

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted April 12-14, 2014  
Margin of Error  $\pm 4.2\%$

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	43%
Some of the time	34%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	10%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	29%
Off on the wrong track	57%
Not sure	14%

3. Have you already filed your federal income tax this year?

Yes	62%
No	14%
Don't have to file this year	21%
Prefer not to say	3%

4. Have you ever asked for an extension to file your taxes after April 15?

Yes	14%
No	83%
Prefer not to say	4%

**5. Do you expect to get a refund this year or will you have to pay more?**

Refund .....	52%
Pay more .....	13%
Don't have to file this year .....	21%
Prefer not to say .....	7%
Not sure .....	7%

**6. Which do you prefer more?**

Getting a refund even if that means paying too much during the year ....	60%
Paying less during the year even if that means paying extra when you file	20%
Not sure .....	20%

**7. How likely do you think it is that you will be audited by the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, in your lifetime?**

Very likely .....	4%
Somewhat likely .....	10%
Not too likely .....	31%
Not at all likely .....	31%
Have been audited .....	5%
Don't know .....	18%

**8. Which of the following bothers you most about taxes—the large amount you pay in taxes, the complexity of the tax system, or the feeling that some wealthy people get away not paying their fair share?**

The large amount you pay in taxes .....	20%
The complexity of the tax system .....	25%
The feeling that some wealthy people get away not paying their fair share	45%
Don't know .....	10%

9. Considering what you get from the federal government, do you think you pay more than your fair share of taxes, less than your fair share, or about the right amount?

More than fair share .....	43%
About the right amount .....	36%
Less than fair share .....	4%
Don't know .....	16%

10. How would you feel if you heard that someone had not paid all the income taxes they owed?

Very upset .....	29%
Just annoyed .....	44%
Would approve .....	3%
Wouldn't care .....	14%
Don't know .....	10%

11. If you were setting priorities for the government these days, would you place a higher priority on reducing the budget deficit or cutting taxes?

Reducing the budget deficit .....	54%
Cutting taxes .....	30%
Don't know .....	17%

12. From what you've read and heard, can the nation's long-term debt problem be solved only if some taxes go up or can it be solved without having to raise any taxes?

Only if some taxes go up .....	31%
Without having to raise any taxes .....	48%
Don't know .....	21%

13. Do you think raising taxes on income over \$250,000 would help the economy, hurt the economy, or not make a difference?

Help the economy .....	43%
Not make a difference .....	24%
Hurt the economy .....	20%
Don't know .....	12%

14. In your view, what would do more to reduce poverty?

Raising taxes on wealthy people and corporations in order to expand programs for the poor .....	51%
Lowering taxes on wealthy people and corporations in order to encourage more investment and economic growth .....	29%
Don't know .....	20%

15. Have you heard mostly positive or mostly negative news stories about the economy, or have you not heard much news at all about the economy?

Mostly positive .....	8%
Equally positive and negative .....	34%
Mostly negative .....	42%
Not heard much news about the economy at all .....	15%

16. When you have discussed the economy with your friends and family, has the discussion been mostly positive or mostly negative, or have you not discussed the economy at all with your friends and family?

Mostly positive .....	9%
Equally positive and negative .....	25%
Mostly negative .....	49%
Not discussed the economy at all .....	17%

17. Please give us your best guess to the following question. How has the unemployment rate in the country changed from January 2009, when President Obama first took office, to March 2014?

Unemployment rate <u>decreased</u> by 1% or more .....	26%
Unemployment rate <u>decreased</u> by between 0% and 1% .....	14%
Unemployment rate is the same .....	9%
Unemployment rate <u>increased</u> by between 0% and 1% .....	5%
Unemployment rate <u>increased</u> by 1% or more .....	28%
Don't know .....	18%

18. Do you think President Barack Obama is doing enough to create new jobs for Americans or should he do more?

Doing enough .....	19%
Should do more .....	65%
Not sure .....	16%

19. Do you think Republicans in Congress are doing enough to create new jobs for Americans or should they do more?

Doing enough .....	14%
Should do more .....	66%
Not sure .....	20%

20. Do you think Democrats in Congress are doing enough to create new jobs for Americans or should they do more?

Doing enough .....	19%
Should do more .....	65%
Not sure .....	17%

21. Should the federal government encourage employment through various incentives, laws and regulations or should the federal government not be directly involved?

Federal government should encourage employment .....	49%
Federal government should not be directly involved .....	35%
Not sure .....	16%

22. How would you rate the job the federal government has done in encouraging employment?

*Asked of those who think the federal government should attempt to encourage employment*

Very good .....	4%
Good .....	21%
Poor .....	38%
Very poor .....	18%
Not sure .....	20%
Federal government should not be directly involved .....	0%
Not sure if federal government should be involved .....	0%

23. Should the federal government attempt to stimulate economic growth through various incentives, laws and regulations or should the federal government not be directly involved?

