

## Should exams go ahead in 2022?

03<sup>rd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Sample of 27,919 voters

If you want more information of the exact split of the sample size across the different categories below, please contact us at [lara@votesforschools.com](mailto:lara@votesforschools.com).

**Please Note:** The sample size featured reflects the number of pupils and students that cast their vote on this topic during the week in which this vote was held. This sample size does therefore not reflect the number of pupils and students who discussed this VoteTopic but did not get a chance to participate in the voting.

### VoteTopic Overview:

#### **Question Primary KS1:**

“Do you feel ready for the new school year?”

#### **Question Primary KS2:**

“Are tests the best way to show what you have learned?”

#### **Question Secondary:**

“Should exams go ahead in 2022?”

#### **Question Secondary 16+ & College:**

“Should exams go ahead in 2022?”

### Grand Total

#### Primary KS1:

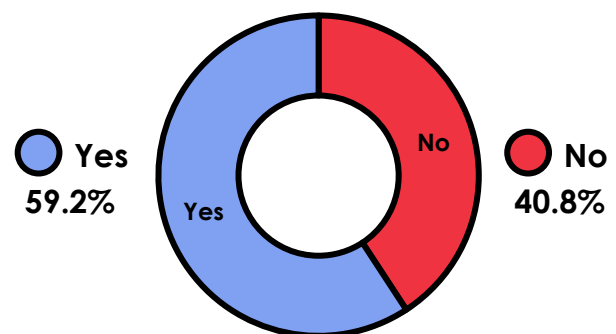
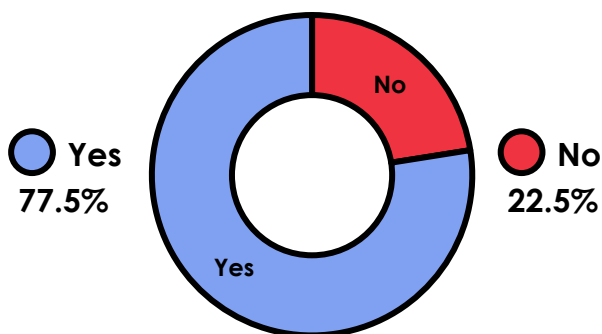
“Do you feel ready for the new school year?”

Yes 77.50%  
No 22.50%

#### Primary KS2:

“Are tests the best way to show what you have learned?”

Yes 59.22%  
No 40.78%



**Be informed.**



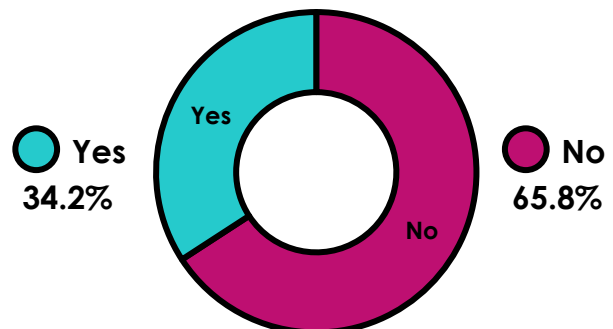
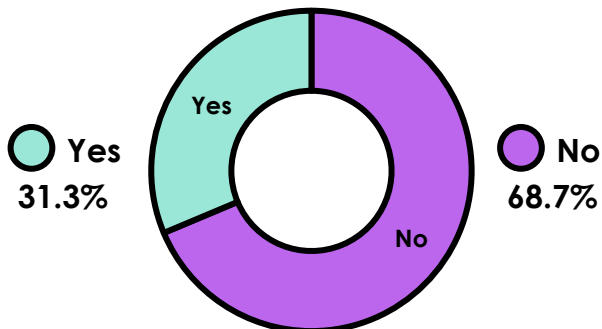
**Be curious.**



**Be heard.**

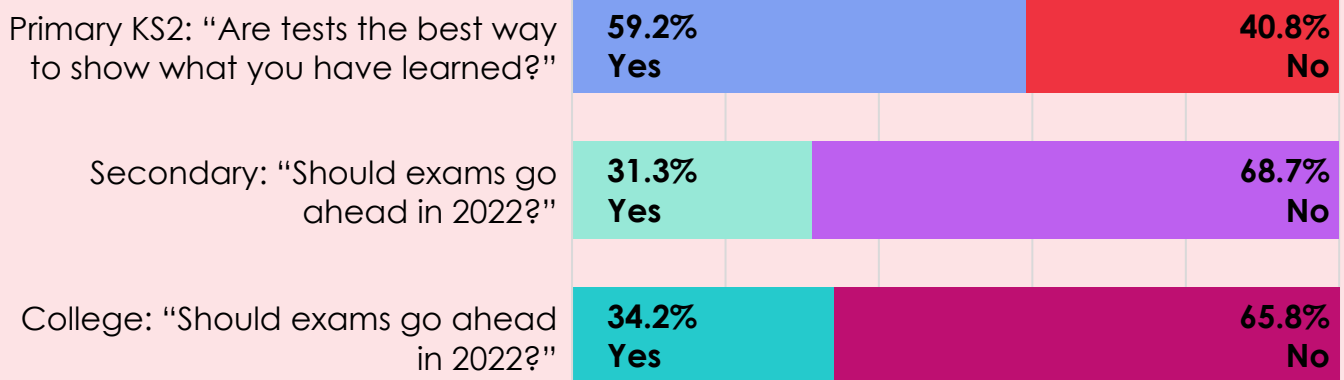
Secondary:  
 "Should exams go ahead in 2022?"  
 Yes 31.33%  
 No 68.67%

