-rated hardship, occupational sector, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles).

General attitudinal factors: newspaper readership, party-political identification, general social trust, interest in politics, national identity.

Attitudes to devolution: constitutional preference, beliefs about whether devolution gives people more say in how Scotland is governed, perception of who has most influence in running Scotland, awareness of Scottish Executive activities, beliefs about how good the Scottish Executive is at listening to people's views before taking decisions, score on devolution 'knowledge quiz'.

Note: although newspaper readership, interest in politics and national identity were all significant in an earlier model, which included demographic factors, newspaper readership, and general political attitudes only, they were not significant once more specific attitudes to devolution were taken into account. They are therefore not included in this final model (which includes only those factors found to be significant after all 3 stages of modelling). These earlier models are available from ScotCen on request.

Model 4 Trust the Scottish Executive more than the UK government to make fair decisions

Dependent variable encoding 1 = Trust SE more than UK 0 = Do not trust SE more than UK	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Political party identification				
(SNP)	1.00			
Lib Dem	0.68	0.40-1.14	0.14	NS
Labour	0.46	0.30-0.69	0.00	**
Conservative	0.48	0.26-0.88	0.02	*
None	0.72	0.42-1.24	0.23	NS
Awareness of Scottish Executive activities				
(Not much//nothing at all)	1.00			
Some	1.34	0.88-2.03	0.17	NS
Great deal/quite a lot	1.95	1.35-2.83	0.00	**
How good Scottish Executive is at listening to people's views				
(Very/quite good)	1.00			
Not very/not at all good	0.58	0.41-0.82	0.00	**
Constitutional preference				
(Westminster rule)	1.00			
Devolution	1.25	0.70-2.25	0.45	NS
Independence	1.88	1.03-3.43	0.04	*
Having a Scottish Parliament				
(More say in how Scotland is governed)	1.00			
Less say or makes no difference	0.62	0.45-0.86	0.01	**
Age				
(18-24)	1.00			
25-39	0.72	0.40-1.30	0.27	NS
40-64	0.59	0.31-1.13	0.11	NS
65+	0.59	0.30-1.12	0.10	+

Cases included in model = 1,574

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors after various stages of modelling including demographic factors, general attitudinal factors and attitudes to devolution (see para 24 above).

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise models in SPSS:

Demographic factors: sex, age, education, self-rated hardship, occupational sector, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold), area deprivation (SIMD quintiles).

General attitudinal factors: newspaper readership, party-political identification, general social trust, interest in politics, national identity.

Attitudes to devolution: constitutional preference, beliefs about whether devolution gives people more say in how Scotland is governed, perception of who has most influence in running Scotland, awareness of Scottish Executive activities, beliefs about how good the Scottish Executive is at listening to people's views before taking decisions, score on devolution 'knowledge quiz'.

Note: although sex was significant in the initial model, which included demographic factors only, it was not significant once general attitudinal factors were taken into account. It is therefore not included in this final model (which includes only those factors found to be significant after all 3 stages of modelling). This earlier model is available from ScotCen on request.

Model 5 Have heard ‘a great deal/a lot’ about Scottish Executive activities

Dependent variable coding 1 = Heard ‘a great deal/a lot’ 0 = NOT heard a ‘great deal/a lot’	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Age				
(18-24)	1.00			
25-39	1.22	0.68-2.19	0.50	NS
40-64	2.11	1.16-3.84	0.02	*
65 and over	2.97	1.63-5.42	0.00	**
Education				
(None)	1.00			
Standard/GCSE	1.23	0.84-1.81	0.29	NS
Highers/A levels	1.39	0.83-2.32	0.21	NS
Degree/HE	2.14	1.44-3.17	0.00	**
SIMD				
(5. 20% most deprived)	1.00			
4	0.81	0.57-1.16	0.25	NS
3	1.50	1.03-2.20	0.04	*
2	1.25	0.86-1.83	0.24	NS
1. 20% least deprived	1.14	0.74-1.76	0.54	NS
Interest in politics				
(Not very much/none at all)	1.00			
Some	1.41	1.02-1.94	0.04	*
A great deal/quite a lot	3.61	2.66-4.91	0.00	**
Who has most influence				
(UK government)	1.00			
Scottish Executive	1.40	1.01-1.93	0.04	*
Local Councils	0.76	0.53-1.08	0.12	NS
EU	0.99	0.66-1.51	0.98	NS
Having a Scottish Parliament				
(More say in how Scotland is governed)	1.00			
Less say or makes no difference	0.62	0.46-0.84	0.00	**
Trust in the SE to act in Scotland’s best				
(Almost never)	1.00			
Some of the time	1.26	0.67-2.37	0.46	NS
Always/most of the time	1.86	0.96-3.59	0.06	+

Cases included in model = 1,582

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise models in SPSS:

Demographic factors: sex, age, highest educational qualification, area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), self-rated hardship, occupational sector, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold).

