

# UK leaders on borrowed time

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson won a no-confidence vote taken by lawmakers of his Conservative Party, surviving by a 211-148 margin. However, challenges rarely end well for incumbents



◀ **2022, Boris Johnson:** Four in 10 MPs vote against him, closer margin than expected



▲ **2018, Theresa May:** Prime minister wins confidence vote by **200-117**. Despite majority, she resigns just five months later, paving way for **Boris Johnson**



▲ **1995, John Major:** Prime minister stands in **“put up or shut up”** leadership election amid speculation among Tories about his future. Running against Eurosceptic **John Redwood**, Major wins confidence vote **218-111** – with support of two in three Tory MPs. Less than two years later, Major loses general election to **Tony Blair’s** Labour party



▲ **1989, 90, Margaret Thatcher:** Prime minister wins leadership challenge with backing of 84% of MPs. Within one year, she faces second challenge from **Michael Heseltine**. Thatcher wins vote by **204-152** – but is four votes short of margin needed to avoid second round. Her most senior supporters tell her she will lose. Thatcher resigns, **John Major** becomes prime minister