

YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 2007 GB Adults
Fieldwork: 20th - 21st May 2026

	Vote in 2024 GE					EU Ref 2016		Gender		Age				Socio-economic classification (NS-SEC)			Country			Region in England				
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Reform UK	Green	Remain	Leave	Male	Female	18-24	25-49	50-64	65+	Higher	Intermediate	Routine	England	Wales	Scotland	North	Midlands	London	Rest of South
Weighted Sample	2007	361	516	185	217	114	704	716	971	1036	211	829	496	472	680	450	600	1736	96	175	476	329	243	688
Unweighted Sample	2007	325	557	207	225	116	804	716	851	1156	165	716	587	539	787	459	481	1720	112	175	489	337	174	720
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

	27 - 28 May '24	20 - 21 May '26																								
On a different topic...																										
How interested, if at all, are you in football?																										
Very interested	19	18	22	20	16	17	13	20	18	31	6	12	21	20	15	19	14	21	18	12	19	21	19	16	17	
Fairly interested	20	17	20	18	14	17	8	18	18	20	14	15	16	19	17	17	16	18	16	18	22	18	18	12	16	
TOTAL INTERESTED	39	35	42	38	30	34	21	38	36	51	20	27	37	39	32	36	30	39	34	30	41	39	37	28	33	
Not very interested	17	17	14	20	19	17	21	17	16	13	21	24	17	17	16	19	15	16	18	12	16	16	16	23	18	
Not at all interested	44	47	45	42	50	49	57	45	48	36	58	46	46	44	52	45	55	44	47	58	43	44	46	48	49	
TOTAL NOT INTERESTED	61	64	59	62	69	66	78	62	64	49	79	70	63	61	68	64	70	60	65	70	59	60	62	71	67	
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	

How often, if at all, do you watch men's English Premier League football matches, either on television or live at a stadium?																										
Very frequently	12	12	17	11	9	14	7	12	13	21	4	7	14	14	10	11	9	17	13	6	9	17	11	10	12	
Fairly frequently	15	11	12	13	11	13	8	13	10	15	8	12	12	14	7	11	12	12	11	4	14	13	13	9	10	
Not very frequently	13	12	10	15	14	6	10	13	10	12	11	12	12	10	12	12	11	11	11	19	12	10	11	14	11	
Rarely	16	16	16	17	15	16	14	15	16	12	19	17	15	17	15	17	12	15	16	7	14	16	17	18	16	
Never	45	49	45	43	52	51	59	47	50	39	58	50	46	45	55	49	56	45	48	62	52	43	48	48	50	
Don't know	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	

[The following questions were asked only to those who watch men's English Premier League football matches very or fairly frequently; n=434]

At the beginning of the 2019-2020 season, the English Premier League introduced Video Assistant Referees (commonly known as VAR) to all matches. How well or badly would you say VAR has worked in the Premier League so far?																										
Worked very well	3	5	7	2	0	1	6	4	2	5	6	9	10	1	0	4	1	7	5	4	6	9	3	9	2	
Worked fairly well	24	21	22	25	12	18	26	27	21	19	28	17	20	25	22	22	36	15	22	18	16	21	17	18	27	
TOTAL WORKED WELL	27	26	29	27	12	19	32	31	23	24	34	26	30	26	22	26	37	22	27	22	22	30	20	27	29	
Neither worked well nor badly	13	14	11	13	25	10	4	11	11	13	16	15	15	10	16	13	14	14	14	4	19	18	10	11	12	
Worked fairly badly	34	37	46	36	38	45	39	37	42	39	32	50	32	39	44	36	34	41	38	50	26	34	48	31	40	
Worked very badly	25	22	13	23	25	27	26	20	23	23	17	7	23	25	18	25	15	24	21	24	32	18	23	27	19	
TOTAL WORKED BADLY	59	59	59	59	63	72	65	57	65	62	49	57	55	64	62	61	49	65	59	74	58	52	71	58	59	
Don't know	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	

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Fieldwork: 20th - 21st May 2026

	Vote in 2024 GE					EU Ref 2016		Gender		Age				Socio-economic classification (NS-SEC)			Country			Region in England				
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Reform UK	Green	Remain	Leave	Male	Female	18-24	25-49	50-64	65+	Higher	Intermediate	Routine	England	Wales	Scotland	North	Midlands	London	Rest of South
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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Thinking about the use of VAR in the English Premier League in the 2025-26 season...if you were to give VAR a mark from 0 to 10 on how well or badly it's worked so far, with 0 being a complete failure and 10 being that it has worked perfectly, what mark would you give?