General attitudinal factors: interest in politics, newspaper readership, party-political identification.

Attitudes to devolution: constitutional preference, whether devolution gives people more say in how Scotland is governed, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, trust in the SE to act in Scotland’s best interests.

Note: although sex and occupational sector were significant in the initial SPSS model, which included demographic factors only, it was not significant once general attitudinal factors were taken into account. It is therefore not included in this final model (which includes only those factors found to be significant after all 3 stages of modelling).

Model 6 Belief that the Scottish Executive has most influence in running Scotland

Dependent variable coding 1 = Scottish Executive has most influence 0 = Or not	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Sex				
(Men)	1.00			
Women	1.50	1.12-1.98	0.00	**
Awareness of Scottish Executive				
(Not much//nothing at all)	1.00			
Some	1.44	0.99-2.11	0.06	+
Great deal/quite a lot	2.04	1.48-2.83	0.00	**
Constitutional preference				
(Westminster rule)	1.00			
Devolution	1.61	0.99-2.63	0.05	+
Independence	1.47	0.80-2.71	0.21	NS
Having a Scottish Parliament				
(More say in how Scotland is governed)	1.00			
Less say or makes no difference	0.56	0.41-0.77	0.00	**
Trust in the SE to act in Scotland's best				
(Almost never)	1.00			
Some of the time	1.29	0.67-2.47	0.44	NS
Always/most of the time	2.05	1.03-4.08	0.04	*

Cases included in model = 1,577

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS:

Demographic factors: sex, age, highest educational qualification, area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), self-rated hardship, occupational sector, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold).

General attitudinal factors: interest in politics, newspaper readership, political party identification, awareness of Scottish Executive activities.

Attitudes to devolution: constitutional preference, whether devolution gives people more say in how Scotland is governed, trust in the SE to act in Scotland's best interests.

Note: although area deprivation (SIMD), occupational sector and party-political identification were significant in the earlier stage SPSS models, these were not significant once attitudes to devolution were taken into account. They are therefore not included in this final model (which includes only those factors found to be significant after all 3 stages of modelling).

Model 7 Belief that the Scottish Executive is good at listening to people's views

Dependent variable coding 1 = Scottish Executive is good at listening to people's views 0 = Or not	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Area				
(Large urban)	1.00			
Other urban	0.74	0.54-1.02	0.06	+
Accessible small towns	0.50	0.34-0.74	0.00	**
Remote small towns	1.37	0.68-2.74	0.37	NS
Accessible rural	0.97	0.68-1.38	0.86	NS
Remote rural	1.07	0.68-1.68	0.77	NS
Awareness of Scottish Executive activities				
(Not much//nothing at all)	1.00			
Some	1.84	1.29-2.62	0.00	**
Great deal/quite a lot	2.23	1.60-3.09	0.00	**
Having a Scottish Parliament				
(More say in how Scotland is governed)	1.00			
Less say or makes no difference	0.47	0.34-0.64	0.00	**
Who has most influence				
(UK government)	1.00			
Scottish Executive	1.58	1.16-2.16	0.00	**
Local Councils	1.00	0.68-1.47	0.99	NS
EU	0.84	0.49-1.42	0.50	NS
Trust in the SE to act in Scotland's best				
(Almost never)	1.00			
Some of the time	5.43	1.92-15.31	0.00	**
Always/most of the time	17.20	6.13-48.26	0.00	**

Cases included in model = 1,577

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise model in SPSS:

Demographic factors: sex, age, highest educational qualification, area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), self-rated hardship, occupational sector, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold).

General attitudinal factors: interest in politics, newspaper readership, political party identification, awareness of Scottish Executive activities.

Attitudes to devolution: constitutional preference, whether devolution give people more say in how Scotland is governed, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, trust in the SE to act in Scotland's best interests.

