

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted November 15-17, 2014  
Margin of Error  $\pm 4.4\%$

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	45%
Some of the time	31%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	9%
Don't know	2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	25%
Off on the wrong track	62%
Not sure	13%

3. How closely are you following the news about Ebola?

Very closely	27%
Somewhat closely	50%
Not very closely	20%
Not following at all	4%

4. How concerned are you about an Ebola epidemic here in the United States?

Very concerned	19%
Somewhat concerned	34%
Not very concerned	32%
Not concerned at all	15%

5. Taking into consideration both your risk of contracting it and the seriousness of the illness, how worried are you personally about experiencing Ebola?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	19%
Not too worried	39%
Not worried at all	30%

6. How would you describe the way most Americans are thinking about Ebola?

They are not taking the risks serious enough	20%
They are behaving appropriately	35%
They are overreacting to the actual risks of contracting the virus	35%
Not sure	9%

7. How would you describe the way the media has covered news about Ebola?

They did not take the risks of the virus serious enough	14%
They covered the risks of the virus appropriately	36%
They overreacted to the actual risks of the virus	40%
Not sure	11%

8. Has the media has done a good job accurately reporting about Ebola or has the media made it seem better or worse than it really is?

Made the Ebola epidemic seem worse than it really is	35%
Accurately reported on the scale of the Ebola epidemic	33%
Made Ebola epidemic seem better than it really is	15%
Not sure	16%

9. Do you think media coverage of the Ebola crisis had an effect on the recent election?

Had an effect on the election	17%
Did not have an effect on the election	57%
Not sure	27%

**10. In your opinion, was the effect of media coverage of the Ebola crisis on the recent election fair or unfair?**

*Asked of those who thought media coverage of the Ebola crisis had an effect on the election*

Media coverage did not have an effect on the election .....	57%
Not sure if media coverage had an effect on the election .....	27%
Fair .....	6%
Unfair .....	8%
Not sure .....	3%

**11. Do you think politics affected media coverage of the Ebola crisis?**

Yes .....	37%
No .....	40%
Not sure .....	23%

**12. Do you think the United States is doing enough, too much, or not enough to contain the Ebola outbreak?**

Doing too much .....	6%
Doing enough .....	49%
Not doing enough .....	32%
Don't know .....	13%

**13. Should the US government increase or decrease spending on Ebola research, or should it continue to spend the current amount?**

Increase spending .....	26%
Spend the same .....	47%
Decrease spending .....	11%
Not sure .....	15%

14. Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama’s handling of the Ebola outbreak?

Approve strongly	20%
Approve somewhat	26%
Disapprove somewhat	17%
Disapprove strongly	20%
Not sure	17%

15. How well do you understand how laws are made in the United States?

Very well	34%
Somewhat	49%
Not very well	13%
Not at all	4%

16. How well do you think the average American understands how laws are made in the United States?

Very well	3%
Somewhat	29%
Not very well	54%
Not at all	14%

17. Do you support or oppose the federal government providing subsidies for low income people to be able to buy private health care insurance?

Support strongly	26%
Support somewhat	29%
Oppose somewhat	15%
Oppose strongly	17%
Not sure	13%

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

Expanded .....	29%
Kept the same .....	17%
Repealed .....	40%
Not sure .....	14%

19. 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 .....	23%
Equal amount of both failure and success .....	18%
More of a success than a failure .....	24%
A complete success .....	2%
Too early to tell .....	5%
Not sure .....	6%

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

Increased .....	49%
Remained the same .....	18%
Decreased .....	20%
Don't know .....	13%

21. 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 .....	47%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people .....	15%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do .....	17%
Not sure .....	20%

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

Yes .....	83%
No .....	17%

**23. Did you have health insurance for all of 2013?**

Yes .....	79%
No .....	21%

**24. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States?**

Very favorable .....	6%
Somewhat favorable .....	31%
Somewhat unfavorable .....	30%
Very unfavorable .....	15%
Don't know .....	19%

**25. How do you think the Supreme Court should interpret the meaning of any federal law passed by Congress and signed by the President?  
(Select all that apply.)**

The literal meaning of the statements in the law at the time it was passed	32%
What Congress intended when it voted on the law .....	25%
The meaning of the statements in the law today .....	21%
How the statements in the law were understood when the law was applied	27%
Not sure .....	26%

26. Thinking about the current Supreme Court, please indicate if you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure
The Supreme Court should be able to throw out any law it considered unconstitutional	26%	28%	20%	10%	8%	8%
The Supreme Court gets too mixed up in politics	26%	31%	23%	9%	3%	8%
The decisions of the Supreme Court favor some groups more than others	27%	33%	24%	5%	4%	8%
If the Supreme Court started making a lot of rulings that most Americans disagreed with, it might be better to do away with the Court altogether	13%	17%	21%	15%	24%	10%
The Supreme Court can usually be trusted to make decisions that are right for the country as a whole	6%	28%	28%	21%	10%	8%

27. Have you been following the news about an appeals court ruling that said the federal government could only provide subsidies to low income people who purchased health insurance policies on state run health insurance marketplace websites, but the federal government could not provide those same subsidies to low income people who purchased their health insurance policies through the federal health insurance marketplace website because their state had refused to run its own health insurance marketplace website?