0 - complete failure	12	10	6	10	16	19	4	7	11	11	8	0	13	9	8	11	5	14	9	15	13	10	6	18	8
1	6	5	4	5	2	5	8	5	5	5	4	0	6	7	3	6	4	4	5	0	9	2	7	0	7
2	8	8	4	14	7	9	7	11	8	9	6	12	7	9	7	9	7	8	8	9	8	4	15	8	8
3	17	17	23	13	20	18	32	18	22	19	13	22	14	20	20	17	9	21	18	7	13	17	24	22	14
4	12	14	13	15	16	14	5	12	12	15	13	28	13	10	17	13	10	20	14	38	15	16	10	12	14
5	13	12	12	10	10	14	9	11	12	12	11	8	11	14	13	10	17	10	12	7	11	15	8	0	14
6	12	11	8	12	14	6	9	11	11	10	13	6	12	11	11	14	15	6	11	16	13	11	11	7	11
7	12	11	17	9	10	9	19	14	10	9	17	12	10	11	14	9	20	6	12	4	0	11	8	18	14
8	6	5	5	4	5	3	7	6	6	4	8	1	6	4	8	5	6	4	5	0	6	7	7	3	4
9	1	2	4	2	0	3	0	3	2	2	4	5	2	3	0	1	2	3	1	0	12	0	1	4	1
10 - worked perfectly	2	4	2	5	0	1	0	3	1	4	2	4	7	1	0	4	3	4	4	4	0	7	1	5	2
Don't know	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	1

How well or badly do you think VAR has been implemented for each of the following in Premier League football matches?
Correcting decisions where play should have been stopped as a player was offside

Very well	x	12	14	10	6	5	13	11	9	14	6	16	15	8	10	15	9	10	13	4	2	13	11	18	12
Fairly well	x	46	44	47	57	36	56	51	44	45	49	41	51	42	45	41	56	47	46	61	46	49	49	45	42
TOTAL WELL	x	58	58	57	63	41	69	62	53	59	55	57	66	50	55	56	65	57	59	65	48	62	60	63	54
Fairly badly	x	24	31	24	21	37	19	23	28	23	30	29	15	34	31	20	22	30	25	30	17	19	28	24	29
Very badly	x	13	9	17	16	15	11	12	14	15	9	0	17	13	10	22	8	9	12	4	30	14	9	11	11
TOTAL BADLY	x	37	40	41	37	52	30	35	42	38	39	29	32	47	41	42	30	39	37	34	47	33	37	35	40
Don't know	x	4	2	3	0	7	0	3	5	3	7	13	3	4	4	3	5	3	4	0	5	4	3	2	5

Deciding whether or not a foul should be given a straight red card

Very well	x	7	7	4	4	3	0	3	6	8	6	10	8	5	6	7	5	7	7	18	0	11	4	11	5
Fairly well	x	37	48	40	33	25	25	44	35	34	46	24	38	40	37	36	44	36	37	38	36	38	40	27	39
TOTAL WELL	x	44	55	44	37	28	25	47	41	42	52	34	46	45	43	43	49	43	44	56	36	49	44	38	44
Fairly badly	x	32	29	30	31	44	55	34	32	34	26	42	27	34	37	30	34	31	32	40	29	31	35	35	30
Very badly	x	20	12	24	28	21	15	16	19	22	13	20	24	16	15	23	11	21	19	0	35	17	18	27	18
TOTAL BADLY	x	52	41	54	59	65	70	50	51	56	39	62	51	50	52	53	45	52	51	40	64	48	53	62	48

