Ipsos UK Conservative leadership contest polling

October 2022

From a long-list, Sunak is the public's preferred choice as Prime Minister, while Johnson leads among 2019 Conservatives

Which of the following Conservative party politicians, if any, do you think would be the best Prime Minister?

Among all

2019 Conservative voters

Rishi Sunak	24% 26%
Boris Johnson	17% 30%
Penny Mordaunt	6% 7%
Ben Wallace	5% 4%
Theresa May	3% 3%
Jeremy Hunt	2% 2%
Jacob Rees-Mogg	2% 2%
Michael Gove	2% 1%
Suella Braverman	1% 2%
Kemi Badenoch	1% 3%
Grant Shapps	1% 0%
Thérèse Coffey	0% 0%
Somebody else	1% 2%
None of these	22%
Don't know	13%

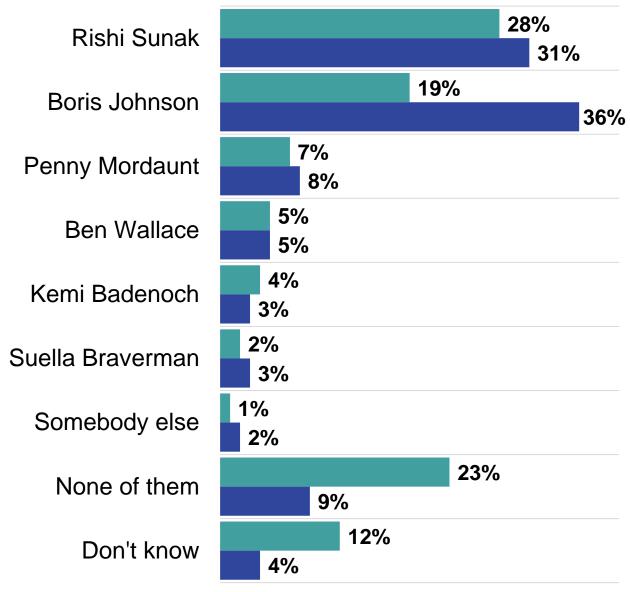


From a short-list of contenders, Sunak is the public's preferred choice as Prime Minister, while Johnson leads among 2019 Conservatives

And now looking at the list below, which of the following Conservative party politicians, if any, do you think would be the best Prime Minister?

Among all

2019 Conservative voters



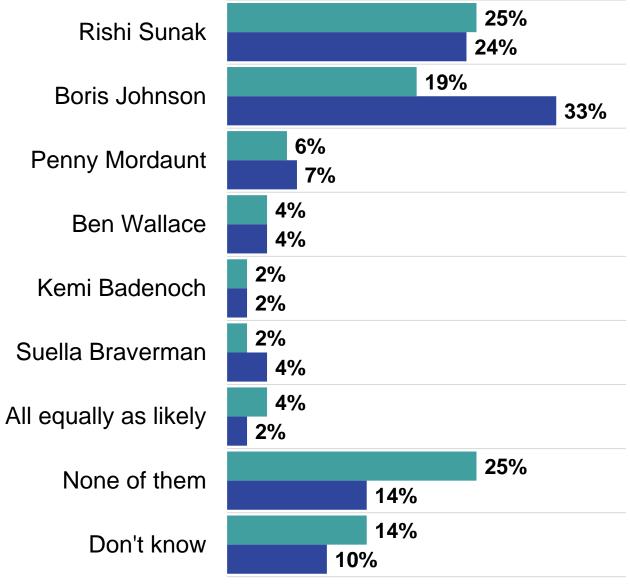
Base: 1083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 20-21 October 2022, including (355) 2019 Conservative Party voters

From a short-list of contenders, Sunak is seen by the public as the most likely to help his party win the next election, while Johnson leads among 2019 Conservatives

In your opinion, who, if anyone would be most likely to help the Conservative Party win the next General Election, if they were elected leader?

Among all

2019 Conservative voters



Base: 1083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 20-21 October 2022, including (355) 2019 Conservative Party voters



What should Conservative candidates for the next Prime Minister be talking about?

As you may know, the Conservative party are now in the process of choosing a new leader and that person will replace Liz Truss as Prime Minister.

Which of the following subjects, if any, would you most like to hear the candidates talk about their plans for?

