Police Mergers Poll
Fieldwork : April 26th-May 25th 2006

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1
Q.1 The government plans to merge most police forces in England and Wales, creating fewer, bigger forces, each covering a much bigger area. Supporters argue that the new, larger forces will be able to fight organised crime more effectively. Opponents say that this could be achieved by closer co-operation between local forces, and that the disappearance of local forces risks less attention being paid to local crime. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?
Base: All respondents in a police merger area

	Total	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region			
		Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West
Unweighted base	4927	2164	2763	406	714	1052	923	864	968	1402	1088	894	1543	536	1646	1703	1042
Weighted base	4500	2187	2313	470	767	851	787	640	985	933	1304	711	1552	500	1500	1500	1000
I am aware of plans to merge my local police force with neighbouring ones, and I generally support the idea	923 21%	502 23%	421 18%	94 20%	137 18%	167 20%	174 22%	131 20%	220 22%	215 23%	266 20%	154 22%	288 19%	100 20%	306 20%	302 20%	216 22%
I am aware of plans to merge my local police force with neighbouring ones and I generally oppose the idea	1933 43%	1020 47%	914 40%	105 22%	267 35%	374 44%	384 49%	338 53%	465 47%	450 48%	559 43%	307 43%	617 40%	202 40%	672 45%	611 41%	448 45%
I was unaware of plans to merge my local police force with neighbouring ones but I generally support the idea	738 16%	282 13%	456 20%	142 30%	187 24%	133 16%	92 12%	73 11%	111 11%	130 14%	202 15%	117 17%	289 19%	78 16%	242 16%	275 18%	144 14%
I was unaware of plans to merge my local police force with neighbouring ones but I generally oppose the idea	660 15%	259 12%	401 17%	98 21%	138 18%	140 16%	106 13%	65 10%	112 11%	102 11%	204 16%	110 16%	243 16%	80 16%	203 14%	240 16%	137 14%
None of these	57 1%	36 2%	21 1%	6 1%	8 1%	9 1%	10 1%	9 1%	15 2%	10 1%	18 1%	4 1%	24 2%	8 2%	22 1%	14 1%	12 1%
Don't know	189 4%	88 4%	101 4%	25 5%	29 4%	29 3%	21 3%	24 4%	61 6%	26 3%	54 4%	19 3%	90 6%	32 6%	55 4%	59 4%	43 4%

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Table 1
Q.1 The government plans to merge most police forces in England and Wales, creating fewer, bigger forces, each covering a much bigger area.
Supporters argue that the new, larger forces will be able to fight organised crime more effectively. Opponents say that this could be achieved
by closer co-operation between local forces, and that the disappearance of local forces risks less attention being paid to local crime. Which of the
following statements comes closest to your view?
Base: All respondents in a police merger area

		Region								
	Total	North East	Yorks & Humb.	East Mid-lands	East-ern	South East	South West	Wales	West Mid-lands	North West
Unweighted base	4927	502	679	516	578	536	537	505	552	522
Weighted base	4500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
I am aware of plans to merge my local police force with neighbouring ones, and I generally support the idea	923 21%	107 21%	95 19%	91 18%	106 21%	100 20%	91 18%	125 25%	109 22%	100 20%
I am aware of plans to merge my local police force with neighbouring ones and I generally oppose the idea	1933 43%	198 40%	207 41%	239 48%	225 45%	202 40%	224 45%	224 45%	208 42%	205 41%
I was unaware of plans to merge my local police force with neighbouring ones but I generally support the idea	738 16%	90 18%	92 18%	84 17%	69 14%	78 16%	79 16%	65 13%	88 18%	93 19%
I was unaware of plans to merge my local police force with neighbouring ones but I generally oppose the idea	660 15%	77 15%	83 17%	62 12%	72 14%	80 16%	77 15%	59 12%	69 14%	80 16%
None of these	57 1%	4 1%	5 1%	7 1%	6 1%	8 2%	7 1%	5 1%	9 2%	6 1%
Don't know	189 4%	25 5%	18 4%	17 3%	22 4%	32 6%	21 4%	22 4%	16 3%	16 3%

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Table 2
Classification
Base: All respondents in a police merger area

		Total	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region			
			Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West
Unweighted base		4927	2164	2763	406	714	1052	923	864	968	1402	1088	894	1543	536	1646	1703	1042
Weighted base		4500	2187	2313	470	767	851	787	640	985	933	1304	711	1552	500	1500	1500	1000
Sex																		
Male		2187 49%	2187 100%	- -	232 49%	365 48%	419 49%	388 49%	313 49%	469 48%	495 53%	626 48%	394 55%	672 43%	241 48%	735 49%	726 48%	485 48%
Female		2313 51%	- -	2313 100%	238 51%	402 52%	432 51%	399 51%	327 51%	515 52%	438 47%	677 52%	317 45%	880 57%	259 52%	765 51%	774 52%	515 52%
Age																		
18-24	(21)	470 10%	232 11%	238 10%	470 100%	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	104 11%	172 13%	72 10%	122 8%	47 9%	159 11%	162 11%	103 10%
25-34	(29.5)	767 17%	365 17%	402 17%	- -	767 100%	- -	- -	- -	- -	191 20%	289 22%	128 18%	159 10%	83 17%	266 18%	256 17%	162 16%
35-44	(39.5)	851 19%	419 19%	432 19%	- -	- -	851 100%	- -	- -	- -	207 22%	269 21%	177 25%	199 13%	95 19%	286 19%	288 19%	182 18%
45-54	(49.5)	787 17%	388 18%	399 17%	- -	- -	- -	787 100%	- -	- -	190 20%	242 19%	137 19%	219 14%	87 17%	262 17%	263 18%	175 17%
55-64	(59.5)	640 14%	313 14%	327 14%	- -	- -	- -	- -	640 100%	- -	123 13%	160 12%	106 15%	252 16%	70 14%	213 14%	211 14%	147 15%
65+	(70)	985 22%	469 21%	515 22%	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	985 100%	119 13%	173 13%	92 13%	601 39%	119 24%	314 21%	320 21%	231 23%
Average age		47.13	47.04	47.21	21.00	29.50	39.50	49.50	59.50	70.00	43.96	43.19	44.64	53.49	47.90	46.75	46.86	47.72

