

## YouGov / Daily Telegraph Survey Results

Sample Size: 1979

Fieldwork: 28th - 30th November 2006

For full results [click here](#)

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**Because of the increased use of closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras, speed cameras, biometric passports, fingerprinting and so forth, Britain is increasingly being described as a 'surveillance society'. Do you think that is, on balance, an accurate description or not?**

Yes, it is an accurate description	<b>79</b>
No, it isn't an accurate description	<b>16</b>
Don't know	<b>5</b>

**How accurate and reliable do you think all the information held on the database will be?**

The information on the database will be totally accurate and reliable	<b>2</b>
The information on it will be largely accurate and reliable	<b>41</b>
The database will contain a good deal of inaccurate and unreliable information	<b>37</b>
The database will contain a great deal of inaccurate and unreliable information	<b>11</b>
Don't know	<b>9</b>

**Do you trust all governments, of whichever political party, to keep the information on the database entirely confidential and not to divulge it improperly to others?**

Yes, I do trust them	<b>11</b>
No, I don't trust them	<b>66</b>
I'm not sure whether I trust them or not	<b>23</b>

**Leaving elected governments aside, how sure are you that all the individual civil servants and others working for the government will keep the information on the database strictly confidential and will not divulge it improperly to others?**

I am certain all the individuals working for the government will keep all the information on the database strictly confidential	<b>2</b>
I am pretty sure all of them will keep all the information on the database strictly confidential	<b>9</b>
I think there is some danger that individuals working for the government will divulge information improperly	<b>48</b>
I think there is a very real danger that individuals working for the government will divulge information improperly	<b>34</b>
Don't know	<b>7</b>

**How do you feel about having your own personal details recorded on the national database?**

Very happy	<b>6</b>
Fairly happy	<b>35</b>
Fairly unhappy	<b>25</b>
Very unhappy	<b>27</b>
Don't know	<b>7</b>

%

*(To all who are unhappy)* **People who are unhappy at the idea of their personal details being recorded on the national database give different reasons for being unhappy. Here are some of them. Please tick all that apply in your case.**

The database could contain errors that could affect me and possibly even harm me	<b>71</b>
Information on the database, even accurate information, could be leaked to people who should not be entitled to see it	<b>77</b>
I object in principle to this government – or any government – keeping on file large amounts of personal information about me: this is a free country and it is none of their business	<b>70</b>
Like so many government initiatives in the field of information technology, this one is likely to be a chaotic and costly flop	<b>70</b>
None of these	<b>0</b>

*(To all)* **As you probably know, the national database will largely be derived from the information contained on the personal identity cards that the Government is pledged to introduce. Are you personally in favour of, or opposed to, the introduction of a system of identity cards in Britain?**

I am in favour	<b>50</b>
I am opposed	<b>39</b>
Don't know	<b>11</b>

*(To those opposed)* **Which of these is your MAIN reason for being opposed to the introduction of cards?**

I object on principle to the whole idea of having identity cards in Britain	<b>43</b>
Everyone will have to pay far too much for the cards	<b>30</b>
The cards won't work: on balance, they will do some good but more harm	<b>25</b>
None of these	<b>2</b>

**And which is your second main reason?**

I object on principle to the whole idea of having identity cards in Britain	<b>22</b>
Everyone will have to pay far too much for the cards	<b>30</b>
The cards won't work: on balance, they will do some good but more harm	<b>39</b>
None of these	<b>9</b>

**You say you are opposed to the introduction of identity cards. What do you think your reaction will be if the cards and the associated national data base are eventually introduced? [Please tick all that apply]**

I will be unhappy but I will agree to have a card nevertheless	<b>54</b>
I will refuse to have a card even if it means paying a small fine	<b>21</b>
I will refuse to have a card even if it means paying a heavy fine	<b>7</b>
I will refuse to have a card even if it means a short prison sentence	<b>7</b>
I will refuse to have a card even if it means a long prison sentence	<b>8</b>
I will acquire a card but publicly destroy it	<b>9</b>
Don't know	<b>15</b>

*(To all)* The Government proposes to provide people with a combined biometric passport and ID card. Bearing in mind that a standard passport currently costs £66, how much would you personally be prepared to pay for a biometric passport and ID card?

Nothing	44
40	11
66	30
80	8
100	3
150	0
200	0
More than £200	0
Don't know	4

Going back to the general topic of a 'surveillance society', please indicate for each of the following whether you approve or disapprove of it.  
CCTV cameras in banks and building societies

Approve	97
Disapprove	1
Not sure	2

Roadside fingerprinting of alleged suspects

Approve	56
Disapprove	27
Not sure	18

CCTV cameras on tube trains and in buses

Approve	93
Disapprove	3
Not sure	4

CCTV cameras in taxis

Approve	65
Disapprove	21
Not sure	14

Photographing airline passengers

Approve	72
Disapprove	17
Not sure	11

Fingerprinting airline passengers

Approve	45
Disapprove	37
Not sure	18

CCTV cameras in high streets

Approve	85
Disapprove	8
Not sure	7

CCTV cameras outside pubs

Approve	86
Disapprove	7
Not sure	7

%

**Using high-powered microphones to listen in on conversations in the street**

Approve **7**  
 Disapprove **79**  
 Not sure **14**

**Speed cameras**

Approve **50**  
 Disapprove **39**  
 Not sure **11**

**Maintaining results of an individual's DNA on the national database even if the individual has not been charged with any crime or else has been acquitted**

Approve **37**  
 Disapprove **48**  
 Not sure **15**

**Using the chips in ID cards to track the movements of every individual possessing an ID card**

Approve **16**  
 Disapprove **70**  
 Not sure **14**

**In general, because of CCTV cameras and so forth, do you ever have the feeling you're being spied upon?**

Yes, often **11**  
 Yes, occasionally **26**  
 No, only very rarely **35**  
 No, never **27**  
 Don't know **1**

**In the same connection, do you feel the state already holds on file... ?**

Far too much information about you **18**  
 Somewhat too much information about you **26**  
 About the right amount of information about you **35**  
 Not quite enough information about you **4**  
 Not nearly enough information about you **2**  
 Don't know **15**