Among all

2019 Conservative voters

	The rising cost of living	
	Public services such as the NHS and schools	
	Poverty and inequality in Britain	
	Poverty and inequality in Britain	
	Economic growth	
	Immigration and border security	
	The levels of taxation they would set	
	Crime and policing	
	Britain's relationship with the EU	
18	Crime and policing	
	The Russian invasion of Ukraine	
2 16%	Reducing inequalities between different regions (also known as levelling up)	
4 <mark>%</mark> 3%	Transgender issues / transgender rights	

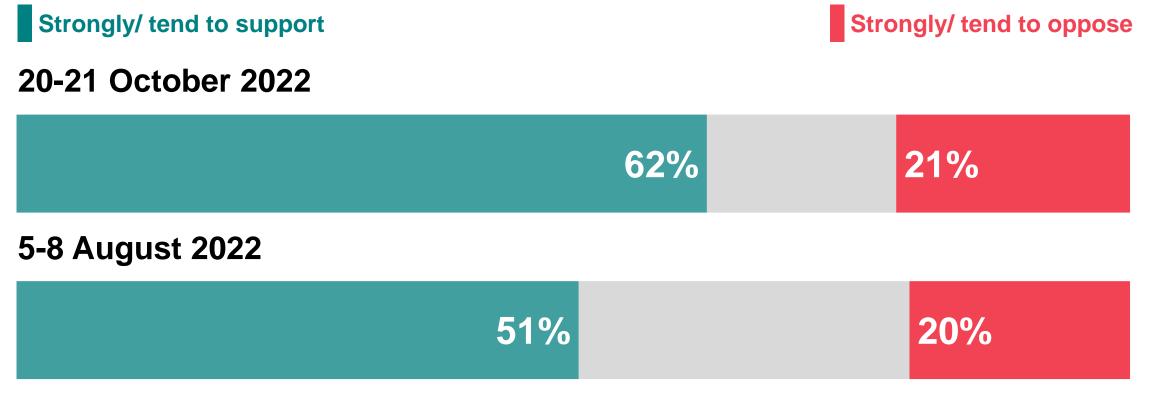
80% 85%
47% 45%
41% 28%
41% 28%
48% 56%
30% 46%
43% 47%
26% 32%
27% 22%
24% 18%
27%
20% 16%
<mark>4%</mark> 3%

Base:1083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 20-21 October 2022



Three in five support a General Election being held as soon as possible once the new Prime Minister is in place

As you may know, the last General election was held in December 2019, and the next one needs to be held by January 2025. To what extent, if at all, would you support or oppose a General Election being held this year once the new Prime Minister is in place?



Base: 1083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 20-21 October 2022



The majority think it is likely that Starmer will one day be Prime Minister

In your opinion, how likely or not is it that Labour leader Keir Starmer will ever be Prime Minister?

Very/fairly likely

20-21 October 2022

Not very / at all likely

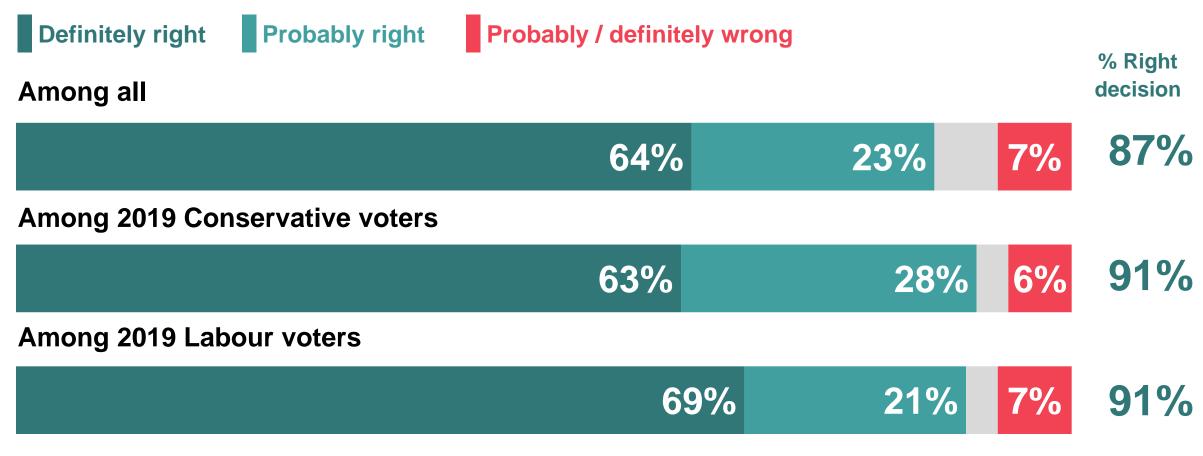
56% 29% 28-29 September 2022 35% 51% 6-9 May 2022 38% 47% 14-18 January 2022 32% 50% 7-10 January 2022 50% 28% Base: 1083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 20-21 October 2022

Note - trend data rebased on 18-75 to ensure comparability.



Nine in ten say Liz Truss was right to resign as Prime Minister

As you may have heard, on Thursday, Liz Truss resigned as Prime Minister. Do you think that this was the right or wrong decision?



Base: 1,083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 20-21 October 2022 including 335 2019 Conservative party voters and 301 2019 Labour party voters

Seven in ten say Truss has changed the country for the worse

From what you've seen or heard about Liz Truss, if anything, do you think she has changed the country for the better, worse, or made no difference?



20-21 October 2022 – Liz Truss has changed the country for...

5%	21%	70%	4%
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5-6 September 2022 – Liz Truss will change the country for...

30%	26%	32%	11%
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Base: 1083 Online British adults aged 18-75, 20-21 October 2022



Ipsos UK

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For more information

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