

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
 Conducted February 15-17, 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 48%
 Some of the time 30%
 Only now and then 13%
 Hardly at all 9%

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

Generally headed in the right direction 24%
 Off on the wrong track 61%
 Not sure 16%

3. Which of the following countries do you consider to be a friend or an enemy of the United States?

	Ally of U.S.	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy of the U.S.	Not sure
Russia	4%	17%	41%	15%	22%
Iran	1%	4%	29%	49%	17%
Saudi Arabia	7%	24%	27%	18%	25%
Israel	40%	24%	11%	6%	19%

4. How serious a threat do you think Saudi Arabia poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S. 8%
 A somewhat serious threat to the U.S. 24%
 A minor threat to the U.S. 32%
 Not a threat to the U.S. 18%
 Not sure 17%

5. How serious a threat do you think Saudi Arabia’s nuclear program poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	10%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	28%
A minor threat to the U.S.	28%
Not a threat to the U.S.	16%
Not sure	18%

6. How serious a threat do you think Iran poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	25%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	37%
A minor threat to the U.S.	18%
Not a threat to the U.S.	7%
Not sure	13%

7. How serious a threat do you think Iran’s nuclear program poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	30%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	36%
A minor threat to the U.S.	16%
Not a threat to the U.S.	7%
Not sure	11%

8. In your opinion, which is more important?

Preventing Iran from developing nuclear weapons, even if it means taking military actions	65%
Avoiding military conflict with Iran, even if it means they develop nuclear weapons.	35%

9. 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	24%
Equal amount of both failure and success	17%
More of a success than a failure	15%
A complete success	2%
Too early to tell	9%
Not sure	5%

10. Have you tried to visit the federal health insurance exchange website, healthcare.gov?

Yes	25%
No	71%
Not sure	4%

11. Thinking about your most recent attempt, why did you visit healthcare.gov?

Asked of those who have tried to visit healthcare.gov

To buy health insurance	21%
To get information about health insurance	44%
Just curious	33%
Other	2%
Not sure	0%

12. Was your most recent experience at healthcare.gov positive or negative?

Asked of those who have tried to visit healthcare.gov

Very positive	17%
Somewhat positive	16%
Neither positive nor negative	20%
Somewhat negative	21%
Very negative	27%
Not sure	0%

13. Which month was your most recent visit to healthcare.gov?

October	7%
November	14%
December	28%
January	26%
February	20%
Don't remember	6%

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

Expanded	25%
Kept the same	13%
Repealed	42%
Not sure	20%

15. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	80%
No	20%

16. Will you buy a health insurance plan before the deadline or will you pay the fine instead?

Asked of those who do not have health insurance

Buy health insurance	17%
Pay the fine	31%
Already signed up	7%
Not sure	45%

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

Yes	76%
No	24%

18. Some people say that global temperatures have been going up slowly over the past 100 years - the phenomenon called "global warming." Do you think that global warming is happening or not?

Definitely is happening	36%
Probably is happening	23%
Probably is not happening	16%
Definitely is not happening	16%
Not sure	9%

19. In your opinion, how likely is it that the following scenarios are true?

	Definitely true	Probably true	Probably false	Definitely false	Not sure
Some people in the U.S. government knew about the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 beforehand, but let the attacks happen anyway.	14%	28%	23%	21%	14%
Lee Harvey Oswald did not act alone in assassinating President John F. Kennedy, instead he was part of a larger conspiracy involving others.	18%	41%	16%	8%	17%
The 1969 landing on the moon didn't occur and was actually staged somewhere in Arizona.	4%	9%	11%	63%	13%

20. Which do you think is more likely to be the correct explanation for the origin of humans?

The theory of evolution	32%
Intelligent design - evolution has happened, but by intelligent design	17%
The account of creation as told in the Bible	38%
Not sure	13%

21. Do you think eating foods containing genetically modified organisms, or GMOs, is better for your health, has no impact on your health, or is harmful to your health?

Better for your health	4%
No impact on your health	19%
Harmful to your health	46%
Not sure	31%

22. Would you generally trust scientists to tell the truth or not?

Completely	5%
A lot	25%
A moderate amount	40%
A little	20%
Not at all	11%

23. How much do you trust the things that scientists say about...

	Completely	A lot	A moderate amount	A little	Not at all
The environment	9%	25%	33%	24%	10%
Climate change	11%	24%	31%	19%	16%
The safety of food and drug products	4%	21%	41%	24%	11%
How the world was created	10%	21%	26%	20%	23%

24. Do you happen to know whether the water you drink in your home is flouridated?

Yes	51%
No	23%
Not sure	26%

25. Do you approve or disapprove of flouridating drinking water?

Approve strongly	17%
Approve somewhat	31%
Disapprove somewhat	15%
Disapprove strongly	11%
Not sure	26%

26. Do you think the pace of scientific and technical development has been too fast, just right or too slow?

Too fast	17%
Just right	44%
Too slow	21%
Not sure	18%

27. Do you think it is acceptable or unacceptable for scientists to work on the following projects:

	Acceptable	Unacceptable	Not sure
Testing new drugs on animals	43%	38%	19%
Creating military weapons	57%	23%	21%
Finding ways make food healthier and resistant to diseases	74%	10%	17%
Space exploration	84%	8%	8%
Understanding how the world began	73%	13%	14%
How to change the weather to prevent natural disasters	44%	32%	24%

28. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia?