Federal government should attempt to stimulate economic growth .....	50%
Federal government should not be directly involved .....	32%
Not sure .....	18%

24. How would you rate the job the federal government has done in stimulating economic growth?

*Asked of those who think the federal government should attempt to stimulate economic growth*

Very good .....	4%
Good .....	25%
Poor .....	40%
Very poor .....	16%
Not sure .....	15%
Federal government should not be directly involved .....	0%
Not sure if federal government should be involved .....	0%

25. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole unemployment rates during THE NEXT YEAR will increase, decrease or remain about the same?

Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot lower</u> than they are today	4%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	22%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	31%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	16%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	12%
Not sure	15%

26. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole unemployment rates during THE NEXT FIVE YEARS will increase, decrease or remain about the same?

Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot lower</u> than they are today	7%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	25%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	21%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	18%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	11%
Not sure	19%

27. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Jeb Bush?

Very favorable	5%
Somewhat favorable	24%
Somewhat unfavorable	21%
Very unfavorable	18%
Don't know	33%

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Jeb Bush handled his job as the Governor of Florida?

Approve strongly .....	10%
Approve somewhat .....	22%
Disapprove somewhat .....	13%
Disapprove strongly .....	16%
Not sure .....	40%

29. Compared to the way they treat other public figures, do you think the news media has been harder or easier on Jeb Bush, or have they treated him the same as other public figures?

Harder .....	19%
About the same .....	36%
Easier .....	15%
Not sure .....	29%

30. Do you think Jeb Bush...

Says what he believes .....	26%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	35%
Not sure .....	39%

31. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like Jeb Bush as a person?

Like a lot .....	12%
Like somewhat .....	28%
Dislike .....	20%
Not sure .....	40%

32. Regardless of your overall opinion of Jeb Bush, do you think he has the qualifications to be President?

Yes .....	30%
No .....	34%
Not sure .....	36%



33. Regardless of your overall opinion of Jeb Bush, do you think he shares the values most people try to live by?

Yes .....	31%
No .....	29%
Not sure .....	40%

34. How much do you think Jeb Bush cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself?

A lot .....	8%
Some .....	38%
Not much .....	27%
Not at all .....	27%

35. Do you think Jeb Bush has more or less honesty and integrity, or about the same level of honesty and integrity as most people in public life?

More honesty .....	15%
Same level of honesty .....	39%
Less honesty .....	21%
Not sure .....	25%

36. Are you confident in Jeb Bush's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident .....	26%
Uneasy .....	35%
Not sure .....	39%

**37. Would you say Jeb Bush is...**

Very liberal .....	3%
Liberal .....	5%
Moderate .....	24%
Conservative .....	29%
Very conservative .....	13%
Not sure .....	26%

**38. Do you want Jeb Bush to run for President in 2016?**

Yes .....	15%
No .....	47%
Not sure .....	38%

**39. 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 .....	28%
More of a failure than a success .....	18%
Equal amount of both failure and success .....	17%
More of a success than a failure .....	17%
A complete success .....	4%
Too early to tell .....	9%
Not sure .....	7%

**40. Have you heard mostly positive or mostly negative news stories about the healthcare law, or have you not heard much news at all about the healthcare law?**

Mostly positive .....	10%
Equally positive and negative .....	32%
Mostly negative .....	50%
Not heard much news at all .....	8%

41. When you have discussed the new healthcare law with your friends and family, has the discussion been mostly positive or mostly negative, or have you not discussed the healthcare law at all with your friends and family?

Mostly positive .....	14%
Equally positive and negative .....	23%
Mostly negative .....	46%
Not discussed at all .....	17%

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

Expanded .....	27%
Kept the same .....	13%
Repealed .....	42%
Not sure .....	18%

43. If the Affordable Care Act is repealed, what should happen to the people who signed up for insurance through the ACA?