Secondary 16+ & College:  
 "Should exams go ahead in 2022?"  
 Yes 34.17%  
 No 65.83%

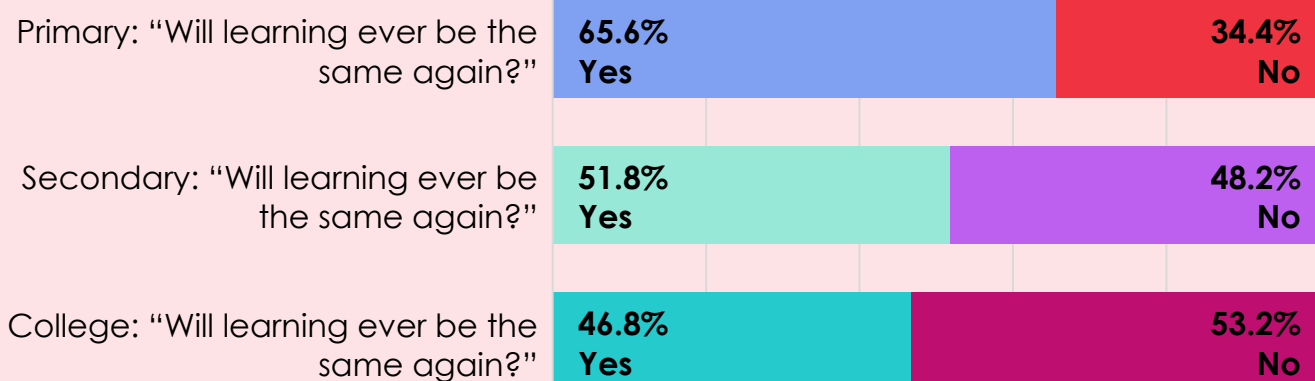


### How does this compare to previous VoteTopics?

This week | 03<sup>rd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Sep 2021:



29<sup>th</sup> Jan – 05<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021:





27th Mar – 03rd Apr 2020:

Primary: "Can you learn more without a classroom?"



Secondary: "Can we learn more outside the classroom?"



College: "Can we learn more outside the classroom?"



01st – 08th Jun 2018:

Primary: "Should schools have animals to help with exam stress?"



Secondary: "Should schools hire 'Therapets' to help with exam stress?"



College: "Should colleges hire 'Therapets' to help with exam stress?"



### **Gender**

Primary KS1: "Do you feel ready for the new school year?"

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Female	77.52%	22.48%
Male	78.16%	21.84%
Diverse*	71.43%	28.57%

Primary KS2: "Are tests the best way to show what you have learned?"

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Female	61.92%	38.08%
Male	57.44%	42.56%
Diverse*	52.81%	47.19%



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### Secondary: "Should exams go ahead in 2022?"

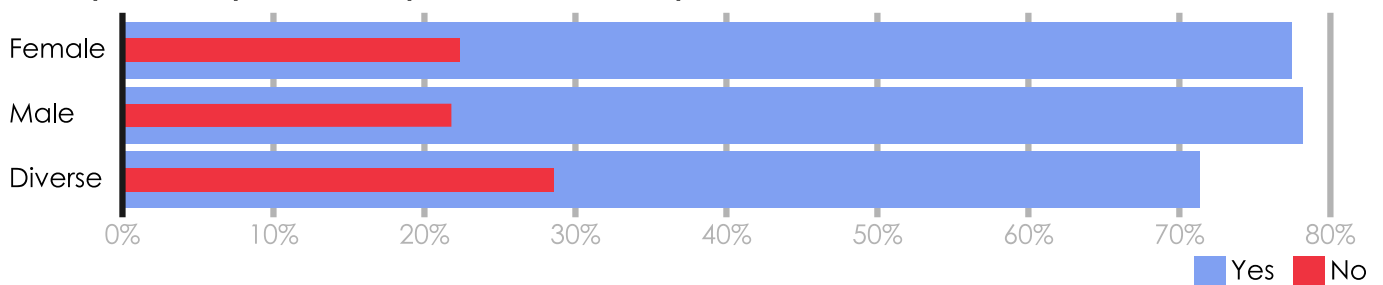
	Yes	No
Female	31.33%	68.67%
Male	31.58%	68.42%
Diverse*	30.20%	69.80%