Note: although educational qualifications and party-political identification were significant in the earlier stage SPSS models, these were not significant once attitudes to devolution were taken into account. They are therefore not included in this final model (which includes only those factors found to be significant after all 3 stages of modelling).

Model 8 Belief that having a Scottish Parliament is giving people more say in how Scotland is governed

Dependent variable coding 1 = Scottish Parliament is giving people more say in how Scotland is governed 0 = Or not	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P	
Age				
(18-24)	1.00			
25-39	0.46	0.29-0.74	0.00	**
40-64	0.61	0.36-1.05	0.07	+
65 and over	0.61	0.34-1.09	0.09	+
Education				
(None)	1.00			
Standard/GCSE	1.75	1.13-2.72	0.01	*
Highers/A levels	1.78	1.18-2.68	0.00	**
Degree/HE	1.76	1.10-2.81	0.02	*
Political party identification				
(SNP)	1.00			
Lib Dem	1.29	0.72-2.31	0.38	NS
Labour	1.15	0.76-1.73	0.50	NS
Conservative	0.53	0.29-0.98	0.04	*
None	0.87	0.51-1.48	0.60	NS
Awareness of Scottish Executive activities				
(Not much//nothing at all)	1.00			
Some	1.16	0.77-1.75	0.47	NS
Great deal/quite a lot	1.80	1.17-2.76	0.00	**
Who has most influence				
(UK government)	1.00			
Scottish Executive	1.79	1.27-2.53	0.00	**
Local Councils	1.13	0.74-1.71	0.57	NS
EU	0.73	0.46-1.15	0.17	NS
Constitutional preference				
(Westminster rule)	1.00			
Devolution	3.87	2.18-6.84	0.00	**
Independence	3.39	1.88-6.10	0.00	**
Trust in the SE to act in Scotland's best				
(Almost never)	1.00			
Some of the time	1.75	0.99-3.10	0.05	*
Always/most of the time	7.71	4.14-14.38	0.00	**

Cases included in model = 1,565

This is the final STATA model, including all significant demographic and attitudinal factors.

Independent variables included in initial forward stepwise modelling in SPSS:

Demographic factors: sex, age, highest educational qualification, area deprivation (SIMD quintiles), self-rated hardship, occupational sector, SHS urban-rural classification (6-fold).

General attitudinal factors: interest in politics, newspaper readership, party-political identification, awareness of Scottish Executive activities.

Attitudes to devolution: constitutional preference, perceptions of who has most influence in running Scotland, trust in the SE to act in Scotland's best interests.

Notes: although newspaper was significant in the earlier stage SPSS model, this was not significant once general attitudes were taken into account. They are therefore not included in this final model (which includes only those factors found to be significant after all 3 stages of modelling).

Scottish Social Attitudes survey 2006 Core module topline tables

Notes on tables

- ‘*’ indicates less than 0.5 percent but greater than zero, and ‘-’ indicates zero
- All data are weighted. As the weighting scheme was amended slightly in 2005 to take better account of non-response bias, there is a possibility that any changes over time reflect these changes to the weighting scheme. These tables were therefore re-run using a variable based on the old (pre-2005) weighting scheme. The results varied very little. In the vast majority of cases figures were the same or varied by less than 1 percentage point from those given here. None of the findings varied by more than 2 points.

[HincDif2]

Which of the phrases on this card would you say comes closest to your feelings about your household's income these days?

	2002	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%
Living very comfortably on present income	na	9	11	11
Living comfortably on present income	41	37	39	40
Coping on present income	45	41	36	37
Finding it difficult on present income	11	10	11	9
Finding it very difficult on present income	3	2	3	2
(Other answer)	-	*	*	*
(Don't know)	-	*	*	*
(Not answered)	-	-	*	*
Sample size	1665	1637	1549	1594

Note:

In 2004 an additional answer category "living very comfortably" was added.

[SNHSIE12]

Thinking back over the last twelve months, that is since (month) 2005, would you say that since then the standard of the health service in Scotland has increased or fallen?

Has the standard of the NHS increased or fallen in last twelve months?	1999	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Increased a lot	2	2	2	3	2	4
Increased a little	21	21	18	15	15	16
Stayed the same	35	29	25	31	38	31
Fallen a little	20	26	26	23	24	23
Fallen a lot	14	15	20	23	12	18
(Don't know)	8	7	8	5	10	8
(Not answered)	-	-	-	-	*	-
Sample size	1482	1605	1508	1637	1549	1594

Note:

The question wording in each year was:

1999 and 2001 "Thinking back to the UK general election in 1997"

2003 "Thinking back to the last Scottish election in 1999"

[SNHSWh12]

What do you think this has been mainly the result of?