*Asked of those who think the Affordable Care Act should be repealed*

Does not think the ACA should be repealed .....	40%
Is not sure if the ACA should be repealed .....	18%
They should keep the coverage they purchased .....	3%
They should be able to choose to keep or cancel the coverage they purchased .....	32%
All insurance policies purchased through the Affordable Care Act should be canceled .....	4%
Not sure .....	3%

44. What do you think is the most likely action Congress will take on the new healthcare law?

Repeal the Affordable Care Act and not replace it with anything else .....	21%
Replace the Affordable Care Act with something better .....	31%
Replace the Affordable Care Act with something worse .....	10%
Leave the Affordable Care Act as it is .....	38%

**45. Do you have health insurance?**

Yes ..... 81%  
No ..... 19%

**46. Which of the following best describes your primary health insurance?**

*Asked of those who reported having health insurance*

I have health insurance that is provided through my or a family member's employer, union, school, trade group or professional association ..... 36%  
I have health insurance provided through Medicare ..... 16%  
I have health insurance that I or a family member purchased directly from the health insurance company or HMO, not through an employer, union, school, trade group or professional association ..... 10%  
I have health insurance through the military or through VA Benefits ..... 3%  
I have health insurance that is provided through a government health program, such as Medicaid ..... 12%  
Does not have health insurance ..... 19%  
Prefer not to say ..... 5%

**47. Did you have health insurance before January 1, 2014?**

Yes ..... 74%  
No ..... 23%  
Not sure ..... 3%

48. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	70%	23%	6%	1%
Immigration	40%	39%	16%	5%
The environment	41%	33%	16%	9%
Terrorism	48%	34%	14%	5%
Gay rights	23%	23%	22%	31%
Education	57%	30%	11%	3%
Health care	55%	31%	11%	3%
Social security	59%	27%	13%	2%
The budget deficit	52%	32%	13%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	26%	37%	26%	11%
Taxes	52%	34%	11%	3%
Medicare	48%	34%	16%	2%
Abortion	35%	28%	23%	14%

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

The economy	27%
Immigration	6%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	4%
Gay rights	2%
Education	9%
Health care	11%
Social security	13%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	5%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	6%

50. 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	25%	20%	10%	40%	5%
Joe Biden	16%	25%	14%	33%	12%
John Boehner	4%	20%	24%	30%	22%
Mitch McConnell	5%	15%	20%	26%	34%
Harry Reid	7%	17%	14%	34%	28%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	18%	12%	38%	20%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Hillary Clinton	28%	22%	12%	31%	7%
Rand Paul	15%	21%	16%	21%	27%
Chris Christie	7%	25%	25%	24%	19%
Elizabeth Warren	14%	14%	12%	16%	44%

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

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	6%

53. 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	14%	23%	12%	41%	10%
Immigration	14%	23%	13%	36%	14%
The environment	13%	27%	17%	27%	16%
Terrorism	18%	28%	15%	26%	14%
Gay rights	19%	26%	9%	30%	17%
Education	15%	27%	16%	27%	14%
Health care	22%	20%	11%	41%	7%
Social security	15%	24%	17%	29%	15%
The war in Afghanistan	15%	27%	18%	27%	13%
The budget deficit	13%	21%	16%	38%	11%
Taxes	13%	24%	15%	36%	12%
Medicare	16%	25%	15%	29%	15%
Abortion	16%	24%	12%	28%	20%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	9%
Neither approve nor disapprove	14%
Somewhat disapprove	25%
Strongly disapprove	42%
Not sure	8%

**55. 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%

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

Very liberal .....	36%
Liberal .....	23%
Moderate .....	23%
Conservative .....	6%
Very conservative .....	3%
Not sure .....	10%

**57. Do you think Barack Obama...**

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

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

Like a lot .....	29%
Like somewhat .....	27%
Dislike .....	34%
Not sure .....	10%



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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	38%	36%	26%
Bold	26%	60%	13%
Effective	22%	47%	31%
Exciting	14%	62%	24%
Experienced	23%	49%	27%
Honest	29%	38%	33%
Hypocritical	36%	39%	26%
Inspiring	27%	48%	25%
Intelligent	51%	36%	13%
Partisan	26%	60%	14%
Patriotic	25%	48%	27%
Religious	16%	58%	26%
Sincere	28%	43%	29%
Steady	25%	59%	17%
Strong	28%	51%	21%

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

Getting better	23%
About the same	39%
Getting worse	32%
Not sure	6%

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

Yes	70%
No	27%
Don't know	3%

**62. Gender**

Male	49%
Female	51%

**63. Education**

No high school .....	11%
High school graduate .....	32%
Some college .....	28%
2-year college .....	7%
4-year college .....	15%
Post-graduate .....	7%

**64. Age**

18-29 .....	25%
30-44 .....	27%
45-64 .....	33%
65+ .....	15%

**65. Race**

White .....	67%
Black .....	14%
Hispanic .....	11%
Other .....	7%

**66. Region**

Northeast .....	18%
Midwest .....	24%
South .....	35%
West .....	23%

**67. Party Identification**

Democratic .....	39%
Independent .....	35%
Republican .....	26%

## ***The Economist/YouGov Poll***



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	April 12-14, 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 0.1 to 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.9.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 4.2% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	21 questions not reported.