### 16+ & College: "Should exams go ahead in 2022?"

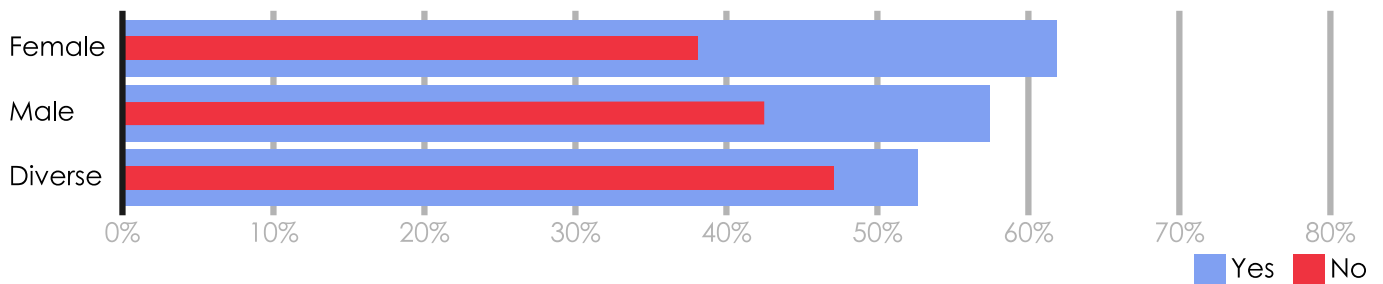
	Yes	No
Female	31.45%	68.55%
Male	36.73%	63.27%
Diverse*	36.26%	63.74%

\*Votes collected as "Diverse" include students that identify as gender diverse, as well as students that wish not to disclose or were not able to specify their gender.

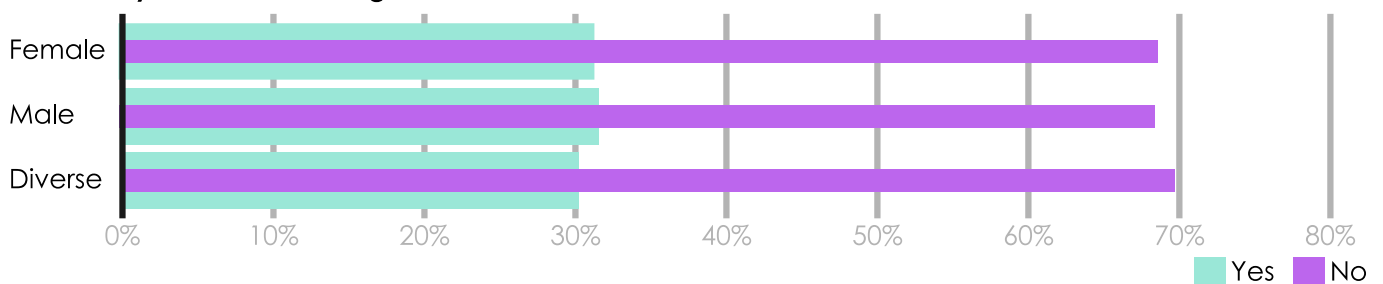
### Primary KS1: "Do you feel ready for the new school year?"



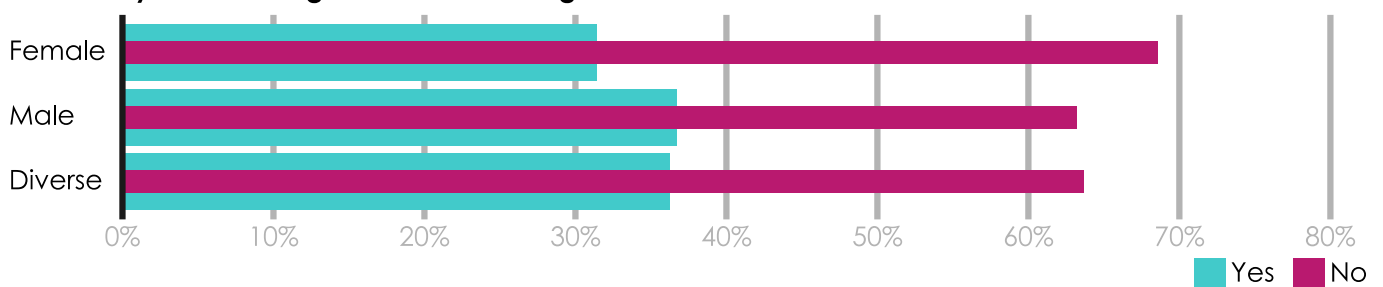
### Primary KS2: "Are tests the best way to show what you have learned?"



