

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 2000 General Population Respondents
 Conducted September 25 - 29, 2015
 Margin of Error ±2.8%

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 47%
 Some of the time 30%
 Only now and then 12%
 Hardly at all 9%
 Don’t know 2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction 29%
 Off on the wrong track 59%
 Not sure 12%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Joe Biden	20%	29%	17%	20%	14%
Lincoln Chafee	2%	10%	14%	14%	61%
Hillary Clinton	21%	20%	13%	39%	7%
Martin O'Malley	3%	12%	14%	14%	57%
Bernie Sanders	19%	21%	14%	21%	26%
Jim Webb	3%	14%	15%	10%	58%

4. If you had to choose one, which one of these individuals would you want to be the Democratic nominee for president in 2016?

Asked of registered voters who identify as Democrats

Joe Biden	20%
Lincoln Chafee	-
Hillary Clinton	48%
Martin O'Malley	2%
Bernie Sanders	25%
Jim Webb	1%
Other	1%
No preference	5%

5. If you had to choose one, which one of these individuals would be your SECOND choice for the Democratic nominee for president in 2016?

Asked of registered voters who identify as Democrats

Joe Biden	37%
Lincoln Chafee	1%
Hillary Clinton	24%
Martin O'Malley	4%
Bernie Sanders	17%
Jim Webb	2%
Other	1%
No preference	14%

6. How would you feel if (your first choice) was the 2016 Democratic presidential election nominee?

Asked of registered voters who identify as Democrats

Enthusiastic	69%
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	27%
Dissatisfied but not upset	3%
Upset	1%
Not sure	1%

7. If an election for the Democratic nomination for president was going to be held now and the only candidates were Joe Biden and Hillary Clinton, would you vote for...

Asked of registered voters who identify as Democrats

Joe Biden	37%
Hillary Clinton	63%

8. If an election for the Democratic nomination for president was going to be held now and the only candidates were Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders, would you vote for...

Asked of registered voters who identify as Democrats

Joe Biden	58%
Bernie Sanders	42%

9. If an election for the Democratic nomination for president was going to be held now and the only candidates were Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, would you vote for...

Asked of registered voters who identify as Democrats

Hillary Clinton	65%
Bernie Sanders	35%

10. How do you feel about the field of Democratic candidates running for president in 2016?

Asked of registered voters who identify as Democrats

Would like to see someone else run for the Democratic nomination	29%
Satisfied with the choices	59%
Don't know	12%

11. Who do you think is the most likely candidate to become the Democratic nominee for president in 2016?

Joe Biden	20%
Lincoln Chafee	0%
Hillary Clinton	44%
Martin O'Malley	2%
Bernie Sanders	14%
Jim Webb	1%
Not sure	20%

12. Regardless of who the Republicans select as their nominee, do you think the Democratic presidential candidates listed below could possibly win or could never win the general election in November if he or she was to become the Democratic nominee?

	Could possibly win	Could never win	Not sure
Joe Biden	64%	16%	20%
Lincoln Chafee	7%	46%	47%
Hillary Clinton	67%	22%	11%
Martin O'Malley	10%	44%	46%
Bernie Sanders	43%	28%	28%
Jim Webb	11%	45%	45%

13. Do you think Hillary Clinton is honest and trustworthy, or not?

Honest and trustworthy	28%
Not honest and trustworthy	53%
Not sure	18%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Jeb Bush	9%	27%	25%	26%	14%
Ben Carson	20%	23%	13%	19%	25%
Chris Christie	7%	27%	20%	25%	21%
Ted Cruz	13%	20%	15%	28%	25%
Carly Fiorina	14%	25%	15%	18%	27%
Jim Gilmore	2%	9%	13%	14%	62%
Lindsey Graham	4%	17%	21%	23%	35%
Mike Huckabee	9%	22%	17%	29%	24%
Bobby Jindal	6%	19%	16%	22%	37%
John Kasich	6%	20%	15%	15%	43%
George Pataki	3%	14%	19%	20%	44%
Rand Paul	8%	22%	20%	24%	26%
Marco Rubio	16%	22%	18%	20%	24%
Rick Santorum	5%	19%	17%	28%	30%
Donald Trump	18%	17%	13%	46%	6%

15. If you had to choose one, which one of these individuals would you want to be the Republican nominee for president in 2016?

