

10th December, 1999

ANALYSIS OF OPINION POLLS ON WHETHER THE UK SHOULD LEAVE THE EU

Only Mori has asked the same question 20 times since 1977:

"If there were a referendum now on whether Britain should stay in or get out of the European Union, how would you vote?"

The "get out" vote has not dropped below 41% since 1987, and has averaged 45.95% since 1977. The last poll, in October 1999, gave 42% "stay in" and 45% "get out".

The annual Social Attitudes Survey published at the end of November showed 50.3% in favour of leaving the EU or reducing its powers.

A separate Mori poll at the end of October found "Europe" to be the most important issue facing Britain today (22%), ahead of National Health Service/ Hospitals (14%) in second place.

See attached sheet for actual results.

Note: And this is in spite of the electorate being told for 25 years by all our main political parties and all our political media that the EU is vital to the national interest (give or take the Labour

wobble).

Appendix: Percentage Responses to this Question (Mori)

"If there were a referendum now on whether Britain should stay in or get out of the European Union, how would you vote?"

All Respondents				
Month/ Year	Stay In	Get Out	Don't Know	Net Stay In

77 47 42 11 +5 53 47
 80 26 (Lo) 65 (Hi) 9 -39 29 71
 83 36 55 9 -19 40 60
 87 48 39 13 +9 55 45
 90 62 (Hi) 28 (Lo) 9 +34 68 32
 91 60 29 11 +31 67 33
 92 52 35 13 +17 60 40
 93 46 39 15 +7 54 46
 94 52 36 12 +16 59 41
 5/96 44 39 17 +5 53 47
 11/96 44 40 16 +4 52 48
 4/97 40 40 19 0 50 50
 4/97 44 41 15 +3 52 48
 10/97 44 37 19 +7 54 46
 11/97 49 35 16 +14 58 42
 6/98 47 40 13 +7 54 46
 5/99 44 39 17 +5 53 47
 6/99 41 37 22 +4 53 47

10/99 51 41 8 +10 55 45

10/99 42 45 13 -3 49 51

Averages 45.95 40.10 13.85 +5.85 53.40 46.60