### Secondary: "Should exams go ahead in 2022?"



### Secondary 16+ & College: "Should exams go ahead in 2022?"



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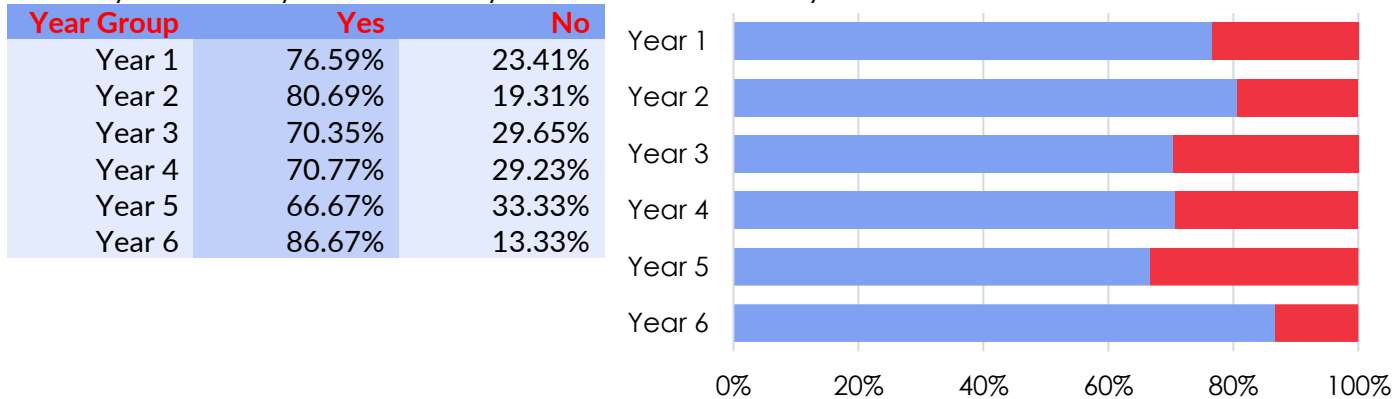


The following chart looks at the above **YES VOTES** and reflects how the results between the gender groups compares to the overall results of Primary, Secondary and 16+ & Colleges:

	Primary KS1	Primary KS2	Secondary	16+ & College
Female	↑ +0.02%	↑ +4.57%	↓ -0.01%	↓ -7.97%
Male	↑ +0.85%	↓ -3.00%	↑ +0.78%	↑ +7.48%
Diverse*	↓ -7.84%	↓ -10.82%	↓ -3.63%	↑ +6.11%

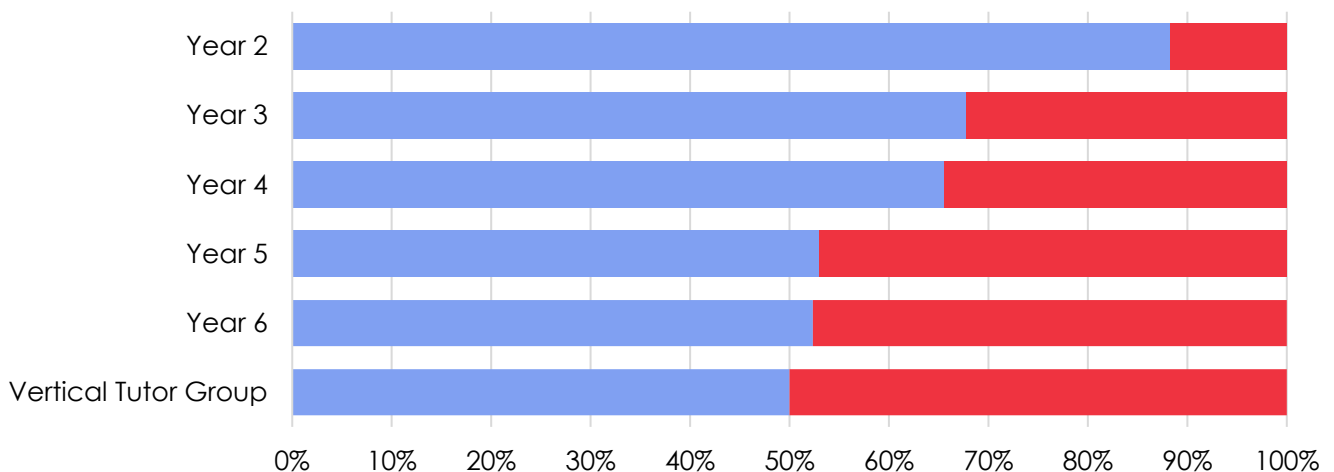
## Age

Primary KS1: "Do you feel ready for the new school year?"



Primary KS2: "Are tests the best way to show what you have learned?"

Year Group	Yes	No
Year 2	88.24%	11.76%
Year 3	67.81%	32.19%
Year 4	65.61%	34.39%
Year 5	52.99%	47.01%
Year 6	52.35%	47.65%
Vertical Tutor Group	50.00%	50.00%