Asked of registered voters who identify as Republicans

Jeb Bush	7%
Ben Carson	15%
Chris Christie	3%
Ted Cruz	9%
Carly Fiorina	8%
Jim Gilmore	1%
Lindsey Graham	0%
Mike Huckabee	2%
Bobby Jindal	2%
John Kasich	4%
George Pataki	-
Rand Paul	4%
Marco Rubio	16%
Rick Santorum	1%
Donald Trump	25%
Other	2%
No preference	2%

16. If you had to choose one, which one of these individuals would be your SECOND choice for the Republican nominee for president in 2016?

Asked of registered voters who identify as Republicans

Jeb Bush	9%
Ben Carson	16%
Chris Christie	3%
Ted Cruz	12%
Carly Fiorina	14%
Jim Gilmore	0%
Lindsey Graham	2%
Mike Huckabee	5%
Bobby Jindal	3%
John Kasich	3%
George Pataki	0%
Rand Paul	4%
Marco Rubio	11%
Rick Santorum	1%
Donald Trump	10%
Other	1%
No preference	6%

17. How would you feel if (your first choice) was the 2016 Republican presidential election nominee?

Asked of registered voters who identify as Republicans

Enthusiastic	79%
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	20%
Dissatisfied but not upset	1%
Upset	0%
Not sure	1%

18. How do you feel about the field of Republican candidates running for president in 2016?

Asked of registered voters who identify as Republicans

Would like to see someone else run for the Republican nomination	14%
Satisfied with the choices	78%
Don't know	8%

19. Who do you think is the most likely candidate to become the Republican nominee for president in 2016?

Jeb Bush	17%
Ben Carson	6%
Chris Christie	2%
Ted Cruz	4%
Carly Fiorina	7%
Jim Gilmore	1%
Lindsey Graham	1%
Mike Huckabee	1%
Bobby Jindal	0%
John Kasich	1%
George Pataki	0%
Rand Paul	2%
Marco Rubio	7%
Rick Santorum	0%
Donald Trump	24%
Not sure	27%

20. Regardless of who the Democrats select as their nominee, do you think the Republican presidential candidates listed below could possibly win or could never win the general election in November if he or she was to become the Republican nominee?

	Could possibly win	Could never win	Not sure
Jeb Bush	52%	27%	21%
Ben Carson	42%	31%	27%
Chris Christie	30%	42%	28%
Ted Cruz	31%	40%	29%
Carly Fiorina	41%	30%	29%
Jim Gilmore	7%	49%	44%
Lindsey Graham	12%	52%	36%
Mike Huckabee	20%	51%	30%
Bobby Jindal	14%	51%	35%
John Kasich	21%	40%	39%
George Pataki	11%	50%	39%
Rand Paul	21%	47%	32%
Marco Rubio	42%	30%	28%
Rick Santorum	14%	54%	32%
Donald Trump	47%	39%	14%

21. Do you think Donald Trump has had a positive or negative impact on the presidential election campaign?

Very positive	18%
Somewhat positive	22%
Somewhat negative	15%
Very negative	37%
Not sure	8%

22. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Pope Francis?

Very favorable	39%
Somewhat favorable	29%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	9%
Don't know	13%

23. Do you think it is appropriate or inappropriate for the Pope to try to influence world affairs?

Appropriate	58%
Inappropriate	25%
Not sure	17%

24. Do you think it is appropriate or inappropriate for the Pope to try to influence the domestic affairs of the United States?

Appropriate	49%
Inappropriate	34%
Not sure	18%

25. Do you think that the Pope has a great deal of influence in the domestic affairs of the United States, some influence, or no influence at all?

A great deal of influence	13%
Some influence	58%
No influence at all	17%
Not sure	12%

26. How much, if anything, have you heard about Pope Francis' visit to the US?

Heard a lot	55%
Heard a little	40%
Heard nothing at all	5%

27. How much have you heard about the speech Pope Francis gave to Congress on September 24?

Heard a lot	31%
Heard a little	45%
Heard nothing at all	24%

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the speech Pope Francis gave to the Congress on September 24?