Yes .....	36%
No .....	43%
Don't remember .....	22%

28. Do you support or oppose the appeals court ruling that said the federal government cannot provide subsidies to low income people to who purchase health insurance policies on the federally run health insurance marketplace website?

Support strongly .....	15%
Support somewhat .....	12%
Oppose somewhat .....	18%
Oppose strongly .....	26%
Not sure .....	29%

29. Do you usually celebrate Thanksgiving?

Yes .....	90%
No .....	10%

30. Will you watch a football game on TV on Thanksgiving day?

Yes .....	40%
No .....	46%
Not sure .....	13%



**31. Will you eat your Thanksgiving day dinner and watch a football game on TV at the same time?**

*Asked of those who watch football on Thanksgiving and usually celebrate Thanksgiving*

Yes .....	43%
No .....	41%
Not sure .....	16%

**32. When it comes to turkey, do you prefer dark meat (leg or thigh) or white meat (turkey breast)?**

*Asked of those who usually celebrate Thanksgiving*

Dark meat (leg or thigh) .....	18%
White meat (turkey breast) .....	40%
I like both .....	34%
I do not eat turkey .....	7%
Not sure .....	1%

**33. Do you prefer sweet potato side dishes with or without marshmallows?**

*Asked of those who usually celebrate Thanksgiving*

With marshmallows .....	21%
Without marshmallows .....	34%
I like them either way .....	20%
I do not eat sweet potatoes .....	24%
Not sure .....	1%

**34. Do you like canned cranberry sauce or don't you?**

*Asked of those who usually celebrate Thanksgiving*

Yes .....	55%
No .....	43%
Not sure .....	2%

**35. Do you prefer canned cranberry sauce or cranberry sauce made from scratch?**

*Asked of those who usually like cranberry sauce and celebrate Thanksgiving*

Canned .....	38%
Made from scratch .....	15%
I like it either way .....	45%
Not sure .....	2%

**36. Do you or your family invite people who might otherwise be alone on Thanksgiving to join your Thanksgiving meal?**

*Asked of those who usually celebrate Thanksgiving*

Yes .....	60%
No .....	37%
I don't remember .....	4%

**37. Have you ever been invited to join someone else's Thanksgiving day plans when you would otherwise be alone on Thanksgiving day?**

*Asked of those who usually celebrate Thanksgiving*

Yes .....	49%
No .....	47%
I don't remember .....	4%

**38. Does your family have a tradition of going around the table and announcing what you are thankful for this year?**

*Asked of those who usually celebrate Thanksgiving*

Yes .....	21%
No .....	59%
Sometimes .....	20%

**39. Are you thankful this year?**

Yes .....	88%
No .....	12%

40. Are you more thankful this year, less thankful this year or about as thankful this year as you were this time last year?

More thankful this year .....	35%
About the same .....	49%
Less thankful this year .....	10%
Prefer not to say .....	2%
Not sure .....	3%

41. Do you personally plan on doing any shopping in a store on the Friday after Thanksgiving?

Yes .....	12%
No .....	71%
Maybe .....	16%

42. Do you personally plan on doing any shopping in a store on Thanksgiving Day itself?

Yes .....	7%
No .....	81%
Maybe .....	12%

43. In general, should businesses open Thanksgiving Day if there is demand for it, or should businesses close Thanksgiving day so workers can have the day off?

They should feel free to stay open .....	25%
They should close so workers can have the day off .....	66%
Not sure .....	9%

44. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	73%	22%	4%	1%
Immigration	49%	34%	13%	4%
The environment	45%	35%	12%	8%
Terrorism	54%	31%	11%	3%
Gay rights	25%	21%	22%	32%
Education	61%	29%	8%	2%
Health care	67%	26%	4%	3%
Social security	61%	29%	8%	2%
The budget deficit	51%	34%	10%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	31%	43%	19%	7%
Taxes	56%	34%	8%	3%
Medicare	54%	32%	10%	3%
Abortion	40%	29%	18%	12%
Foreign policy	39%	43%	14%	4%

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

The economy	28%
Immigration	8%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	5%
Gay rights	3%
Education	7%
Health care	10%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	6%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	2%
Abortion	6%
Foreign policy	1%

46. 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	21%	23%	13%	38%	5%
Joe Biden	16%	26%	17%	27%	13%
John Boehner	5%	19%	19%	31%	26%
Mitch McConnell	6%	17%	17%	27%	33%
Harry Reid	5%	17%	13%	32%	33%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	19%	11%	37%	22%

