

TERRORISM

# Most Britons Expect a New Terrorist Attack in the Next Year

*Three-in-ten respondents believe the country is now safer than it was in the aftermath of the 2005 London bombings.*

[LONDON – Jul. 21, 2010] – Five years after the London bombings that killed 52 people, many adults in Britain believe that their country will become a target for terrorism again, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,980 British adults, 59 per cent of respondents think it is "very likely" or "moderately likely" that a terrorist attack will happen in the UK in the next year.

Two-in-five respondents express "complete confidence" or "a lot of confidence" in the ability of the Secret Intelligence Service - MI6 (41%) and the Security Service - MI5 (40%) to avert a terrorist attack. Fewer respondents feel the same way about the special police forces (37%) and the territorial police forces (27%).

In all, 31 per cent of respondents say the UK is safer now than in the aftermath of the 2005 London bombings, while 15 per cent think the country is less safe. Almost half of respondents (46%) perceive no difference.

Four-in-five Britons (80%) believe that a new terrorist attack as deadly as the 2005 London bombings is "very likely" or "moderately likely" to take place in their lifetimes.

## KEY FINDINGS

- **59% think a terrorist attack is "very likely" or "moderately likely" to happen in the next year**
- **31% think the UK is safer now than in the aftermath of the 2005 London bombings**
- **80% think a new terrorist attack as deadly as the 2005 London bombings is "very likely" or "moderately likely" to happen in their lifetimes**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

*From July 15 to July 16, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,980 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.*

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## Terrorism

How likely is it that a terrorist attack will happen in the UK in the next year?

	Region					
	Great Britain	London	South of England	Midlands and Wales	North	Scotland
Very likely / Moderately likely	59%	49%	59%	61%	62%	59%
Not too likely / Not likely at all	28%	30%	30%	26%	25%	32%
Not sure	13%	21%	11%	13%	12%	9%

## Terrorism

How much confidence do you have in each one of the following departments and agencies to avert a terrorist attack?

	Complete confidence / A lot of confidence	A fair amount of confidence	Not much confidence / No confidence at all	Not sure
Secret Intelligence Service - MI6	41%	36%	14%	8%
Security Service - MI5	40%	37%	15%	8%
Special police forces	37%	28%	18%	7%
Territorial police forces	27%	40%	25%	8%

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## Terrorism

Do you think the UK is safer or less safe now than in the aftermath of the 2005 London bombings?

	Region					
	Great Britain	London	South of England	Midlands and Wales	North	Scotland
<b>Safer</b>	31%	33%	31%	30%	32%	34%
<b>Less safe</b>	15%	17%	14%	18%	15%	12%
<b>No difference</b>	46%	44%	48%	46%	44%	46%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	6%	8%	7%	9%	7%

## Terrorism

How likely is it that a new terrorist attack as deadly as the 2005 London bombings will take place in your lifetime?

	Region					
	Great Britain	London	South of England	Midlands and Wales	North	Scotland
<b>Very likely / Moderately likely</b>	80%	69%	85%	82%	80%	77%
<b>Not too likely / Not likely at all</b>	11%	15%	8%	10%	10%	15%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	16%	7%	8%	9%	8%

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*Angus Reid Public Opinion is a practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specializing in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Strategies team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995*

*Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.*

*Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum ([www.angusreidforum.com](http://www.angusreidforum.com)), Springboard America ([www.springboardamerica.com](http://www.springboardamerica.com)) and Springboard UK ([www.springboarduk.com](http://www.springboarduk.com)) online panels, which are carefully recruited to ensure representation across all demographic and psychographic segments of these populations. Panel members pass through rigorous screening and a double opt-in process ensuring highly motivated and responsive members. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.*

*Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election.*

*<http://bit.ly/4zxf1S>*

*Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.*

*More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at <http://bit.ly/3z0u1l>*

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**For more information, please contact  
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:  
<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>**

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