

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
 Conducted September 20-22, 2014  
 Margin of Error ±4.7%

## 1. Some people seem to follow what’s going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there’s an election going on or not. Others aren’t that interested. Would you say you follow what’s going on in government and public affairs...?

Most of the time	42%
Some of the time	31%
Only now and then	16%
Hardly at all	11%
Don’t know	1%

## 2. Would you say things in this country today are...

Generally headed in the right direction	28%
Off on the wrong track	60%
Not sure	12%

## 3. How serious a threat do you think the following groups or countries pose to the United States?

	An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	A minor threat to the U.S.	Not a threat to the U.S.	Not sure
Islamist militants in Iraq and Syria (ISIS)	48%	27%	13%	5%	7%
Al Qaeda	38%	34%	17%	4%	8%
Hamas	20%	27%	23%	13%	17%
Iran	23%	35%	23%	8%	10%
Russia	17%	36%	26%	11%	10%
Syria	22%	32%	24%	12%	11%

4. How closely are you following the news about the current situation in Iraq?

Very closely .....	20%
Somewhat closely .....	45%
Not very closely .....	27%
Not at all .....	9%

5. Do you support or oppose U.S. military air strikes against Islamic State insurgents in Iraq and Syria?

Strongly support .....	39%
Somewhat support .....	32%
Somewhat oppose .....	9%
Strongly oppose .....	4%
Not sure .....	15%

6. Do you favor or oppose sending U.S. ground troops to fight Islamic State insurgents in Iraq and Syria?

Strongly favor .....	14%
Somewhat favor .....	24%
Somewhat oppose .....	22%
Strongly oppose .....	24%
Not sure .....	16%

7. Do you support or oppose the United States sending weapons to more moderate rebel groups in Syria to fight Islamic State insurgents?

Strongly support .....	9%
Somewhat support .....	25%
Somewhat oppose .....	24%
Strongly oppose .....	22%
Not sure .....	19%

8. What do you think are the chances of a terrorist attack against the United States in the next 12 months?

Very likely (more than 50%) .....	17%
Somewhat likely (10% to 50%) .....	38%
Not very likely (1% to 10%) .....	24%
Very unlikely (less than 1%) .....	9%
Not sure .....	12%

9. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the following international crises?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Fighting between ISIS fighters and the government of Iraq	13%	25%	15%	26%	20%
Fighting between Israelis and Palestinians in Gaza	8%	17%	17%	31%	27%
Fighting between pro-Russia separatists and the government of Ukraine	9%	23%	16%	26%	26%
Fighting between rebels and the government of Syria	8%	20%	19%	25%	27%

10. Do you think President Obama should or should not seek congressional approval for conducting military operations against Islamist insurgents in Iraq and Syria?

Should .....	63%
Should not .....	15%
Not sure .....	22%

11. If Congress were to vote on whether or not to authorize the use of military force against Islamist insurgents in Iraq and Syria, would you want your member of Congress to support or oppose the authorization?

Support .....	54%
Oppose .....	18%
Not sure .....	28%

12. Do you think the current Congress has accomplished more or less than Congress usually does at this point in its two-year term?

More than usual .....	3%
About the same .....	26%
Less than usual .....	56%
Not sure .....	15%

13. Who do you think is setting the agenda in Washington DC these days?

President Obama .....	21%
House Republicans .....	9%
Senate Republicans .....	3%
Senate Democrats .....	6%
House Democrats .....	3%
The media .....	7%
The Supreme Court .....	2%
Lobbyists .....	20%
Not sure .....	30%

14. Which party does a better job handling the following issues?

	Republicans	Democrats	Neither	Not sure
Immigration	24%	30%	37%	10%
Gay rights	13%	42%	30%	15%
Education	21%	33%	35%	11%
Health care	23%	36%	31%	10%
Taxes	27%	28%	34%	10%
Abortion	21%	33%	31%	15%
The economy	27%	30%	33%	11%
Creating Jobs	26%	31%	33%	9%

15. Which party is better for the following groups?

	Republicans	Democrats	Neither	Not sure
Gays and Lesbians	10%	56%	21%	14%
Women	23%	42%	21%	14%
Blacks/African-Americans	16%	48%	21%	15%
Hispanics	14%	48%	23%	15%
Families	30%	35%	22%	13%
Small business owners	33%	30%	22%	16%
Gun owners	58%	10%	19%	13%
Christians	44%	17%	24%	16%

16. Do you favor or oppose providing a way for illegal immigrants currently in the country to gain legal citizenship if they pass background checks, pay fines, and have jobs?

Favor	43%
Oppose	43%
Not sure	14%

17. Do you favor or oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?

Favor .....	44%
Oppose .....	40%
Not sure .....	16%

18. All other things being equal, how much of a factor is a candidate's stand on women's health issues in determining your vote?