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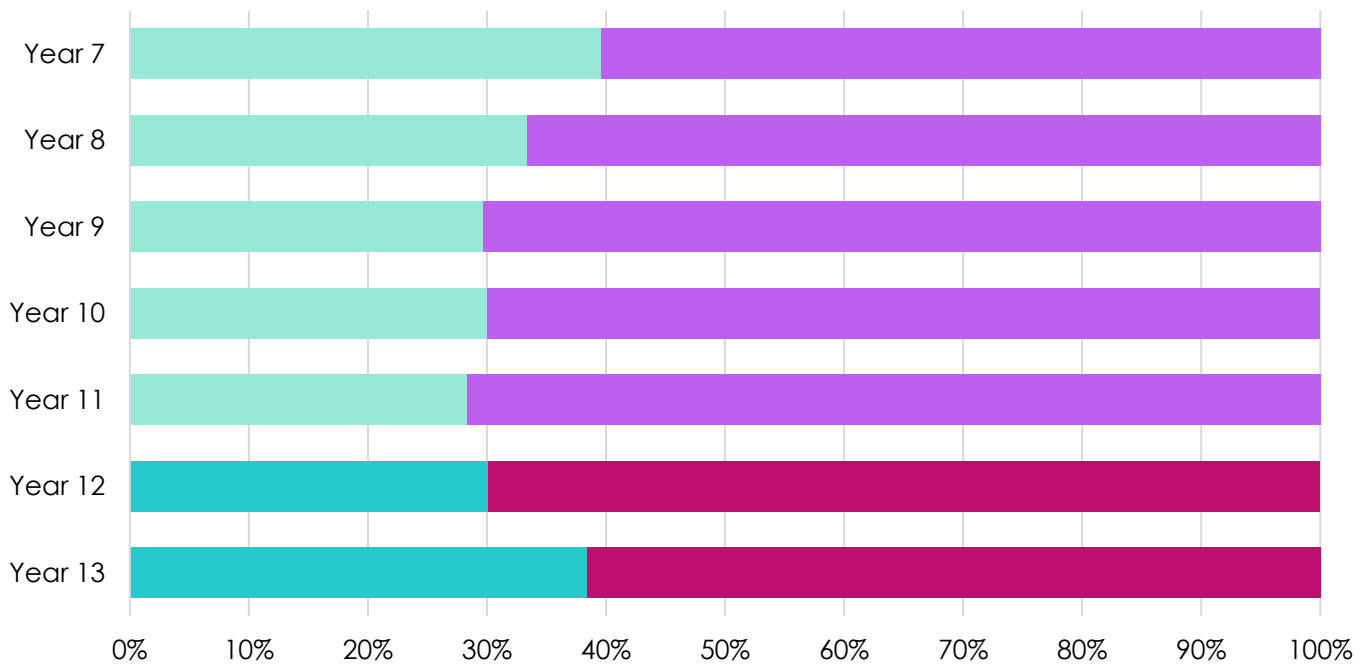


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## Secondary, 16+ & College: "Should exams go ahead in 2022?"

Year Group	Yes	No
Year 7	39.57%	60.43%
Year 8	33.37%	66.63%
Year 9	29.68%	70.32%
Year 10	30.06%	69.94%
Year 11	28.30%	71.70%
Year 12	30.14%	69.86%
Year 13	38.42%	61.58%
Vertical Tutor Group	23.89%	76.11%



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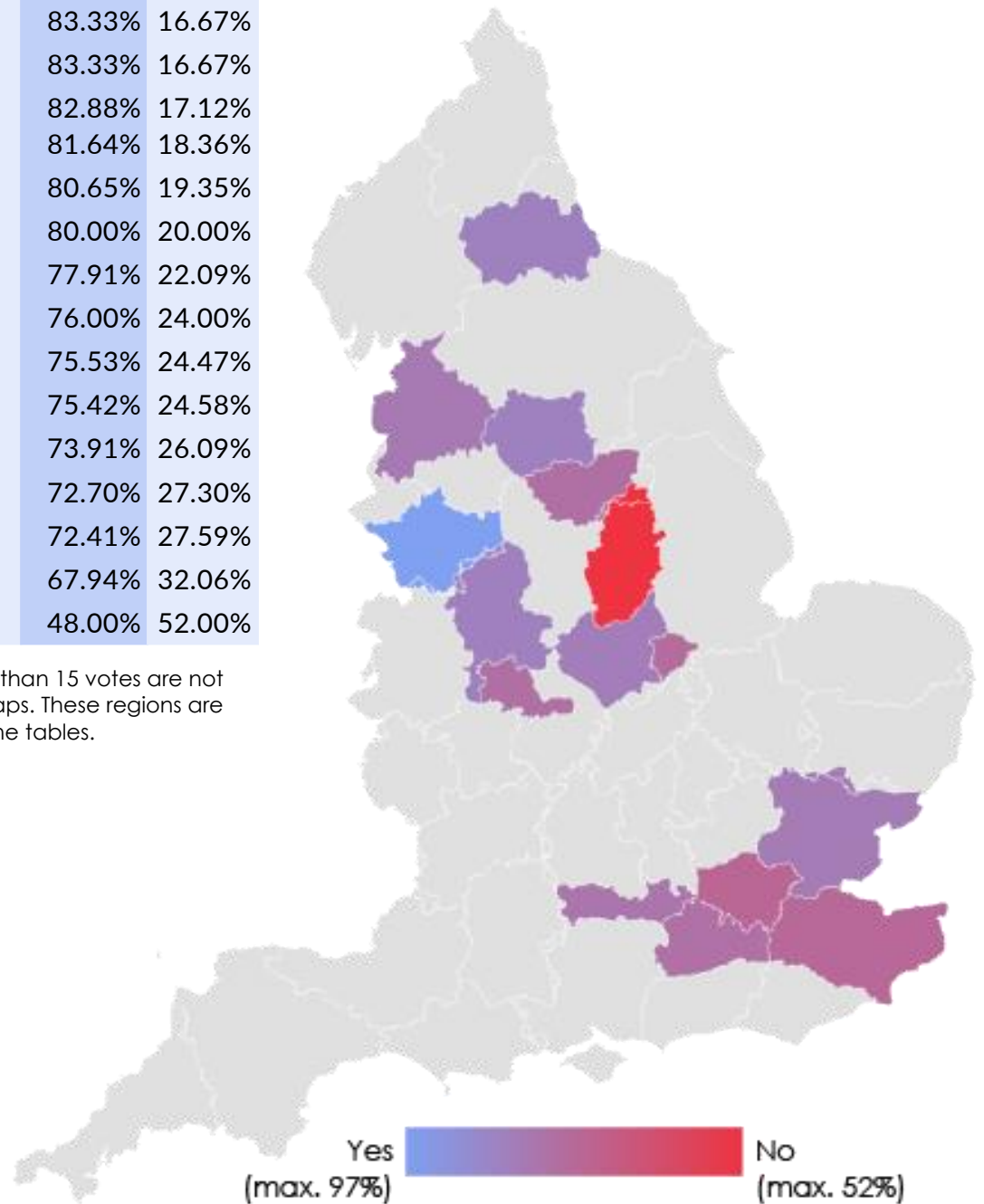