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		Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Reform UK	Green	Remain	Leave	Male	Female	18-24	25-49	50-64	65+	Higher	Intermediate	Routine	England	Wales	Scotland	North	Midlands	London	Rest of South	
Weighted Sample	2007	361	516	185	217	114	704	716	971	1036	211	829	496	472	680	450	600	1736	96	175	476	329	243	688	
Unweighted Sample	2007	325	557	207	225	116	804	716	851	1156	165	716	587	539	787	459	481	1720	112	175	489	337	174	720	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Don't know	x	4	5	2	4	8	5	2	7	2	10	4	3	6	5	3	7	4	5	4	0	3	3	0	9
Deciding whether or not a penalty should be awarded																									
Very well	x	8	8	6	2	4	19	6	6	8	9	18	9	4	7	7	6	9	9	11	2	9	8	9	9
Fairly well	x	32	38	29	35	34	16	34	33	29	38	21	31	34	33	36	39	28	32	44	24	26	33	38	36
TOTAL WELL	x	40	46	35	37	38	35	40	39	37	47	39	40	38	40	43	45	37	41	55	26	35	41	47	45
Fairly badly	x	36	34	41	34	33	56	41	38	37	33	28	33	40	41	31	35	39	37	21	33	46	42	26	29
Very badly	x	22	19	23	30	26	9	18	21	24	16	29	24	20	19	24	16	22	20	24	42	17	17	27	24
TOTAL BADLY	x	58	53	64	64	59	65	59	59	61	49	57	57	60	60	55	51	61	57	45	75	63	59	53	53
Don't know	x	2	1	1	0	3	0	1	2	1	4	4	2	2	0	1	3	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	3
Confirming whether or not the ball completely passed over the goal line																									
Very well	x	48	49	52	31	47	40	56	39	54	33	53	50	45	47	52	48	44	48	55	49	48	51	55	46
Fairly well	x	32	28	30	50	36	37	33	39	30	36	14	29	38	37	28	30	38	32	32	30	34	32	21	33
TOTAL WELL	x	80	77	82	81	83	77	89	78	84	69	67	79	83	84	80	78	82	80	87	79	82	83	76	79
Fairly badly	x	7	10	5	6	6	5	5	7	5	14	22	6	6	6	6	8	7	7	13	8	6	5	10	7
Very badly	x	6	4	8	2	1	0	2	7	6	8	5	8	5	4	9	4	4	6	0	11	5	6	11	5
TOTAL BADLY	x	13	14	13	8	7	5	7	14	11	22	27	14	11	10	15	12	11	13	13	19	11	11	21	12
Don't know	x	7	8	5	11	10	18	4	8	6	10	7	7	7	6	5	11	7	8	0	2	7	7	3	9
Correcting cases where a card has been given to the wrong player by accident																									
Very well	x	18	17	18	14	15	13	18	12	22	7	19	23	11	15	21	19	15	18	25	15	22	15	16	17
Fairly well	x	36	36	34	36	39	36	40	36	35	39	28	34	37	42	29	39	38	35	37	40	35	37	43	33
TOTAL WELL	x	54	53	52	50	54	49	58	48	57	46	47	57	48	57	50	58	53	53	62	55	57	52	59	50
Fairly badly	x	15	18	12	12	15	24	14	13	13	20	35	9	20	9	14	8	15	15	5	13	12	20	19	14
Very badly	x	9	4	12	8	9	3	5	10	10	6	3	13	6	8	12	10	7	8	0	17	8	5	10	9
TOTAL BADLY	x	24	22	24	20	24	27	19	23	23	26	38	22	26	17	26	18	22	23	5	30	20	25	29	23
Don't know	x	23	26	24	30	23	24	24	28	21	28	14	21	25	27	24	24	25	23	33	14	23	23	11	27
Overall, how much more or less enjoyable has VAR made watching Premier League football matches, or has it made no difference?																									
Made watching them a lot more enjoyable	2	2	5	2	0	1	0	3	2	1	4	4	3	1	1	4	1	1	2	4	6	1	2	0	3
Made watching them a little more enjoyable	9	7	7	7	4	4	0	7	5	6	9	12	6	7	5	4	12	4	6	7	10	6	8	10	4
Made no difference	20	18	15	17	10	15	14	16	15	17	20	15	20	15	18	16	21	15	18	26	11	23	14	15	16
Made watching them a little less enjoyable	41	37	37	39	43	40	46	34	41	38	34	46	31	42	37	37	39	35	37	32	33	39	34	24	41
Made watching them a lot less enjoyable	27	35	36	32	43	39	40	38	37	38	28	16	37	35	38	39	26	42	35	31	38	30	42	49	31
Don't know	1	2	1	3	0	2	0	1	1	1	4	7	3	0	1	0	1	3	2	0	2	1	0	2	4
What would be your preference on the future use of VAR in Premier League football matches?																									
Keep using VAR as it is used now, without any changes	10	12	14	7	11	9	6	10	9	10	18	24	13	10	7	11	11	12	12	7	10	12	14	16	11
Keep using VAR, but change the ways in which it is used	64	68	70	73	51	68	71	69	68	70	61	64	67	67	70	70	74	62	67	75	76	71	67	65	62
Stop using VAR entirely	22	18	15	16	35	22	23	19	20	18	16	8	17	22	18	17	10	22	18	14	11	14	18	19	22
Don't know	5	3	2	3	4	1	0	2	3	2	5	4	2	1	5	1	4	4	3	5	2	2	1	0	4