The single most important factor .....	5%
One of several important factors .....	58%
Not an important factor .....	37%

19. Which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion about Plan B, a form of emergency contraception also known as the "morning after pill":

Plan B should be available <u>without</u> a prescription to women of any age ..	29%
Plan B should be available <u>without</u> a prescription only to women older than age 15 .....	32%
Plan B should <u>only</u> be available to women with a prescription .....	25%
Plan B should <u>not</u> be available to women under any circumstances .....	14%

20. How much employment discrimination is there against women today?

A lot .....	16%
Some .....	49%
Not much .....	26%
None .....	9%

21. On average, women who are working earn less than men, and make up a much smaller percentage of CEO's and high-level managers. Below are some possible explanations for why this happens. For each statement, please tell us to what extent you agree that it is a cause for salary and career rank differences between men and women.

	<u>A major cause</u> of salary differences between men and women	<u>A minor cause</u> of salary differences between men and women	<u>Not a cause of</u> salary differences between men and women
Women are less likely than men to put themselves forward and take credit for the work they do.	23%	42%	35%
Women are less likely to choose careers that are high paying and lead to executive positions.	27%	38%	35%
Women are not taken seriously in the workforce after having children.	35%	39%	26%
Assertive women are treated more negatively in the workplace than assertive men are.	41%	34%	25%

22. Do you think the health care reform law should be expanded, kept the same, or repealed?

Expanded .....	28%
Kept the same .....	17%
Repealed .....	42%
Not sure .....	13%

23. From all that you know now, has the health care reform law been a complete success, a complete failure, or something in between?

A complete failure .....	25%
More of a failure than a success .....	21%
Equal amount of both failure and success .....	16%
More of a success than a failure .....	23%
A complete success .....	3%
Too early to tell .....	5%
Not sure .....	6%

24. Do you think the number of people with health insurance has increased, remained the same, or decreased over the last 12 months?

Increased .....	43%
Remained the same .....	23%
Decreased .....	20%
Don't know .....	14%

25. Do you think the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase by more or less than they usually do?

The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase more than they usually do .....	46%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people	19%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do .....	15%
Not sure .....	20%

26. Have you ever seen the movie, Gone with the Wind

Yes .....	58%
No .....	37%
Don't remember .....	5%



**27. How would you rate the movie?**

*Asked of those who have ever seen the movie*

One of the best .....	17%
Very good .....	20%
Good .....	12%
Fair .....	7%
Not very good .....	1%
Poor .....	1%
One of the worst .....	0%
Never seen the movie or don't remember seeing the movie .....	42%

**28. Have you ever read the novel, Gone with the Wind**

Yes .....	20%
No .....	75%
Don't remember .....	5%

**29. Have you seen any of these other movies from 1939?**

	Yes	No	Don't remember
The Wizard of Oz	89%	8%	3%
Mr. Smith Goes to Washington	41%	53%	7%
Goodby, Mr. Chips	23%	68%	10%
Love Affair	11%	77%	13%
Ninotchka	7%	84%	9%
Of Mice and Men	35%	57%	8%
Stagecoach	28%	65%	7%
Wuthering Heights	23%	68%	9%
Dark Victory	10%	79%	11%

**30. Which one of the movies listed below do you think should have won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1939?**

The Wizard of Oz	27%
Mr. Smith Goes to Washington	4%
Goodby, Mr. Chips	1%
Love Affair	1%
Ninotchka	1%
Of Mice and Men	3%
Stagecoach	1%
Wuthering Heights	2%
Dark Victory	1%
Gone With the Wind	30%
Not sure	29%

**31. How important are the following issues to you?**

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	78%	18%	3%	1%
Immigration	51%	33%	12%	5%
The environment	45%	37%	13%	5%
Terrorism	56%	32%	9%	2%
Gay rights	21%	24%	26%	30%
Education	59%	31%	8%	2%
Health care	69%	27%	3%	1%
Social security	63%	29%	6%	3%
The budget deficit	58%	29%	9%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	31%	44%	19%	7%
Taxes	64%	30%	4%	2%
Medicare	57%	30%	9%	4%
Abortion	34%	34%	22%	10%
Foreign policy	40%	44%	14%	2%

32. Which of these is the **most** important issue for you?

The economy	28%
Immigration	8%
The environment	4%
Terrorism	6%
Gay rights	2%
Education	8%
Health care	7%
Social security	16%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	2%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	2%
Abortion	4%
Foreign policy	1%

33. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Barack Obama	22%	22%	10%	40%	6%
Joe Biden	13%	27%	14%	30%	16%
John Boehner	5%	17%	20%	29%	29%
Mitch McConnell	3%	17%	18%	23%	40%
Harry Reid	6%	16%	16%	28%	34%
Nancy Pelosi	8%	19%	13%	34%	25%
John Kerry	10%	27%	17%	25%	22%