	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%	%
Mainly the result of the UK government's policies at Westminster	53	38	42	39	32
Mainly the result of the Scottish Executive's policies	11	21	20	23	25
For some other reason	16	17	18	14	18
(Both Westminster and Scottish Executive)	4	7	7	5	7
(Don't know)	8	8	9	9	10
(Not answered)	7	8	5	10	8
Sample size	1605	1508	1637	1549	1594

Note:

In 1999 the follow-up question simply asked whether any differences were the result of the policies of the Labour government at Westminster therefore they are not reported here.

[EdStIE12]

And what about the quality of education in Scotland? Has it increased or fallen since (month) 2005?

Has the quality of education increased or fallen in last twelve months	1999	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Increased a lot	3	3	3	3	2	4
Increased a little	23	24	22	23	23	26
Stayed the same	32	33	27	37	39	32
Fallen a little	17	16	18	15	12	13
Fallen a lot	7	5	11	7	5	5
(Don't know)	19	19	19	16	20	20
Sample size	1482	1605	1508	1637	1549	1594

Note:

The question wording in each year was:

1999 and 2001 "Thinking back to the UK general election in 1997"

2003 "Thinking back to the last Scottish election in 1999"

[EdStWh12]

What do you think this has been mainly the result of?

	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%	%
Mainly the result of the UK government's policies at Westminster	40	30	29	28	20
Mainly the result of the Scottish Executive's policies	19	25	28	30	33
For some other reason	14	12	15	12	15
(Both Westminster and Scottish Executive)	3	7	5	4	5
(Don't know)	5	7	7	7	6
(Not answered)	19	19	16	20	20
Sample size	1605	1508	1637	1549	1594

Note:

In 1999 the follow-up question simply asked whether any differences were the result of the policies of the Labour government at Westminster therefore they are not reported here.

[SLivIE12]

And what about the general standard of living in Scotland? Has it increased or fallen since (month) 2005?

Has the general standard of living increased or fallen in last twelve months ?	1999	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Increased a lot	2	3	4	4	3	4
Increased a little	27	27	30	27	25	30
Stayed the same	43	45	36	40	45	37
Fallen a little	18	15	17	18	17	17
Fallen a lot	6	4	7	6	4	5
(Don't know)	5	6	7	5	7	6
Sample size	1482	1605	1508	1637	1549	1594

Note:

The question wording in each year was:

1999 and 2001 "Thinking back to the UK general election in 1997"

2003 "Thinking back to the last Scottish election in 1999"

[SlivWh12]

What do you think this has been mainly the result of?

	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%	%
Mainly the result of the UK government's policies at Westminster	53	43	38	42	33
Mainly the result of the Scottish Executive's policies	12	18	18	17	21
For some other reason	18	16	24	19	22
(Both Westminster and Scottish Executive)	6	10	7	6	8
(Don't know)	7	8	9	10	9
(Not answered)	6	7	5	7	6
Sample size	1605	1508	1637	1549	1594

Note:

In 1999 the follow-up question simply asked whether any differences were the result of the policies of the Labour government at Westminster therefore they are not reported here.

[TranIE12]

And what about the standard of public transport in Scotland? Has it increased or fallen since (month) 2005?

Has the standard of public transport increased or fallen in last twelve months ?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Increased a lot	5	2	7
Increased a little	20	19	22
Stayed the same	41	36	34
Fallen a little	14	16	12
Fallen a lot	8	6	7
(Don't know)	13	21	18
(Not answered)	-	*	-
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[TranWh12]

What do you think this has been mainly the result of?

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Mainly the result of the UK government's policies at Westminster	17	20	13
Mainly the result of the Scottish Executive's policies	28	28	31
For some other reason	29	21	25
(Both Westminster and Scottish Executive)	5	4	4
(Don't know)	8	6	9
(Not answered)	13	21	18
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[EconIE12]

And what about the Scotland's economy? Has it got stronger or weaker since (month) 2005?

Has Scotland's economy got stronger or weaker in last twelve months ?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
A lot stronger	3	2	2
A little stronger	25	21	28
Stayed the same	29	34	28
A little weaker	22	19	18
A lot weaker	5	3	2
(Don't know)	17	22	21
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[EconWh12]

What do you think this has been mainly the result of?

