

BBC Attitude Survey 2006

**BBC Hearts and Minds
November 2006**

Who Took Part?

Key Statistics

- 1,100 persons in total responded to the survey.
- Interviews took place across all 18 Constituencies and 26 District Council Areas of Northern Ireland (43 sampling points in total).
- Fully representative results of Northern Ireland adult population in terms of age, gender, religion, geography and social class.
- Sex breakdown - Male (49%), Female (51%).
- Age breakdown - 18-24 (19.7%), 25-34 (20.2%), 35-44 (20.1%), 45-59 (20.7%), 60+ (19.1%).
- Socio-economic groupings - ABC1 (38.8%), C2DE (60.7%), refused (0.5%).
- Religion breakdown - Protestant (56.2%), Catholic (43.8%).
- Polling took place during the 27th - 30th October 2006.
- Margin of Error ± 2.95 %.

The Results

**Each question is now analysed.
Firstly, the total result and all percentages are listed.
This is followed by the Unionist and Nationalist split.**

**Note: The Unionist/Nationalist/Other profile is based on the responses provided at 'Question 9' -
'If an election were held tomorrow to elect a new assembly, which of these parties would best represent your views?'**

Q1. Do you think that Ian Paisley and Martin M^cGuinness will be installed as shadow first minister and deputy first minister, respectively, by 24th November?

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		1,099	584	439	66
Yes		31.0	33.4	28.2	31.8
No		69.0	66.6	71.8	68.2

Q1. Do you think that Ian Paisley and Martin M^cGuinness will be installed as shadow first minister and deputy first minister, respectively, by 24th November?

	%	UUP	SDLP	DUP	SF	Alliance	Other Unionist	Other Nationalist	Other
Base:		195	185	336	221	38	53	33	28
Yes		40.5	35.1	29.5	24.4	23.7	32.1	15.2	42.9
No		59.5	64.9	70.5	75.6	76.3	67.9	84.8	57.1

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q2. Do you believe the Northern Ireland Assembly will be fully operational by 26th March 2007?

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		1,099	584	439	66

Yes	37.3	35.4	40.1	39.4
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No	62.7	64.6	59.9	60.6
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Q2. Do you believe the Northern Ireland Assembly will be fully operational by 26th March 2007?

	%	UUP	SDLP	DUP	SF	Alliance	Other Unionist	Other Nationalist	Other
Base:		195	185	336	221	38	53	33	28

Yes	40.0	44.9	33.6	38.0	28.9	30.2	27.3	53.6
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No	60.0	55.1	66.4	62.0	71.1	69.8	72.7	46.4
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Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q3. Do you support the St. Andrews Agreement?

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		1,095	582	437	66
Yes		54.3	48.5	61.8	60.6
No		22.8	26.1	19.5	15.2
Don't know		22.8	25.4	18.8	24.2

Q3. Do you support the St. Andrews Agreement? **Don't knows excluded**

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		839	434	355	50
Yes		70.6	65.0	76.1	80.0
No		29.4	35.0	23.9	20.0

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q3. Do you support the St. Andrews Agreement?

	%	UUP	SDLP	DUP	SF	Alliance	Other Unionist	Other Nationalist	Other
Base:		195	183	335	221	38	52	33	28
Yes	51.8	71.6	46.6	57.9	63.2	48.1	33.3	57.1	
No	19.0	9.8	31.9	23.1	13.2	15.4	48.5	17.9	
Don't know	29.2	18.6	21.5	19.0	23.7	36.5	18.2	25.0	

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q4. Do you think a fresh assembly election is necessary to form a new devolved government?

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		1,081	576	430	65
Yes	48.0	45.5	53.5	32.3	
No	52.0	54.5	46.5	67.7	

Q4. Do you think a fresh assembly election is necessary to form a new devolved government?

	%	UUP	SDLP	DUP	SF	Alliance	Other Unionist	Other Nationalist	Other
Base:		192	184	334	214	37	50	32	28
Yes	51.6	50.5	41.3	54.2	29.7	50.0	65.6	35.7	
No	48.4	49.5	58.7	45.8	70.3	50.0	34.4	64.3	

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q5. The Assembly at Stormont has been suspended for some time. Do you think that Northern Ireland has been better or worse off without Devolution?

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		1,094	582	436	66
Better Off	5.8	6.7	3.2	13.6	
Worse Off	56.3	54.3	59.6	53.0	
No real change	37.9	39.0	37.2	33.3	

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q6. If no deal is done by November 24, what do you think should happen next?