Asked of those who heard at least a little about the speech

Strongly Approve	32%
Somewhat Approve	33%
Somewhat Disapprove	11%
Strongly Disapprove	7%
Not Sure	17%

29. Is it appropriate or inappropriate for the congressional leadership to invite the Pope to speak to Congress?

Appropriate	62%
Inappropriate	19%
Not sure	19%

30. Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Boehner is handling his job as Speaker of the US House of Representatives?

Strongly Approve	6%
Somewhat Approve	19%
Somewhat Disapprove	21%
Strongly Disapprove	26%
Not Sure	28%

31. Do you think John Boehner is too conservative or not conservative enough?

Too conservative	22%
About right	24%
Not conservative enough	21%
Don't know	33%

32. Would you say John Boehner is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	5%
Somewhat strong	33%
Somewhat weak	39%
Very weak	23%

33. How much have you heard about the news that John Boehner, the Speaker of the US House of Representatives, will resign from Congress at the end of October?

Heard a lot	41%
Heard a little	37%
Heard nothing at all	22%

34. Do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing that John Boehner will resign from Congress and stop being the Speaker of the US House of Representatives?

Good thing	43%
Bad thing	13%
Not sure	44%

35. Would you rather the next Speaker of the US House of Representatives be someone who...

Compromises to get things done	62%
Sticks to their principles, no matter what	38%

36. Do you think the Republicans in Congress are too conservative or not conservative enough?

Too conservative	37%
About right	18%
Not conservative enough	23%
Don't know	22%

37. Would you support or oppose an increase in the federal gas tax?

Support strongly	6%
Support somewhat	16%
Oppose somewhat	21%
Oppose strongly	43%
Not sure	15%

38. How much would you increase or decrease federal spending in the following areas?

	Increase a lot	Increase a little	Leave unchanged	Decrease a little	Decrease a lot
Highways	28%	37%	27%	6%	2%
Infrastructure	29%	28%	33%	6%	4%
Health care	33%	26%	20%	9%	12%
Education	39%	27%	22%	6%	6%
Protecting the border	36%	22%	27%	8%	6%
Military bases	22%	25%	29%	12%	11%
US troops in the Middle East	17%	19%	26%	16%	21%
Foreign aid	4%	11%	28%	24%	34%
Assistance to Syrian refugees	9%	21%	29%	14%	27%
Planned Parenthood	11%	15%	33%	9%	31%

39. Do you think the disagreements between President Obama and the Republicans in Congress over federal spending will lead to a shutdown of the federal government, or do you think they will reach an agreement in time to avoid a shutdown?

Government will shutdown	24%
Both sides will agree to a deal	49%
Not sure	26%

40. If President Obama and the Republicans in Congress do not reach an agreement over federal spending in time to avoid a shutdown of the federal government, who do you think will be more to blame—President Obama or the Republican Congress?

President Obama	27%
Republicans in Congress	34%
Both	27%
Neither	2%
Not sure	9%

41. Do you think John Boehner’s resignation from Congress will make a government shutdown more or less likely?

More likely	17%
Make no difference	36%
Less likely	18%
Not sure	30%

42. Do you think the federal government can operate effectively during a partial shutdown, or not?

Yes, can operate	44%
No, cannot operate	32%
Don’t know	23%

43. Do you think you would be affected by a partial federal government shutdown, or not?

Yes	36%
No	37%
Don't know	27%

44. Which comes closest to your position on abortion? Do you think abortion should be...

Legal in all cases	20%
Legal in most cases	35%
Illegal in most cases	32%
Illegal in all cases	14%

45. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Planned Parenthood?