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Mainly the result of the UK government's policies at Westminster	28	30	21
Mainly the result of the Scottish Executive's policies	28	27	28
For some other reason	17	13	18
(Both Westminster and Scottish Executive)	6	5	7
(Don't know)	5	5	4
(Not answered)	17	22	21
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[UKTwelv]

How much would you say you've seen or heard about the work of the UK government over the last twelve months?

How much seen or heard about the work of the UK government over the last twelve months?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
A great deal	11	12	14
Quite a lot	23	27	27
Some	29	26	26
Not very much	31	29	26
Nothing at all	5	5	6
(Don't know)	1	2	1
(Not answered)	-	*	-
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[ExTwelv]

And how much would you say you've seen or heard about the work of the Scottish Executive over the last twelve months?

How much seen or heard about the work of the Scottish Executive over the last twelve months?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
A great deal	9	7	8
Quite a lot	21	24	27
Some	30	28	31
Not very much	33	34	26
Nothing at all	7	7	7
(Don't know)	1	1	1
(Not answered)	-	*	-
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[ExecDo]

Here is a list of things the Scottish Executive could try and achieve. Which do you think should be its highest priority, that is the most important thing it should try and do?

What should be Scottish Executive's highest priority?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Improve standards of education	17	15	16
Improve housing	12	10	12
Help the economy to grow faster	16	18	14
Improve people's health	27	26	24
Cut crime	22	23	24
Improve the environment	4	4	6
Improve public transport	1	1	2
(Other)	2	1	3
(Don't know)	*	1	1
(Not answered)	*	*	-
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[ExecList]

In general how good would you say the Scottish Executive is at listening to people's views before it takes decisions?

How good is Scottish Executive at listening to people's views before taking decisions?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Very good	1	3	2
Quite good	31	32	34
Not very good	41	38	39
Not at all good	17	16	14
(Don't know)	10	12	11
(Not answered)	*	*	-
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[UKList]

And how good would you say the UK government is at listening to people's views before it takes decisions?

How good is UK government at listening to people's views before taking decisions?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Very good	1	1	1
Quite good	14	15	17
Not very good	50	52	49
Not at all good	30	25	27
(Don't know)	6	7	7
(Not answered)	*	*	*
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[UKIntNat]

How much do you trust the UK government to work in Scotland's best long-term interest?
Please take your answer from this card.

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Just about always	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Most of the time	29	16	20	17	19	20	21	19
Only some of the time	52	54	55	51	58	50	53	52
Almost never	14	26	22	26	20	26	21	24
(Don't know)	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	3
(Not answered)	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-
Sample size	1482	1663	1605	1665	1508	1637	1549	1594

Q392 [NatInNat]

Still using the card, how much do you trust the Scottish Executive/Parliament* to work in Scotland's best interests?

	1999	2000	2001	2002
	%	%	%	%
Just about always	26	9	13	9
Most of the time	55	45	52	43
Only some of the time	14	34	29	34
Almost never	2	9	5	11
(Don't know)	-	-	-	-
(Not answered)	-	-	-	-
Sample size	1482	1663	1605	1665
	2003	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%	%
Just about always	10	9	10	8
Most of the time	52	43	46	43
Only some of the time	31	37	33	37
Almost never	4	10	7	8
(Don't know)	-	2	3	3
(Not answered)	-	*	*	-
Sample size	1508	1637	1549	1594

*Prior to 2004, the question asked about the Parliament. In 2004 an experiment was run whereby half the sample was asked about the Scottish Parliament and half was asked about the Scottish Executive. The change of wording made negligible difference to the responses given therefore the combined results are shown here.

[UKFairD]

How much do you trust the UK government to make fair decisions? By fair decisions I mean decisions that are fair to different groups of people in the UK.

	2006
	%
A great deal	2
Quite a lot	21
Some	46
Not very much	23
Not at all	6
(Don't know)	3
Sample size	1594

[SEFairD]

And still using the card, how much do you trust the Scottish Executive to make fair decisions? (By fair decisions I mean decisions that are fair to different groups of people in Scotland)

	2006
	%
A great deal	3
Quite a lot	29
Some	46
Not very much	15
Not at all	5
(Don't know)	3
(Not answered)	*
Sample size	1594

[DoesInf]

Which of the following do you think has most influence over the way Scotland is run?

