

# Results of British Council Global Education Darwin Survey

**Q: Which, if any, of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion about how evolutionary theory should be taught in science lessons in schools?**

Country	Evolutionary theories alone should be taught in science lessons in schools	Evolutionary theories should be taught in science lessons in schools together with other possible perspectives, such as intelligent design and creationism	Other perspectives on the origins of species should be taught in science lessons in schools and not evolutionary theories	Theories about the origins of species and development of life on earth should not be taught in science lessons in schools at all	Don't know
	<b>% across</b>				
<b>Argentina (1,000)</b>	23%	65%	6%	3%	3%
<b>China (1,048)</b>	19%	42%	19%	9%	10%
<b>Egypt (1,277)</b>	18%	19%	8%	18%	36%
<b>Great Britain (973)</b>	21%	54%	6%	3%	16%
<b>India (909)</b>	37%	40%	13%	1%	9%
<b>Mexico (1,012)</b>	28%	56%	9%	4%	2%
<b>Russia (1,600)</b>	10%	53%	13%	4%	20%
<b>South Africa (2,000)</b>	11%	29%	12%	9%	39%
<b>Spain (958)</b>	34%	31%	7%	5%	23%
<b>USA (991)</b>	21%	51%	9%	14%	5%
<b>All 10 Nations (11,768)</b>	20%	43%	10%	7%	19%

*BASE: All respondents aged 18+ (Unweighted base)*



**Q: Which, if any, of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion about how evolutionary theory should be taught in science lessons in schools?**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Evolutionary theories alone should be taught in science lessons in schools</b>	<b>Evolutionary theories should be taught in science lessons in schools together with other possible perspectives, such as intelligent design and creationism</b>	<b>Other perspectives on the origins of species should be taught in science lessons in schools and not evolutionary theories</b>	<b>Theories about the origins of species and development of life on earth should not be taught in science lessons in schools at all</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
	<b>% across</b>				
<b>Argentina (756)</b>	24%	68%	5%	1%	2%
<b>China (800)</b>	21%	49%	20%	6%	4%
<b>Egypt (388)</b>	22%	35%	10%	27%	5%
<b>Great Britain (794)</b>	24%	60%	6%	3%	7%
<b>India (452)</b>	49%	41%	8%	1%	1%
<b>Mexico (775)</b>	29%	58%	8%	4%	1%
<b>Russia (1,289)</b>	12%	58%	13%	3%	14%
<b>South Africa (403)</b>	13%	45%	19%	14%	9%
<b>Spain (648)</b>	42%	38%	7%	3%	10%
<b>USA (833)</b>	21%	55%	9%	11%	3%
<b>All 10 Nations (7,138)</b>	24%	53%	11%	6%	6%

*BASE: All respondents aged 18+ who have heard of Charles Darwin and know something about his theory of evolution (Weighted Base)*

The survey in Great Britain was conducted by Ipsos MORI between 3rd April and 9th April 2009. 973 interviews were completed amongst a nationally representative quota sample of adults aged 18 and over on an omnibus survey. Interviews were conducted face-to-face in the respondent's home. Results have been weighted to the known population.

The research was co-ordinated by Ipsos MORI in Great Britain and fieldwork carried out on our preferred suppliers Omnibus surveys in each of the other countries. Where applicable, samples have been weighted to the known population.

COUNTRY	Field start	Field end	Method	Sample
Argentina	09-04-09	24-04-09	Telephone	1,000 Adults 18-64
China	10-04-09	24-04-09	Telephone	1,048 Adults 18-64
Egypt	03-04-09	24-04-09	Face-to-face	1,277 Adults 18+
Great Britain	03-04-09	09-04-09	Face-to-face	973 Adults 18+
India	10-04-09	24-04-09	Face-to-face	909 Adults 18-64
Mexico	09-04-09	24-04-09	Telephone	1,012 Adults 18-64
Russia	10-04-09	20-04-09	Face-to-face	1,600 Adults 18+
South Africa	17-04-09	08-05-09	Face-to-face	2,000 Adults 18+
Spain	14-04-09	24-04-09	Face-to-face	958 Adults 18+
USA	02-04-09	06-04-09	Telephone	991 Adults 18+

**For more information and to request a copy of the survey results, please contact:**

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### Notes to Editors

#### About Darwin Now

Darwin Now is the British Council's contribution to the international celebration of the 200 year anniversary of Darwin's birth (on the 12<sup>th</sup> February) and the 150 year anniversary of the publication of '*On the Origin of Species*' (on the 24<sup>th</sup> November). Through this international programme of activity the British Council is seeking to engage new audiences, to make Darwin's theory of evolution relevant to their lives, and to encourage involvement and debate. Darwin Now will look at the impact of Darwin's ideas and their impact on contemporary biology, medicine and society. It comprises a year long programme of activity including outreach work and exhibitions in schools and further education colleges, a mobile exhibition, interactive website with and supporting workshops. The campaign is expected to run in up to 50 countries worldwide, including the regions of Europe, North Africa, East Asia, America and Latin America.

In the UK, highlights include the British Science Association, Festival of Science in September, and a youth summit involving 60 students from around the world, which will be held at the Natural History Museum in July. The programme culminates in the "Alexandrina Conference" a three day international conference on evolution and society, which will be held at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt between 14<sup>th</sup>-16th November 2009. For more information, please go to <http://www.britishcouncil.org/darwin>

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#### About British Council

The British Council, which is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009, works in more than 100 countries worldwide to build engagement and trust for the UK through the exchange of knowledge and ideas between people. During 2008, the British Council reached over 128 million people worldwide through a range of cultural programmes



involving the arts, education, science, sport and governance. For more information, please go to [www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org)

### **About MORI**

Ipsos MORI, part of the Ipsos Group, is a leading market research company in the UK with an extensive global reach. The Ipsos network covers more than 55 countries across the globe, providing clients with the best service in five key specialisms. For more information, please visit the Ipsos MORI website at [www.ipsos-mori.com](http://www.ipsos-mori.com).