Very favorable	25%
Somewhat favorable	23%
Somewhat unfavorable	12%
Very unfavorable	28%
Don't know	12%

46. Which of the following services do you primarily associate with Planned Parenthood? Please select up to three.

HIV screening and counseling	14%
Contraception	53%
Abortion services	51%
Breast and cervical cancer screening	15%
Testicular cancer screening	2%
Testing for sexually transmitted diseases	28%
Vasectomies	2%
Sexual education	28%
Pregnancy testing	40%
None of these	3%
Don't know	7%

47. How much have you heard about recently released videos that show officials from Planned Parenthood discussing the use of fetal organs for medical research?

Heard a lot	38%
Heard a little	37%
Heard nothing at all	24%

48. Have you seen any of the videos or clips of the videos?

Asked of those who have heard at least a little about videos

Yes	45%
No	55%

49. Based on what you have seen or heard, do the videos show officials from Planned Parenthood breaking the law?

Asked of those who have heard at least a little about videos

Yes	54%
No	46%

50. Which outcome is the most important to you?

Defunding Planned Parenthood – even if that means shutting down the federal government temporarily	23%
Defunding Planned Parenthood – but only if the federal government <u>isn't</u> shutdown temporarily	12%
Protecting Planned Parenthood funding – but only if the federal government <u>isn't</u> shutdown temporarily	22%
Protecting Planned Parenthood funding – even if that means shutting down the federal government temporarily	20%
Not sure	23%

51. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	71%	24%	4%	1%
Immigration	46%	32%	16%	6%
The environment	47%	33%	13%	7%
Terrorism	58%	27%	11%	4%
Gay rights	22%	21%	25%	32%
Education	59%	29%	9%	3%
Health care	65%	26%	7%	2%
Social security	65%	26%	7%	2%
The budget deficit	49%	36%	12%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	28%	41%	22%	10%
Taxes	55%	35%	9%	2%
Medicare	58%	31%	9%	2%
Abortion	34%	31%	24%	12%
Foreign policy	37%	42%	15%	6%
Gun control	46%	27%	16%	12%

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

The economy	19%
Immigration	9%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	7%
Gay rights	2%
Education	9%
Health care	9%
Social security	16%
The budget deficit	4%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	5%
Foreign policy	2%
Gun control	4%

53. 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	29%	20%	10%	36%	5%
John Boehner	4%	20%	25%	28%	22%
Mitch McConnell	2%	14%	21%	28%	36%
Nancy Pelosi	7%	19%	15%	37%	23%
Harry Reid	6%	15%	14%	31%	34%

54. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the political parties?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	17%	23%	18%	32%	11%
The Republican Party	8%	24%	22%	35%	12%

55. If an election for president was going to be held now, would you vote for...

Asked of registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	37%
The Republican Party candidate	40%
Other	4%
Not sure	16%
I would not vote	3%

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

Strongly Approve	21%
Somewhat Approve	26%
Somewhat Disapprove	12%
Strongly Disapprove	35%
Not Sure	6%

57. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	31%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	22%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	17%

58. Would you say Barack Obama is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	19%
Somewhat strong	30%
Somewhat weak	21%
Very weak	30%

59. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	41%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	49%
Not sure	11%

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

Like a lot	34%
Like somewhat	28%
Dislike	28%
Not sure	10%

61. 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
Abortion	14%	20%	12%	29%	25%
The war in Afghanistan	10%	25%	18%	31%	16%
The budget deficit	13%	21%	15%	34%	17%
The economy	18%	25%	13%	32%	12%
Education	17%	27%	16%	23%	17%
The environment	16%	27%	15%	24%	17%
Foreign policy	14%	21%	14%	33%	17%
Gay rights	23%	20%	10%	29%	18%
Gun control	12%	19%	19%	33%	17%
Health care	23%	21%	11%	35%	9%
Immigration	14%	22%	13%	37%	14%
Medicare	16%	25%	15%	27%	17%
Social security	14%	24%	16%	27%	19%
Taxes	12%	24%	16%	30%	18%
Terrorism	16%	24%	13%	32%	16%

62. 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	17%
Somewhat disapprove	24%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	13%

63. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the member of the US House of Representatives that represents your Congressional district is handling his or her job?

