PARTIES AND PLAYERS IN THE U.K.

The Labour Party now leads the Conservative Party in trial heats. Labour leader Neil Kinnock inspires less confidence, however, than Prime Minister John Major. Shaky consumer confidence may affect Conservative election prospects.

Question: How would you vote if there were a general election tomorrow? If undecided/refused: Which party are you most inclined to support?

Question: Do you think that the general economic condition of the country will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next 12 months?

Vote intention and consumer confidence

[Graph showing trends in vote intention and consumer confidence]


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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservative Party</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<td>42%</td>
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<td>38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labour Party</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>41%</td>
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<td>43%</td>
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Over next 12 months economy will...

| Improved | 25% | 21% | 24% | 36% | 38% | 36% | 31% | 31% |
| Stay the same | 24% | 21% | 19% | 20% | 23% | 21% | 23% | 25% |
| Get worse | 45% | 51% | 51% | 37% | 33% | 37% | 40% | 38% |

Question: Without regard to their party, who do you believe would make the best Prime Minister—Paddy Ashdown, Neil Kinnock, or John Major?

Would make best Prime Minister

- John Major: 41%
- Paddy Ashdown: 24%
- Neil Kinnock: 22%

Among the hurdles facing Labour: Britons think Labour would impose a greater tax burden and give too much power to trade unions if it came to power. They also doubt that Labour can manage the economy as well as the present government.

Question: How well or badly do you think Mr. Major is doing as Prime Minister? How well or badly would (Mr. Kinnock/Mr. Ashdown) do as Prime Minister?

Is doing/would do very/fairly well as Prime Minister

- John Major: 64%
- Paddy Ashdown: 50%
- Neil Kinnock: 41%

Source: Survey by Harris Research Centre (U.K.), June 12-13, 1991.

Question: Moving on to another subject, do you agree or disagree that if Labour came to power, they would...

If Labour came to power...

- They would raise taxes significantly: 64% agree, 22% disagree
- Give too much power to the trade unions: 53% agree, 35% disagree
- Handle the economy worse than the present government: 47% agree, 41% disagree

Source: Survey by the Harris Research Centre (U.K.), July 17-18, 1991.