47. 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	12%	24%	15%	19%	29%
Chris Christie	7%	24%	21%	24%	25%
Paul Ryan	13%	19%	13%	26%	29%
Jeb Bush	9%	22%	22%	23%	24%
Mike Huckabee	13%	18%	15%	23%	30%
Marco Rubio	10%	19%	15%	20%	35%
Hillary Clinton	26%	22%	14%	30%	8%
Elizabeth Warren	17%	13%	10%	19%	41%
Ted Cruz	14%	14%	11%	29%	32%
Scott Walker	14%	10%	10%	22%	44%
Brian Schweitzer	4%	9%	10%	7%	70%
Rick Perry	12%	18%	12%	27%	31%
Bernie Sanders	11%	10%	11%	14%	54%
Martin O'Malley	4%	10%	9%	11%	67%
Jim Webb	4%	11%	9%	10%	66%
Mitt Romney	15%	23%	17%	27%	18%

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

Strongly approve .....	15%
Somewhat approve .....	27%
Somewhat disapprove .....	15%
Strongly disapprove .....	38%
Not sure .....	5%

**49. 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	19%	23%	14%	35%	9%
Immigration	14%	21%	13%	38%	14%
The environment	16%	25%	16%	24%	18%
Terrorism	15%	28%	18%	28%	11%
Gay rights	19%	21%	11%	28%	21%
Education	16%	24%	16%	25%	19%
Health care	22%	21%	13%	37%	8%
Social security	16%	24%	17%	25%	18%
The war in Afghanistan	12%	25%	19%	29%	15%
The budget deficit	16%	21%	14%	36%	13%
Taxes	13%	23%	17%	31%	15%
Medicare	17%	22%	18%	27%	16%
Abortion	14%	20%	10%	28%	28%
Foreign policy	13%	23%	14%	32%	17%

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

Strongly approve .....	1%
Somewhat approve .....	9%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	20%
Somewhat disapprove .....	22%
Strongly disapprove .....	38%
Not sure .....	10%

51. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal .....	35%
Liberal .....	23%
Moderate .....	24%
Conservative .....	6%
Very conservative .....	3%
Not sure .....	9%

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

Very strong .....	14%
Somewhat strong .....	30%
Somewhat weak .....	23%
Very weak .....	33%

53. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes .....	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	47%
Not sure .....	14%

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

Like a lot .....	27%
Like somewhat .....	29%
Dislike .....	32%
Not sure .....	12%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	41%	33%	26%
Bold	24%	60%	16%
Effective	17%	50%	33%
Exciting	15%	63%	22%
Experienced	19%	51%	30%
Honest	26%	41%	33%
Hypocritical	36%	42%	22%
Inspiring	28%	47%	25%
Intelligent	47%	36%	16%
Partisan	25%	63%	12%
Patriotic	25%	47%	28%
Religious	12%	61%	28%
Sincere	27%	44%	29%
Steady	23%	57%	20%
Strong	25%	47%	28%

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

Very liberal .....	6%
Liberal .....	18%
Moderate .....	34%
Conservative .....	30%
Very conservative .....	9%
Not sure .....	2%



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

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

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

Not a registered voter .....	32%
The Democratic Party candidate .....	26%
The Republican Party candidate .....	27%
Other .....	3%
Not sure .....	10%
I would not vote .....	1%

**59. 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 .....	10%
Somewhat approve .....	22%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	23%
Somewhat disapprove .....	14%
Strongly disapprove .....	15%
Not sure .....	17%

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

Getting better .....	25%
About the same .....	41%
Getting worse .....	28%
Not sure .....	6%

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

More jobs .....	21%
The same amount of jobs .....	46%
Fewer jobs .....	19%
Not sure .....	15%

**62. 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 .....	8%
Military Household - I served previously .....	12%
Military Household - Family served previously .....	34%
Military Household - None .....	51%

**63. Gender**

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

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

Strongly support .....	14%
Somewhat support .....	18%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	17%
Somewhat oppose .....	8%
Strongly oppose .....	25%
Not sure .....	18%

**65. Education**

No high school .....	11%
High school graduate .....	30%
Some college .....	25%
2-year college .....	9%
4-year college .....	17%
Post-graduate .....	8%

**66. Age**

18-29 .....	24%
30-44 .....	27%
45-64 .....	35%
65+ .....	15%

**67. Race**

White .....	65%
Black .....	14%
Hispanic .....	11%
Other .....	9%

**68. Region**

Northeast .....	21%
Midwest .....	23%
South .....	34%
West .....	21%

**69. Party Identification**

Democratic .....	37%
Independent .....	36%
Republican .....	27%

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	November 15-17, 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 6.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 4.4% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	21 questions not reported.