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		1,096	583	438	65
Another attempt to start Devolution in 2007	29.4	36.9	18.9	33.8	
Continuation of Direct Rule - long-term	18.2	27.6	5.9	15.4	
Joint authority over Northern Ireland by London and Dublin	17.1	4.1	35.8	7.7	
Increased North/South cooperation	9.6	1.5	19.4	13.8	
Deadlines should be extended until Christmas to give politicians more time	25.7	29.8	19.9	29.2	

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q7. Do you think the St. Andrews Agreement has weakened or strengthened Northern Ireland's position within the UK?

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		1,097	582	439	66
Strengthened		21.9	27.0	15.3	24.2
Neither strengthened nor weakened		55.1	51.0	59.0	62.1
Weakened		23.1	22.0	25.7	13.6

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q8. Do you think Northern Ireland will still be part of the United Kingdom in 2020?

	%	TOTAL	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST	OTHER
Base:		1,096	582	438	66
Yes		64.5	82.3	38.1	81.8
No		35.5	17.7	61.9	18.2

Q8. Do you think Northern Ireland will still be part of the United Kingdom in 2020?

	%	UUP	SDLP	DUP	SF	Alliance	Other Unionist	Other Nationalist	Other
Base:		195	185	335	220	38	52	33	28
Yes		81.0	59.5	83.9	23.6	81.6	76.9	15.2	82.1
No		19.0	40.5	16.1	76.4	18.4	23.1	84.8	17.9

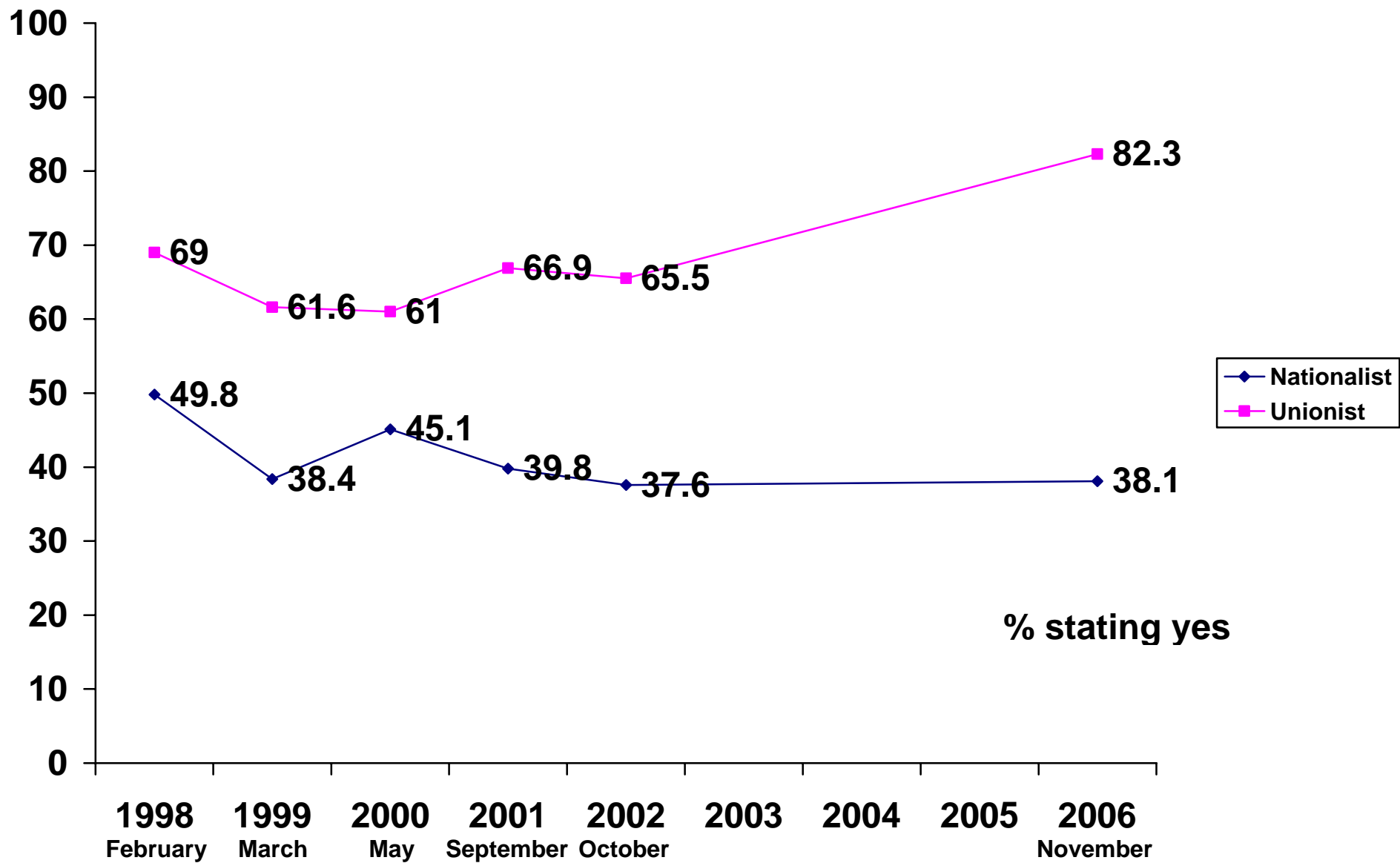
Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Tracking - Do you think Northern Ireland will still be part of the United Kingdom in 2020?