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

And generally speaking, do you think VAR should or should not be used for each of the following in Premier League football matches?

Correcting decisions where play should have been stopped as a player was offside

Should be used	x	64	73	67	53	49	63	65	58	68	54	57	70	59	63	68	66	62	65	44	64	68	65	70	60
Should not be used	x	26	18	25	27	44	27	27	32	26	29	29	21	34	27	25	23	28	26	25	31	22	23	24	33
Don't know	x	9	9	8	20	7	10	9	10	6	17	14	9	7	10	7	10	10	9	31	6	10	12	7	7

Deciding whether or not a foul should be given a straight red card

Should be used	x	68	67	71	70	67	75	69	63	69	64	70	70	59	77	69	65	67	68	55	73	74	69	60	63
Should not be used	x	24	24	23	18	28	25	25	28	25	24	10	24	31	21	25	28	23	24	32	27	19	22	22	30
Don't know	x	8	9	6	12	5	0	6	8	6	12	20	6	10	2	6	8	10	9	13	0	7	9	18	7

Deciding whether or not a penalty should be awarded

Should be used	x	72	73	72	76	69	69	65	78	73	72	71	76	64	77	72	78	71	72	47	84	77	64	72	71
Should not be used	x	22	22	21	18	29	31	27	20	23	20	13	20	29	21	22	19	24	23	38	11	18	34	19	23
Don't know	x	6	5	7	6	2	0	8	2	5	8	17	4	6	2	6	3	4	5	16	5	5	2	9	7

Confirming whether or not the ball completely passed over the goal line

Should be used	x	83	85	81	92	86	78	88	83	84	81	70	83	86	84	84	83	82	83	100	79	83	84	81	83
Should not be used	x	12	10	16	6	13	22	8	14	13	10	11	15	10	12	11	14	13	12	0	14	11	14	12	13
Don't know	x	5	5	3	3	1	0	3	3	3	9	20	3	4	4	4	3	5	5	0	7	6	2	7	4

Correcting cases where a card has been given to the wrong player by accident

Should be used	x	77	81	82	66	75	89	79	74	80	70	65	81	72	83	79	85	73	77	44	86	80	79	82	73
Should not be used	x	15	7	12	29	19	11	14	16	15	16	19	14	19	8	14	9	16	15	36	12	12	16	9	18
Don't know	x	8	12	5	5	6	0	6	10	5	15	15	4	9	10	7	6	11	8	19	2	8	5	9	9

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

The following sports also use video assistance referees/ video umpire systems. From what you have seen, how well or badly do you think these systems work in each of the following sports? (Please select one option in each column. If you do't watch a sport, please select the 'Not applicable' option)