## Location

Primary KS1: "Do you feel ready for the new school year?"

	Yes	No
Northamptonshire*	100.00%	0.00%
Cheshire	97.06%	2.94%
Durham	83.33%	16.67%
West Yorkshire	83.33%	16.67%
Staffordshire	82.88%	17.12%
Leicestershire	81.64%	18.36%
Essex	80.65%	19.35%
Lancashire	80.00%	20.00%
Berkshire	77.91%	22.09%
Surrey	76.00%	24.00%
West Midlands	75.53%	24.47%
South Yorkshire	75.42%	24.58%
Rutland	73.91%	26.09%
London	72.70%	27.30%
Kent	72.41%	27.59%
Greater London	67.94%	32.06%
Nottinghamshire	48.00%	52.00%

\*Regions with fewer than 15 votes are not displayed on the maps. These regions are marked with a \* in the tables.



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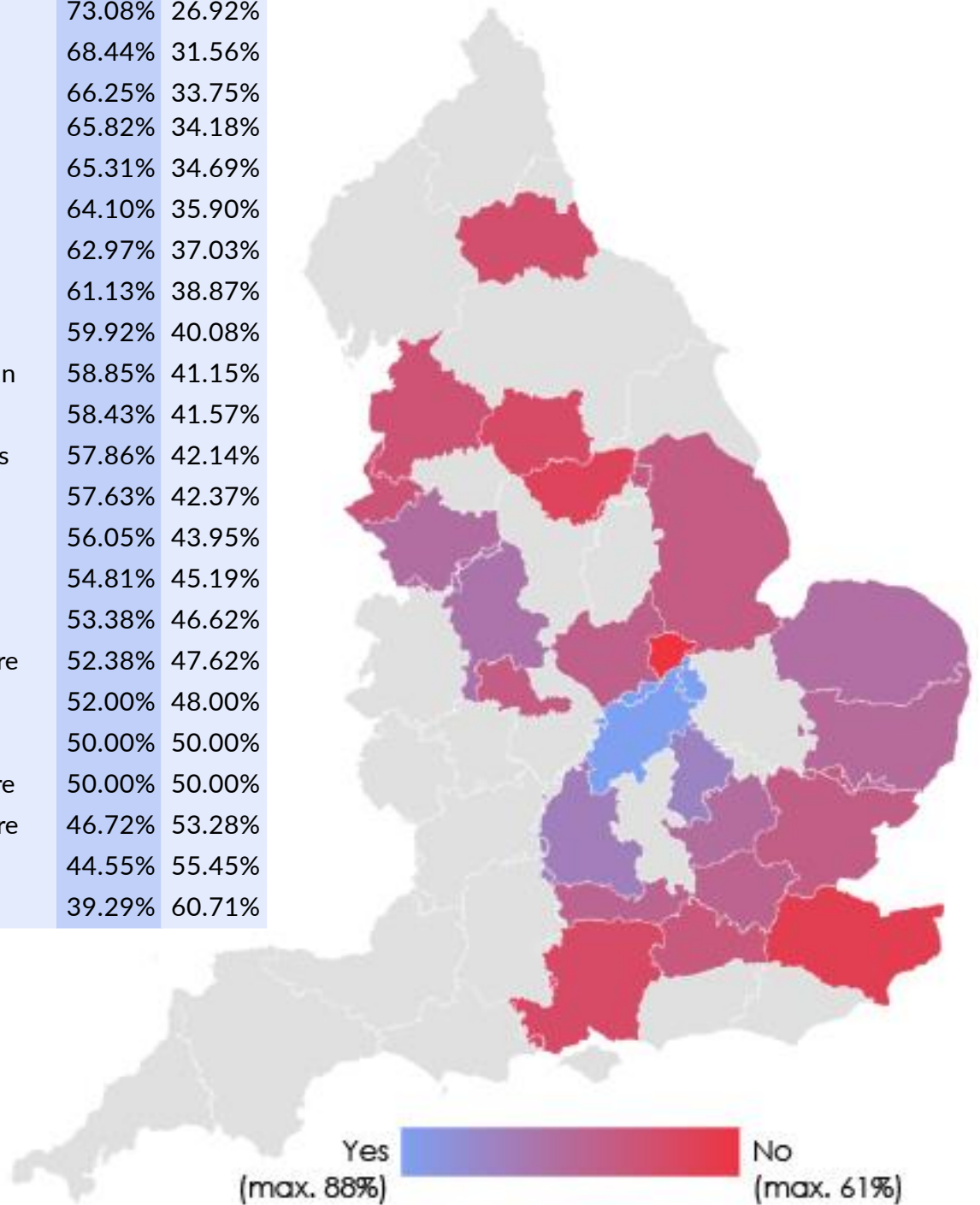
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Primary KS2:

“Are tests the best way to show what you have learned?”

	Yes	No
Northamptonshire	88.00%	12.00%
Bedfordshire	75.00%	25.00%
Oxfordshire	73.08%	26.92%
Staffordshire	68.44%	31.56%
Norfolk	66.25%	33.75%
Cheshire	65.82%	34.18%
Hertfordshire	65.31%	34.69%
Suffolk	64.10%	35.90%
London	62.97%	37.03%
Berkshire	61.13%	38.87%
Leicestershire	59.92%	40.08%
Greater London	58.85%	41.15%
Essex	58.43%	41.57%
West Midlands	57.86%	42.14%
Lincolnshire	57.63%	42.37%
Surrey	56.05%	43.95%
Merseyside	54.81%	45.19%
Lancashire	53.38%	46.62%
North Yorkshire	52.38%	47.62%
Durham	52.00%	48.00%
Hampshire	50.00%	50.00%
West Yorkshire	50.00%	50.00%
South Yorkshire	46.72%	53.28%
Kent	44.55%	55.45%
Rutland	39.29%	60.71%



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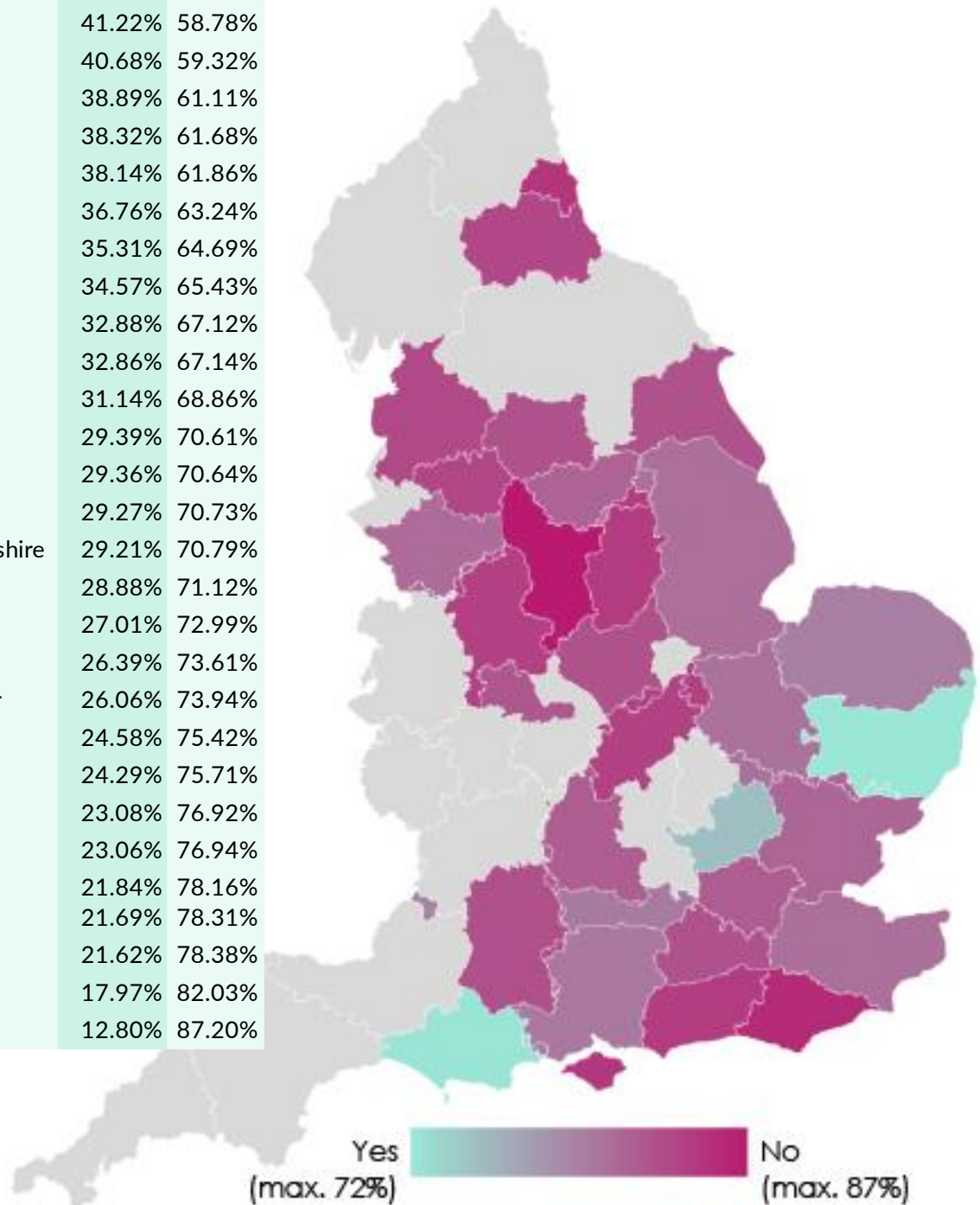
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Secondary, 16+ & College:  
"Should exams go ahead in 2022?"