	%	UNIONIST	NATIONALIST
February 1998	Yes	69.0	49.8
	No	31.0	50.2
March 1999	Yes	61.6	38.4
	No	38.4	61.6
May 2000	Yes	61.0	45.1
	No	39.0	54.9
September 2001	Yes	66.9	39.8
	No	33.1	60.2
October 2002	Yes	65.5	37.6
	No	34.5	62.4
November 2006	Yes	82.3	38.1
	No	17.7	61.9

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Tracking Question - Do you think Northern Ireland will still be part of the United Kingdom in 2020?



Q9. If an election were held tomorrow to elect a new assembly, which of these parties would best represent your views?

BASE: 1,100

	TOTAL %		TOTAL %
Ulster Unionist Party	17.7	Northern Ireland Unionist Party	1.4
SDLP	16.8	Republican Sinn Fein	2.4
Democratic Unionist Party	30.6	32 Country Sovereignty Committee	0.6
Sinn Fein	20.1	Conservative	0.5
Alliance	3.5	Green Party	2.1
Progressive Unionist Party	1.6	Don't know/no party would represent my views	0.9
UK Unionist	1.8		

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q9. Which of the following groupings/parties would best represent your views?

	%		All Unionist %		All Nationalist %
Base: 1,090	TOTAL	Base: 585	TOTAL	Base: 439	TOTAL
Unionist	53.7	UUP	33.3	SDLP	42.1
Nationalist	40.3	DUP	57.6	SF	50.3
Other	6.1	UKU	3.4	RSF	5.9
		PUP	3.1	32CSC	1.6
		NIUP	2.6		

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q10. **DUP VOTERS ONLY.** Should the DUP enter into government with Sinn Fein?

	%	DUP
Base:		329
Now without any preconditions	7.3	
When Sinn Fein signs up to policing	45.6	
Only if the IRA Army Council is disbanded	24.9	
They should never share power	22.2	

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q11. **SINN FEIN VOTERS ONLY.** Should the Sinn Fein sign up to policing?

	%	Sinn Fein
Base:		214
Immediately		7.5
Only after the endorsement of an Ard Fheis		51.4
Only after the Assembly is fully restored		22.9
Never		18.2

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q12. **ALL UNIONIST ONLY.** Ian Paisley is 80. When he retires, who would you like to see lead the DUP?

BASE: 565

	TOTAL %		TOTAL %
Peter Robinson	32.0	Gregory Campbell	7.1
Nigel Dodds	12.7	Jeffrey Donaldson	19.3
Jim Allister	5.0	Other	1.2
Ian Paisley Jnr.	22.7		

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

Q12. **ALL UNIONIST ONLY.** Ian Paisley is 80. When he retires, who would you like to see lead the DUP?

	%	UUP	DUP	Other Unionist
Base:		187	329	49
Peter Robinson	33.7	33.1	18.4	
Nigel Dodds	14.4	10.6	20.4	
Jim Allister	7.5	3.3	6.1	
Ian Paisley Jnr	17.6	25.5	22.4	
Gregory Campbell	7.5	6.4	10.2	
Jeffrey Donaldson	17.1	20.1	22.4	

Please note data excludes 'not answered' and 'refused'

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