		Weighted Sample	Unweighted Sample	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Reform UK	Green	Remain	Leave	Male	Female	18-24	25-49	50-64	65+	Higher	Intermediate	Routine	England	Wales	Scotland	North	Midlands	London	Rest of South	
Rugby Union																											
	Worked very well	39	34	46	39	37	26	43	40	35	39	21	14	36	32	44	35	31	42	34	24	46	32	29	38	36	
	Worked fairly well	14	19	19	22	18	20	10	23	19	20	15	18	17	19	23	21	26	15	17	45	29	13	18	18	20	
	TOTAL WORKED WELL	53	53	65	61	55	46	53	63	54	59	36	32	53	51	67	56	57	57	51	69	75	45	47	56	56	
	Neither worked well or badly	4	3	1	4	2	2	0	3	1	3	2	4	2	4	1	5	1	2	3	0	0	4	1	2	3	
	Worked fairly badly	3	1	1	0	4	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	14	2	1	0	0	1	
	Worked very badly	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	8	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	7	0	
	TOTAL WORKED BADLY	5	2	1	0	4	1	0	1	1	2	2	8	1	2	0	2	1	2	2	14	2	2	0	7	1	
	Not applicable - I haven't seen VAR used in this sport	26	29	21	26	35	41	13	21	33	24	43	42	27	31	24	23	30	27	30	9	18	31	36	14	31	
	Don't know	13	14	12	9	4	10	34	11	11	13	16	13	18	11	8	15	11	12	15	8	6	18	16	20	9	
Cricket																											
	Worked very well	42	40	44	46	35	39	53	48	40	46	22	11	37	47	50	43	39	44	40	51	32	40	39	44	39	
	Worked fairly well	14	13	13	16	15	12	20	18	14	14	11	0	17	14	10	14	19	10	13	7	21	9	9	18	17	
	TOTAL WORKED WELL	56	53	57	62	50	51	73	66	54	60	33	11	54	61	60	57	58	54	53	58	53	49	48	62	56	
	Neither worked well or badly	4	4	4	1	2	2	0	2	3	4	4	15	2	2	5	4	3	4	3	0	7	3	4	7	2	
	Worked fairly badly	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	14	0	1	0	0	1	
	Worked very badly	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
	TOTAL WORKED BADLY	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	4	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	14	0	1	0	0	2	
	Not applicable - I haven't seen VAR used in this sport	25	29	25	27	38	36	17	23	31	22	47	49	27	29	23	24	28	29	29	13	29	29	38	12	30	
	Don't know	13	13	13	9	11	10	10	9	11	13	14	21	16	8	11	12	11	14	13	15	11	18	9	19	10	
Tennis																											
	Worked very well	45	40	45	44	24	38	62	47	36	44	30	9	43	43	45	47	32	46	38	48	59	38	46	43	33	
	Worked fairly well	18	23	31	25	33	20	17	25	26	24	20	22	21	23	29	24	32	18	24	10	17	21	13	24	32	
	TOTAL WORKED WELL	63	63	76	69	57	58	79	72	62	68	50	31	64	66	74	71	64	64	62	58	76	59	59	67	65	
	Neither worked well or badly	2	4	3	4	5	2	0	2	5	4	3	9	4	3	1	4	5	2	4	0	7	3	1	3	6	
	Worked fairly badly	1	0	0	0	2	0	5	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	
	Worked very badly	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	
	TOTAL WORKED BADLY	2	0	0	0	2	1	5	1	0	0	4	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	1	14	0	1	2	0	0	
	Not applicable - I haven't seen VAR used in this sport	22	22	15	19	30	31	7	16	25	16	36	39	18	22	20	15	23	20	22	13	13	20	30	12	24	
	Don't know	10	11	6	7	6	8	10	9	6	11	9	21	13	7	5	8	7	12	11	15	4	17	9	18	5	

*Any percentages calculated on bases fewer than 100 respondents do not represent a wide enough cross-section of the target population to be considered statistically reliable. These figures should not be used.