Which of these has most influence over the way Scotland is run:	1999*	2000	2001	2003
	%	%	%	%
The Scottish Parliament**	41	13	15	17
The UK government at Westminster	39	66	66	64
Local councils in Scotland	8	10	9	7
The European Union	5	4	7	5
(Don't know)	8	8	-	6
(Not answered)	-	-	-	-
Sample size	1482	1663	1605	1508
	2004	2005	2006	
	%	%	%	
The Scottish Parliament	19	23	24	
The UK government at Westminster	48	47	38	
Local councils in Scotland	20	15	18	
The European Union	6	8	11	
(Don't know)	7	7	9	
(Not answered)	*	*	*	
Sample size	1637	1549	1594	

Note:

*In 1999 the question wording was: "When the new parliament starts work, which of the following do you think will have most influence over the way Scotland is run"

**In 2004 an experiment was run whereby half the sample was asked about the Scottish Parliament and half was asked about the Scottish Executive. The change of wording made negligible difference to the responses given, therefore the combined results are shown here.

[OughInfl]

And which do you think ought to have most influence over the way Scotland is run?

Which of these should have most influence over the way Scotland is run:	1999	2000	2001	2003
	%	%	%	%
The Scottish Parliament*	74	72	74	66
The UK government at Westminster	13	13	14	20
Local councils in Scotland	8	10	8	9
The European Union	1	1	1	1
(Don't know)	-	5	-	-
(Not answered)	-	-	-	-
Sample size	1482	1663	1605	1508
	2004	2005	2006	
	%	%	%	
The Scottish Parliament *	67	67	64	
The UK government at Westminster	12	13	11	
Local councils in Scotland	17	15	19	
The European Union	1	1	1	
(Don't know)	3	4	4	
(Not answered)	*	*	*	
Sample size	1637	1549	1594	

*In 2004 an experiment was run whereby half the sample was asked about the Scottish Parliament and half was asked about the Scottish Executive. The change of wording made negligible difference to the responses given, therefore the combined results are shown here.

[VoiceUK3]

From what you have seen and heard so far...

Do you think that having a Scottish parliament is giving Scotland...	1997 Ref	1999	2000	2001	2002
	%	%	%	%	%
...a stronger voice in the United Kingdom	70	70	52	52	39
...a weaker voice in the United Kingdom	9	7	6	6	7
...or, is it making no difference?	17	20	40	40	52
(Don't know)	-	-	-	-	-
(Not answered)	-	-	-	-	-
Sample size	882	1482	1663	1605	1665
	2003	2004	2005	2006	
	%	%	%	%	
...a stronger voice in the United Kingdom	49	35	41	43	
...a weaker voice in the United Kingdom	7	7	6	6	
...or, is it making no difference?	41	55	50	49	
(Don't know)	-	3	3	3	
(Not answered)	-	*	*	-	
Sample size	1508	1637	1549	1594	

Note:

The question wording in each year was:

1999 "Will a Scottish Parliament..."

2000 "Do you think that having a Scottish parliament is going to..."

2001-2004 "Do you think that having a Scottish Parliament is giving..."

[SayInGv3]

From what you have seen and heard so far...

Do you think that having a Scottish parliament is giving ordinary people...	1997 Ref	1999	2000	2001	2002
	%	%	%	%	%
...more say in how Scotland is governed	79	64	44	38	31
...less say	2	2	3	4	4
...or, is it making no difference	17	32	51	56	62
(Don't know)	-	-	-	-	-
(Not answered)	-	-	-	-	-
Sample size	882	1482	1663	1605	1665
	2003	2004	2005	2006	
	%	%	%	%	
...more say in how Scotland is governed	39	31	37	37	
...less say	4	6	5	5	
...or, is it making no difference	54	60	55	55	
(Don't know)	-	3	4	4	
(Not answered)	-	*	*	-	
Sample size	1508	1637	1549	1594	

Note:

The question wording in each year was:

1999 "Will a Scottish Parliament..."

2000 "Do you think that having a Scottish parliament is going to..."

2001-2004 "Do you think that having a Scottish Parliament is giving..."

[AreaQua1]

I'd like to ask you what you think makes somewhere a good place to live. If you had to choose just one item from this list, what would it be?