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	15%
Neither approve nor disapprove	21%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	21%
Not sure	19%

64. 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	4%
About the same	34%
Less than usual	42%
Not sure	20%

65. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following groups in Congress?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Democrats in Congress	12%	24%	19%	30%	15%
Republicans in Congress	4%	20%	26%	35%	16%

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

Getting better	22%
About the same	39%
Getting worse	35%
Not sure	5%

67. Do you think the stock market will be higher or lower 12 months from now?

Higher	18%
About the same	33%
Lower	26%
Not sure	22%

68. Would you say that you and your family are...

Better off financially than you were a year ago	16%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	45%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	34%
Not sure	5%

69. Six months from now do you think there will be...

More jobs	20%
The same amount of jobs	42%
Fewer jobs	26%
Not sure	12%

70. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	10%
Somewhat worried	28%
Not very worried	62%

71. If you lost your job, how hard would it be for you to find a new job that paid as much as you are making now?

Very hard – I would probably have to take a pay cut.	32%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	39%
Not very hard	23%
Not sure	6%

72. How happy would you say you are with your current job?

Very happy	24%
Happy	37%
Neither happy nor unhappy	28%
Unhappy	7%
Very unhappy	4%

73. Are you male or female?

Male	48%
Female	52%

74. Age

18-29	22%
30-44	26%
45-64	36%
65+	17%

75. Race

White	69%
Black	11%
Hispanic	13%
Other	7%

76. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

HS or less	42%
Some college	32%
College grad	17%
Postgrad	9%

77. Region

Northeast	19%
Midwest	20%
South	39%
West	22%

78. 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.

I am	1%
Family member	8%
I served previously	12%
Family served previously	34%
None	50%

79. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

Full-time employed	33%
Part-time employed	12%
Self-employed	-
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	12%
Retired	22%
Permanently disabled	10%
Homemaker	10%
Other	2%

80. Family Income

Under \$50K	62%
\$50K-\$100K	25%
\$100K+	13%

81. What is your marital status?

Married	46%
Separated	3%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	5%
Single	29%
Domestic partnership	5%

82. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?

Yes	32%
No	68%

83. 3 Point Ideology

Liberal	21%
Moderate	43%
Conservative	36%

84. 5 Point Ideology

Very liberal	5%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	43%
Conservative	30%
Very conservative	6%

85. 3 Point Party ID

Democrat	31%
Independent	43%
Republican	26%

86. 5 Point Party ID

Democrat	31%
Lean Democrat	10%
Independent	25%
Lean Republican	8%
Republican	26%

87. 7 Point Party ID

Strong Democrat	19%
Not very strong Democrat	12%
Lean Democrat	10%
Independent	19%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	11%
Strong Republican	15%
Not sure	6%

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

Strongly support	8%
Somewhat support	16%
Neither support, nor oppose	23%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	23%
Not sure	20%

89. Do you think of yourself as a part of the Tea Party movement?

Yes	10%
No	69%
Not Sure	22%

90. Voter Registration

Registered	68%
Not registered	32%

91. How often would you say you vote in primary or caucus elections—that is, the elections in which a party selects their nominee to run in a general election. Would you say you vote in primary or caucus elections...?

Always	32%
Nearly always	16%
Part of the time	12%
Seldom	10%
Never	24%
Unsure	6%

92. In the 2016 primary election or caucus in your state, are you likely to vote?

Likely to vote in Democratic primary or attend Democratic caucus	32%
Likely to vote in Republican primary or attend Republican caucus	33%
Not likely to vote in a primary election or attend a caucus	35%

93. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes	31%
No	69%

94. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	40%
Somewhat important	28%
Not too important	14%
Not at all important	19%

95. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

More than once a week	8%
Once a week	16%
Once or twice a month	10%
A few times a year	16%
Seldom	22%
Never	26%
Don't know	2%

96. People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?

Several times a day	27%
Once a day	15%
A few times a week	14%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	16%
Never	16%
Don't know	2%

97. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	36%
Roman Catholic	20%
Mormon	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	19%
Something else	7%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	September 25 - 29, 2015
Target population	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
Sampling method	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.
Weighting	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 0.81.
Number of respondents	2000
Margin of error	± 2.8% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.