

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted January 3-5, 2015
Margin of Error $\pm 4.5\%$

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	46%
Some of the time	31%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	9%
Don't know	1%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	32%
Off on the wrong track	55%
Not sure	13%

3. How do you feel about your family's future in the upcoming year?

Very optimistic	15%
Somewhat optimistic	30%
Neither optimistic nor pessimistic	31%
Somewhat pessimistic	16%
Very pessimistic	8%

4. Which describes your views on the U.S. economy in the new year?

Very optimistic	10%
Somewhat optimistic	31%
Neither optimistic nor pessimistic	27%
Somewhat pessimistic	22%
Very pessimistic	10%

5. What's your feeling about the year ahead? Generally speaking, are you optimistic or pessimistic about what kind of year 2015 will be for the world?

Very optimistic	8%
Somewhat optimistic	31%
Neither optimistic, nor pessimistic	28%
Somewhat pessimistic	23%
Very pessimistic	10%

6. In 2015, do you think things will be better off or worse off than they were in 2014 when it comes to:

	Much better	Somewhat better	No change	Somewhat worse	Much worse	Not sure
The Middle East	2%	6%	29%	28%	25%	10%
The war in Afghanistan	5%	13%	40%	17%	14%	11%
Energy issues	8%	24%	34%	17%	10%	7%
The environment	5%	15%	50%	15%	8%	7%
The economy in your area	8%	27%	36%	14%	9%	6%
Job security	5%	23%	34%	19%	13%	7%
Government spending	4%	13%	31%	22%	23%	7%
Health care coverage	8%	20%	27%	18%	23%	5%
Education	6%	14%	45%	18%	11%	7%
Social Security and Medicare	4%	12%	37%	25%	15%	8%
The U.S. financial system	6%	18%	27%	26%	17%	6%
Wall Street	6%	20%	36%	15%	11%	11%

7. Looking ahead to 2015, how much progress do you think Barack Obama will make in achieving these campaign promises?

	A lot	Some	Only a little	None	Not sure
Changing the partisan tone in Washington	3%	12%	20%	53%	11%
Improving the U.S. image in the world	8%	20%	21%	44%	7%
Improving the economy	12%	24%	20%	40%	5%

8. In the next year, do you think Barack Obama will accomplish...

More than I expect	10%
About what I expect	47%
Less than I expect	30%
Not sure	13%

9. As a President, how do you think Barack Obama will go down in history?

Outstanding	10%
Above Average	15%
Average	24%
Below Average	15%
Poor	32%
Not Sure	6%

10. In 2015, do you think the Congress will accomplish more or less than Congress usually does in a year?

More than usual	16%
About the same	41%
Less than usual	32%
Not sure	11%

11. In 2015, do you think the Congress will accomplish more or less than what they accomplished in 2014?

More than 2014	25%
About the same as 2014	38%
Less than 2014	24%
Not sure	13%

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

Expanded	30%
Kept the same	15%
Repealed	41%
Not sure	15%

13. 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	21%
More of a failure than a success	25%
Equal amount of both failure and success	18%
More of a success than a failure	21%
A complete success	3%
Too early to tell	4%
Not sure	8%

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

Increased	47%
Remained the same	20%
Decreased	19%
Don't know	15%

15. 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	48%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people	17%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	16%
Not sure	19%

16. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	83%
No	17%

17. Did you have health insurance for all of 2013?

Yes	78%
No	22%

18. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	70%	27%	2%	1%
Immigration	49%	32%	13%	6%
The environment	43%	32%	16%	9%
Terrorism	54%	28%	13%	4%
Gay rights	20%	21%	24%	34%
Education	56%	31%	9%	4%
Health care	65%	28%	6%	1%
Social security	61%	27%	9%	3%
The budget deficit	51%	32%	13%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	30%	40%	22%	8%
Taxes	56%	33%	10%	1%
Medicare	54%	31%	12%	3%
Abortion	37%	28%	22%	13%
Foreign policy	38%	42%	16%	5%

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

The economy	25%
Immigration	9%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	5%
Gay rights	1%
Education	10%
Health care	10%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	8%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	5%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	4%
Foreign policy	2%

20. 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%	13%	35%	6%
Joe Biden	16%	23%	18%	28%	14%
John Boehner	5%	17%	21%	33%	24%
Mitch McConnell	6%	16%	19%	25%	34%
Harry Reid	6%	18%	16%	30%	30%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	19%	14%	37%	20%