	FIRST CHOICE		
	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Low level of crime	25	35	27
Access to GPs and local health services	6	6	6
Good quality affordable housing	13	11	12
Good shopping facilities	2	1	2
Access to good public transport	1	2	2
Good schools	6	7	8
Good jobs	6	7	6
Facilities for young children	3	1	2
Strong sense of community spirit	17	13	16
Clean local environment	7	5	5
Public spaces in good condition (e.g. pavements, parks, roads)	1	2	2
Family and friends close by	9	8	10
Access to places to go out (e.g. pubs, restaurants, galleries)	2	2	1
Other answer	1	1	1
(None of these)	*	*	*
(Don't know)	*	*	*
(Not answered)	-	*	-
(Skip, no further answer)	na	na	na
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[Areaqua2]

And what would your **second** choice be?

	SECOND CHOICE		
	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Low level of crime	17	15	17
Access to GPs and local health services	9	12	9
Good quality affordable housing	14	15	13
Good shopping facilities	3	4	4
Access to good public transport	4	4	3
Good schools	12	13	13
Good jobs	6	7	7
Facilities for young children	5	3	5
Strong sense of community spirit	9	6	8
Clean local environment	9	8	8
Public spaces in good condition (e.g. pavements, parks, roads)	3	4	4
Family and friends close by	5	6	6
Access to places to go out (e.g. pubs, restaurants, galleries)	2	2	2
Other answer	*	*	*
(None of these)	*	*	*
(Don't know)	*	*	*
(Not answered)	-	-	-
(Skip, no further answer)	1	*	*
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[Areaqua3]

And what would your **third** choice be?

	THIRD CHOICE		
	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Low level of crime	11	12	10
Access to GPs and local health services	9	9	11
Good quality affordable housing	9	12	10
Good shopping facilities	4	5	5
Access to good public transport	7	7	3
Good schools	11	10	12
Good jobs	8	7	8
Facilities for young children	7	6	5
Strong sense of community spirit	8	6	8
Clean local environment	12	11	10
Public spaces in good condition (e.g. pavements, parks, roads)	6	5	5
Family and friends close by	5	7	7
Access to places to go out (e.g. pubs, restaurants, galleries)	2	4	4
Other answer	*	*	1
(None of these)	*	*	*
(Don't know)	*	-	*
(Not answered)	-	-	-
(Skip, no further answer)	1	1	1
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[ArealmP1]

Now thinking about your local area, if you had to pick just one, which of the things on this is in most need of improvement around here?

What is in most need of improvement around here?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
The level of crime	11	18	14
Access to GPs and local health services	6	4	6
The amount of good quality affordable housing	15	12	17
The amount of good shopping facilities	6	6	7
Access to good public transport	7	8	6
Quality of schools	3	4	2
Quality of jobs	10	8	10
Facilities for young children	16	12	12
The sense of community spirit	5	4	5
Cleanliness of the local environment	6	6	6
The condition of public spaces (e.g. pavements, parks, roads)	6	10	6
Family and friends close by	1	1	1
Access to places to go out (e.g. pubs, restaurants, galleries)	2	3	2
Other answer	2	1	1
(None of these)	3	3	3
(Don't know)	1	1	1
(Not answered)	-	*	-
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[ArealmWh]

Who do you think should mainly be responsible for improving this?

Who do you think should be responsible for improving this?	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
People who live in the area	9	8	8
Local council	49	49	50
Scottish Parliament	12	9	9
Scottish Executive	8	10	10
UK Government	6	7	5
Local health board	2	1	2
The police	5	8	6
Local businesses	3	3	2
Other	1	1	1
(Don't know)	1	1	2
(Not answered)	1	*	1
(Skip, Don't know/no improvement needed at ArealmP1)	3	4	3
Sample size	1637	1549	1594

[ImprvNHS]⁸

From what you have seen and heard so far, do you think that having a Scottish Parliament is ...READ OUT...

	2006
	%
...increasing the standard of the health service in Scotland,	22
reducing the standard of the health service in Scotland,	9
or, is it making no difference?	62
(Don't know)	7
(Not answered)	*
Sample size	1594

ImprvNHS has not been asked in previous years. However, a similar question which asked prospectively about what difference having a Scottish Parliament would make to the NHS in Scotland was asked in 1997 (on the Referendum and Election Studies) and 1999, 2001 and 2003. Results for this question are shown below.

[SCPNHS]

(And as a result of having a Scottish Parliament) will the National Health Service in Scotland become better, worse or will it make no difference?