**34. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?**

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Rand Paul	11%	23%	14%	20%	32%
Chris Christie	5%	26%	21%	23%	25%
Paul Ryan	11%	20%	15%	22%	31%
Jeb Bush	9%	25%	18%	22%	26%
Mike Huckabee	11%	21%	14%	22%	32%
Marco Rubio	9%	21%	12%	21%	38%
Hillary Clinton	26%	26%	10%	30%	9%
Elizabeth Warren	14%	15%	10%	16%	44%
Ted Cruz	12%	19%	9%	23%	37%
Scott Walker	12%	14%	11%	15%	48%
Brian Schweitzer	3%	10%	9%	6%	72%
Rick Perry	10%	20%	12%	26%	32%

**35. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?**

Strongly approve	14%
Somewhat approve	29%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	4%

36. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling these specific issues?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
The economy	15%	22%	13%	38%	12%
Immigration	9%	22%	16%	40%	12%
The environment	12%	27%	16%	27%	18%
Terrorism	16%	26%	14%	32%	13%
Gay rights	16%	22%	12%	27%	22%
Education	14%	27%	15%	28%	15%
Health care	19%	20%	12%	40%	9%
Social security	13%	22%	16%	29%	20%
The war in Afghanistan	12%	23%	19%	29%	16%
The budget deficit	14%	19%	15%	38%	14%
Taxes	12%	24%	17%	32%	15%
Medicare	16%	20%	15%	31%	18%
Abortion	12%	22%	12%	27%	26%
Foreign policy	11%	23%	14%	34%	17%

37. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

Strongly approve	1%
Somewhat approve	8%
Neither approve nor disapprove	15%
Somewhat disapprove	27%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Not sure	10%

**38. In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?**

Very liberal .....	6%
Liberal .....	18%
Moderate .....	36%
Conservative .....	30%
Very conservative .....	9%
Not sure .....	1%

**39. Would you say Barack Obama is...**

Very liberal .....	35%
Liberal .....	19%
Moderate .....	24%
Conservative .....	6%
Very conservative .....	3%
Not sure .....	14%

**40. Do you think Barack Obama...**

Says what he believes .....	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	51%
Not sure .....	11%

**41. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like Barack Obama as a person?**

Like a lot .....	30%
Like somewhat .....	28%
Dislike .....	33%
Not sure .....	9%

42. Which of these words would you use to describe Barack Obama?

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	39%	32%	30%
Bold	24%	54%	22%
Effective	18%	47%	36%
Exciting	11%	63%	26%
Experienced	14%	55%	31%
Honest	25%	39%	36%
Hypocritical	40%	35%	25%
Inspiring	27%	49%	24%
Intelligent	46%	38%	16%
Partisan	22%	64%	14%
Patriotic	24%	46%	30%
Religious	11%	63%	26%
Sincere	27%	44%	30%
Steady	25%	57%	19%
Strong	28%	45%	27%

43. Overall, do you think the economy is getting better or worse?

Getting better	22%
About the same	40%
Getting worse	33%
Not sure	5%

44. Six months from now, do you think there will be...

More jobs	18%
The same amount of jobs	47%
Fewer jobs	24%
Not sure	11%

45. We'd like to know whether you or someone in your immediate family is currently serving or has ever served in the U.S. military. Immediate family is defined as your parents, siblings, spouse, and children. Please check all boxes that apply.

Military Household - I am .....	1%
Military Household - Family .....	7%
Military Household - I served previously .....	12%
Military Household - Family served previously .....	32%
Military Household - None .....	55%

46. Gender

Male .....	49%
Female .....	51%

47. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the goals of the Tea Party movement?

Strongly support .....	11%
Somewhat support .....	19%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	20%
Somewhat oppose .....	7%
Strongly oppose .....	25%
Not sure .....	18%

48. Education

No high school .....	9%
High school graduate .....	33%
Some college .....	24%
2-year college .....	11%
4-year college .....	16%
Post-graduate .....	7%



**49. Age**

18-29 .....	23%
30-44 .....	28%
45-64 .....	34%
65+ .....	15%

**50. Race**

White .....	67%
Black .....	14%
Hispanic .....	12%
Other .....	7%

**51. Region**

Northeast .....	18%
Midwest .....	23%
South .....	39%
West .....	20%

**52. Party Identification**

Democratic .....	40%
Independent .....	37%
Republican .....	23%

**53. Are you registered to vote?**

Yes .....	68%
No .....	29%
Don't know .....	3%

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	September 20-22, 2014
<b>Target population</b>	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
<b>Sampling method</b>	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by age, gender, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2010 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2010 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement. Religion, political interest, minor party identification, and non-placement on an ideology scale, were imputed from the 2008 Pew Religion in American Life Survey.
<b>Weighting</b>	The sample was weighted using propensity scores based on age, gender, race, education, news interest, voter registration, and non-placement on an ideology scale. The weights range from 0 to 4.3, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.12.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 4.7% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	21 questions not reported.