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Base: All respondents in a police merger area

| | | Sex | | Age | | | | | | Social Class | | | | Region | | | |
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West
Weighted base	4500	2187	2313	470	767	851	787	640	985	933	1304	711	1552	500	1500	1500	1000
Social Class																	
AB	933	495	438	104	191	207	190	123	119	933	-	-	-	137	317	283	197
	21%	23%	19%	22%	25%	24%	24%	19%	12%	100%	-	-	-	27%	21%	19%	20%
C1	1304	626	677	172	289	269	242	160	173	-	1304	-	-	170	427	406	301
	29%	29%	29%	37%	38%	32%	31%	25%	18%	-	100%	-	-	34%	28%	27%	30%
C2	711	394	317	72	128	177	137	106	92	-	-	711	-	63	246	241	162
	16%	18%	14%	15%	17%	21%	17%	16%	9%	-	-	100%	-	13%	16%	16%	16%
DE	1552	672	880	122	159	199	219	252	601	-	-	-	1552	130	511	571	340
	34%	31%	38%	26%	21%	23%	28%	39%	61%	-	-	-	100%	26%	34%	38%	34%
Region																	
North	1500	726	774	162	256	288	263	211	320	283	406	241	571	-	-	1500	-
	33%	33%	33%	35%	33%	34%	33%	33%	32%	30%	31%	34%	37%	-	-	100%	-
Midlands	2000	976	1024	212	347	377	350	286	427	408	571	327	695	-	1500	-	500
	44%	45%	44%	45%	45%	44%	44%	45%	43%	44%	44%	46%	45%	-	100%	-	50%
South	1000	484	516	95	164	186	174	143	238	243	327	143	286	500	-	-	500
	22%	22%	22%	20%	21%	22%	22%	22%	24%	26%	25%	20%	18%	100%	-	-	50%

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Classification
Base: All respondents in a police merger area

		Total	North East	Yorks & Humb.	East Mid-lands	East-ern	South East	South West	Wales	West Mid-lands	North West
							Region				
Unweighted base		4927	502	679	516	578	536	537	505	552	522
Weighted base		4500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Sex											
Male		2187 49%	242 48%	243 49%	245 49%	245 49%	241 48%	243 49%	242 48%	244 49%	241 48%
Female		2313 51%	258 52%	257 51%	255 51%	255 51%	259 52%	257 51%	258 52%	256 51%	259 52%
Age											
18-24	(21)	470 10%	55 11%	56 11%	54 11%	50 10%	47 9%	49 10%	54 11%	55 11%	51 10%
25-34	(29.5)	767 17%	84 17%	88 18%	88 18%	89 18%	83 17%	81 16%	81 16%	89 18%	84 17%
35-44	(39.5)	851 19%	97 19%	95 19%	96 19%	96 19%	95 19%	91 18%	91 18%	94 19%	96 19%
45-54	(49.5)	787 17%	88 18%	86 17%	88 18%	88 18%	87 17%	87 17%	88 18%	86 17%	88 18%
55-64	(59.5)	640 14%	70 14%	69 14%	71 14%	70 14%	70 14%	73 15%	74 15%	72 14%	72 14%
65+	(70)	985 22%	107 21%	105 21%	104 21%	106 21%	119 24%	119 24%	113 23%	104 21%	109 22%
Average age		47.13	46.86	46.52	46.68	46.93	47.90	47.99	47.45	46.64	47.21

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	Total	North East	Yorks & Humb.	East Mid-lands	East-ern	South East	South West	Wales	West Mid-lands	North West
						Region				
Weighted base	4500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Social Class										
AB	933	87	94	101	118	137	106	91	98	102
	21%	17%	19%	20%	24%	27%	21%	18%	20%	20%
C1	1304	129	135	138	152	170	157	144	136	141
	29%	26%	27%	28%	30%	34%	31%	29%	27%	28%
C2	711	81	84	84	78	63	81	81	84	76
	16%	16%	17%	17%	16%	13%	16%	16%	17%	15%
DE	1552	203	186	176	152	130	156	184	183	181
	34%	41%	37%	35%	30%	26%	31%	37%	37%	36%
Region										
North	1500	500	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	500
	33%	100%	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%
Midlands	2000	-	-	500	500	-	-	500	500	-
	44%	-	-	100%	100%	-	-	100%	100%	-
South	1000	-	-	-	-	500	500	-	-	-
	22%	-	-	-	-	100%	100%	-	-	-

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