	1997 (Ref)	1997 (Elec)	1999	2001	2003
		%	%	%	%
Better	65	59	49	45	37
Worse	6	6	4	9	10
No difference	28	25	41	42	46
Sample size	657	882	1482	1605	1508

⁸ [ImprvNHS] to [ImprvTr] were asked later in the interview, to avoid confusion with the questions about whether standards have increased or fallen earlier.

[ImprvEd3]

From what you have seen and heard so far, do you think that having a Scottish Parliament is ...READ OUT...

	1999 ⁹	2001 ¹⁰	2002	2003	2006
	%	%	%	%	%
...increasing the standard of education in Scotland,	56	27	25	23	30
reducing the standard of education in Scotland,	3	5	6	7	6
or, is it making no difference?	35	59	58	59	52
(Don't know)	5	9	11	11	11
(Not answered)	*	-	-	-	*
Sample size	1482	1605	1665	1508	1594

[ImprvTr]

(From what you have seen and heard so far), and do you think that having a Scottish Parliament is ...READ OUT...

	2006
	%
...increasing the standard of public transport in Scotland,	26
reducing the standard of public transport in Scotland,	8
or, is it making no difference?	53
(Don't know)	12
(Not answered)	*
Sample size	1594

⁹ NB in 1999 the question was phrased prospectively – i.e. “Will a Scottish parliament increase the standard of education in Scotland, reduce the standard of education in Scotland or will it make no difference?”

¹⁰ In 2000 the question was “Do you think that having a Scottish parliament is going to ...READ OUT....increase the standard of education in Scotland, reduce the standard of education in Scotland, or, will it make no difference?”

SELF-COMPLETION ITEMS

Knowledge Quiz

[quizlhth]

SE makes most decisions about how money should be spent on health service in Scotland (TRUE)

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
<i>Definitely true</i>	12	10	10
<i>Probably true</i>	40	39	45
Probably not true	22	24	19
Definitely not true	4	4	4
Can't choose	22	21	20
(Not answered)	1	2	2
Sample size	1514	1409	1437

[quizuben]

SE decides level of unemployment benefit paid to people in Scotland (FALSE)

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Definitely true	2	3	3
Probably true	17	18	22
<i>Probably not true</i>	29	28	28
<i>Definitely not true</i>	27	27	22
Can't choose	23	22	23
(Not answered)	2	3	2
Sample size	1514	1409	1437

[quizmsp]

Scottish Parliament has around 70 elected members (FALSE)

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Definitely true	6	6	5
Probably true	41	34	39
<i>Probably not true</i>	6	7	6
<i>Definitely not true</i>	7	6	6
Can't choose	39	43	42
(Not answered)	2	3	3
Sample size	1514	1409	1437

[quizesp]

Scottish Executive is just another name for Scottish Parliament (FALSE)

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Definitely true	10	11	11
Probably true	31	29	32
<i>Probably not true</i>	13	13	12
<i>Definitely not true</i>	18	19	18
Can't choose	26	25	24
(Not answered)	2	2	3
Sample size	1514	1409	1437

[ImVot]

How important do you think it is to vote in

[imvotsp]

Scottish Parliament elections?

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Very important	47	48	52
Fairly important	31	28	30
Not very important	11	12	9
Not at all important	5	5	3
Can't choose	6	5	3
(Not answered)	1	2	2
Sample size	1637	1409	1437

[imvotuk]

UK House of Commons elections?

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Very important	49	52	54
Fairly important	30	27	28
Not very important	10	9	9
Not at all important	4	4	3
Can't choose	6	5	4
(Not answered)	2	2	2
Sample size	1637	1409	1437

[UsePTran]

How often do you travel by public transport, such as buses, coaches or trains?

	2004	2005	2006
	%	%	%
Every day or nearly every day	16	16	13
2-5 days a week	13	11	11
Once a week	10	8	10
Less often but at least once a month	16	16	17
Less often than that	22	24	24
Never nowadays	22	24	22
Can't choose	1	-	-
(Not answered)	*	2	2
Sample size	1637	1409	1437

[UseNHS]

In the last twelve months have you or a close family member visited an NHS GP or been to an NHS hospital as an inpatient or outpatient?

	2004	2006
	%	%
Yes-just me	25	26
Yes-not me but close family member	23	23
Yes-both	41	39
No-neither	10	10
(Not answered)	1	2
Sample size	1514	1437

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