	Yes	No
Devon*	100.00%	0.00%
Suffolk	72.50%	27.50%
Dorset	72.00%	28.00%
Hertfordshire	60.87%	39.13%
Bristol	43.33%	56.67%
Norfolk	42.67%	57.33%
Berkshire	41.22%	58.78%
Hampshire	40.68%	59.32%
Cambridgeshire	38.89%	61.11%
Kent	38.32%	61.68%
Lincolnshire	38.14%	61.86%
Cheshire	36.76%	63.24%
Essex	35.31%	64.69%
South Yorkshire	34.57%	65.43%
Oxfordshire	32.88%	67.12%
London	32.86%	67.14%
West Midlands	31.14%	68.86%
Leicestershire	29.39%	70.61%
Surrey	29.36%	70.64%
West Yorkshire	29.27%	70.73%
East Riding of Yorkshire	29.21%	70.79%
Wiltshire	28.88%	71.12%
Lancashire	27.01%	72.99%
Durham	26.39%	73.61%
Greater Manchester	26.06%	73.94%
Northamptonshire	24.58%	75.42%
Staffordshire	24.29%	75.71%
Nottinghamshire	23.08%	76.92%
West Sussex	23.06%	76.94%
Isle of Wight	21.84%	78.16%
North Yorkshire	21.69%	78.31%
Tyne and Wear	21.62%	78.38%
East Sussex	17.97%	82.03%
Derbyshire	12.80%	87.20%



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### Voter Comments - Primary KS2:

#### "Are tests the best way to show what you have learned?"

"A test is a **fair and easy** way to test learning, it helps **prevent lying**"

Primary School, Lincolnshire

"Sometimes tests are hard but they **can be fun** and you can **learn from your mistakes.**"

Primary School, Surrey

"Tests help **show** the teachers what we **do not know** so they can **help us get better.**"

Primary School, Suffolk

"If you don't get **nervous** about tests then it's the best way but lots of children get **scared of tests** and so **don't do their best.**"

Primary School, West Midlands

"Tests are **not the best way** to test pupils' knowledge because children may be very **worried and stressed.** This may not show what they really know."

Primary School, Berkshire

### Voter Comments – Secondary, 16+ & College:

#### "Should exams go ahead in 2022?"

"The **organisation of normative examining** has been **well thought** out and although **flawed** is the **fairest system** of **assessing the ability** of individuals despite the pandemic. However, the exams should go ahead **slightly altered for this academic year** to **accommodate** for students who have not had access to **sufficient learning** and **support** since the beginning of their GCSE or A-Level course."

Secondary School, West Midlands



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"There is no reason not to have exams because **every Year 11** across the country **is in the same position**. Everyone has had the **same experience** so there is **no disadvantage!**"

Secondary School, Essex

"They **should definitely go ahead** because it's the **fairest way** to **examine our progress** but at the same time, we have **lost a lot of learning** time so they should **reduce the content.**"

Secondary School, West Midlands

"It's **not fair** that the students who have the **least experience** of exams should be the **first year group** to take **external ones** when they **count significantly to future life.**"

Secondary School, South Yorkshire

"**Lost learning** has **affected our ability** to do well in exams."

Secondary School, Durham

"I believe that **teachers know the students** the best and can give a more **accurate picture** of a student's ability. I strongly think **coursework, portfolios** and **achievements over time** should be considered."

Secondary School, South Yorkshire

"Learners should have the right to **choose** how they are assessed. There should be **several options of assessment** available."

Secondary School, West Midlands



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