21. 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%	21%	31%
Chris Christie	6%	25%	21%	25%	23%
Paul Ryan	12%	23%	12%	23%	30%
Jeb Bush	9%	21%	23%	26%	20%
Mike Huckabee	12%	20%	15%	23%	30%
Marco Rubio	9%	21%	13%	21%	36%
Hillary Clinton	24%	22%	11%	35%	8%
Elizabeth Warren	17%	12%	12%	21%	39%
Ted Cruz	12%	15%	10%	29%	34%
Scott Walker	14%	11%	8%	20%	48%
Brian Schweitzer	3%	8%	8%	8%	74%
Rick Perry	10%	19%	13%	27%	30%
Bernie Sanders	12%	10%	8%	15%	54%
Martin O'Malley	3%	7%	10%	10%	70%
Jim Webb	2%	11%	12%	9%	66%
Mitt Romney	14%	22%	20%	29%	14%
Lindsey Graham	3%	14%	15%	21%	47%
Ben Carson	16%	11%	9%	12%	52%

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

Strongly approve	18%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	5%

23. 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	16%	23%	16%	34%	10%
Immigration	18%	23%	11%	39%	9%
The environment	16%	29%	14%	24%	16%
Terrorism	16%	29%	14%	29%	12%
Gay rights	17%	22%	12%	28%	22%
Education	15%	28%	16%	25%	16%
Health care	21%	22%	11%	39%	6%
Social security	14%	24%	16%	28%	18%
The war in Afghanistan	13%	26%	19%	29%	14%
The budget deficit	13%	23%	16%	37%	11%
Taxes	12%	25%	18%	30%	14%
Medicare	15%	23%	17%	28%	17%
Abortion	13%	22%	11%	28%	26%
Foreign policy	13%	25%	16%	31%	15%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	6%
Neither approve nor disapprove	19%
Somewhat disapprove	26%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	8%

25. Are you better off now than you were when President Obama first took office in 2009?

Better off now	24%
About the same	30%
Worse off now	39%
Not sure	7%

26. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	35%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	11%

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

Very strong	14%
Somewhat strong	30%
Somewhat weak	25%
Very weak	31%

28. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes 39%
 Says what he thinks people want to hear 47%
 Not sure 14%

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

Like a lot 32%
 Like somewhat 26%
 Dislike 32%
 Not sure 11%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	37%	32%	31%
Bold	25%	57%	18%
Effective	20%	47%	33%
Exciting	11%	64%	25%
Experienced	18%	54%	28%
Honest	24%	39%	37%
Hypocritical	36%	38%	26%
Inspiring	25%	48%	27%
Intelligent	51%	35%	15%
Partisan	24%	61%	15%
Patriotic	25%	46%	29%
Religious	11%	61%	28%
Sincere	27%	43%	30%
Steady	22%	56%	22%
Strong	22%	50%	28%

31. 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%

32. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	29%
Don't know	2%

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

Not a registered voter	31%
The Democratic Party candidate	28%
The Republican Party candidate	24%
Other	2%
Not sure	13%
I would not vote	2%

34. 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	9%
Somewhat approve	16%
Neither approve nor disapprove	29%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	18%
Not sure	16%

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

Getting better	30%
About the same	39%
Getting worse	26%
Not sure	5%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	23%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	47%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	27%
Not sure	3%

37. Is the place where you live owned or rented?

Owned by you or your family	62%
Rented from someone else	37%
Other	1%

38. Do you think the value of your home has increased or decreased in the last year?

Asked of those who own their own homes

Increased	23%
Stayed about the same	49%
Decreased	20%
Not sure	8%

39. Do you think home prices in your area have increased or decreased in the last year?

Asked of those who do NOT own their own homes

Increased	33%
Stayed about the same	39%
Decreased	10%
Not sure	18%

40. Thinking ahead, do you think home prices in your area will increase or decrease in the next year?

Will increase a lot	4%
Will increase a little	31%
Will stay about the same	36%
Will decrease a little	9%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	15%

41. How worried are you about making your mortgage payments?

Asked of those who own their own homes

Very worried	7%
Somewhat worried	20%
Not worried	36%
Don't have mortgage payments	37%

42. Do you plan to buy a home in the next 12 months?

Will definitely buy a home	4%
Am considering buying a home	13%
Not looking for a home now	83%

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

More jobs	24%
The same amount of jobs	42%
Fewer jobs	22%
Not sure	12%

44. 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	9%
Military Household - I served previously	11%
Military Household - Family served previously	32%
Military Household - None	54%

45. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

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

Strongly support	12%
Somewhat support	19%
Neither support, nor oppose	22%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	23%
Not sure	16%

47. Education

No high school	11%
High school graduate	33%
Some college	24%
2-year college	10%
4-year college	14%
Post-graduate	8%

48. Age

18-29	24%
30-44	27%
45-64	34%
65+	15%

49. Race

White	67%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Other	8%

50. Region

Northeast	18%
Midwest	24%
South	36%
West	22%

51. Party Identification

Democratic	40%
Independent	32%
Republican	28%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	January 3-5, 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 5.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.03.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.5% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.