Very favorable	2%
Somewhat favorable	14%
Somewhat unfavorable	31%
Very unfavorable	28%
Don't know	25%

29. How much of the Winter Olympic Games have you watched?

I have watched lots of events every day	11%
I have watched lots of events when I can	16%
I have watched a few events	38%
I have not watched any of them	35%

30. Have the Winter Olympics in Sochi been successful or unsuccessful?

Very successful	11%
Somewhat successful	38%
Somewhat unsuccessful	15%
Very unsuccessful	5%
Not sure	31%

31. Do you think the International Olympic Committee made a good decision in selecting Sochi to host the Winter Olympic Games?

Yes	20%
No	46%
Not sure	34%

32. How much confidence do you have that the Olympics in Sochi will be safe from terrorism?

a great deal of confidence	14%
some confidence	37%
a little confidence	26%
no confidence	8%
Don't know	15%

33. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	75%	21%	2%	2%
Immigration	43%	34%	16%	7%
The environment	48%	35%	12%	6%
Terrorism	51%	34%	11%	4%
Gay rights	23%	22%	21%	34%
Education	64%	24%	9%	3%
Health care	67%	23%	7%	3%
Social security	63%	25%	9%	3%
The budget deficit	53%	31%	11%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	27%	42%	21%	10%
Taxes	56%	31%	9%	3%
Medicare	56%	29%	12%	4%
Abortion	38%	26%	20%	16%

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

The economy	30%
Immigration	3%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	5%
Gay rights	3%
Education	9%
Health care	11%
Social security	10%
The budget deficit	6%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	6%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	6%

35. 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	23%	19%	13%	38%	7%
Joe Biden	15%	23%	17%	31%	14%
John Boehner	4%	16%	24%	31%	25%
Mitch McConnell	4%	14%	19%	29%	35%
Harry Reid	6%	15%	16%	31%	31%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	18%	12%	38%	22%

36. 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	24%	24%	15%	30%	8%
Chris Christie	9%	22%	25%	23%	20%
Ted Cruz	11%	16%	15%	26%	33%
Elizabeth Warren	15%	11%	11%	18%	46%

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

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	4%

38. 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%	13%	40%	10%
Immigration	11%	23%	15%	37%	15%
The environment	10%	26%	20%	26%	18%
Terrorism	18%	25%	15%	28%	14%
Gay rights	19%	19%	12%	29%	20%
Education	14%	29%	15%	27%	16%
Health care	18%	19%	13%	41%	9%
Social security	14%	21%	17%	30%	17%
The war in Afghanistan	13%	21%	20%	31%	15%
The budget deficit	11%	20%	17%	41%	12%
Taxes	12%	23%	16%	36%	14%
Medicare	14%	23%	16%	32%	15%
Abortion	12%	21%	11%	32%	25%

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

Strongly approve	1%
Somewhat approve	5%
Neither approve nor disapprove	12%
Somewhat disapprove	26%
Strongly disapprove	46%
Not sure	8%

40. 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%	22%	20%	38%	8%
Republicans in Congress	5%	16%	26%	44%	9%

41. 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	13%	23%	18%	38%	8%
The Republican Party	6%	16%	25%	43%	9%

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

The Democratic Party candidate	32%
The Republican Party candidate	24%
Other	6%
Not sure	28%
I would not vote	9%

43. If an election for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

The Democratic Party candidate	34%
The Republican Party candidate	27%
Other	5%
Not sure	25%
I would not vote	10%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	35%
Conservative	30%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	1%

45. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	36%
Liberal	21%
Moderate	25%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	4%
Not sure	10%

46. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	34%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	55%
Not sure	11%

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

Like a lot	29%
Like somewhat	31%
Dislike	32%
Not sure	9%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	40%	35%	25%
Bold	27%	59%	14%
Effective	19%	47%	34%
Exciting	13%	65%	23%
Experienced	18%	49%	33%
Honest	22%	43%	35%
Hypocritical	39%	42%	19%
Inspiring	27%	51%	22%
Intelligent	50%	37%	13%
Partisan	25%	61%	14%
Patriotic	23%	51%	26%
Religious	12%	62%	25%
Sincere	27%	43%	30%
Steady	22%	60%	18%
Strong	25%	54%	21%

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

Getting better	20%
About the same	36%
Getting worse	39%
Not sure	5%

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

Higher	19%
About the same	40%
Lower	21%
Not sure	20%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	14%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	49%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	34%
Not sure	3%

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

Owned by you or your family	61%
Rented from someone else	37%
Other	2%

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

Increased	21%
Stayed about the same	49%
Decreased	25%
Not sure	6%

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

Increased	35%
Stayed about the same	38%
Decreased	12%
Not sure	15%

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

Will increase a lot	5%
Will increase a little	30%
Will stay about the same	39%
Will decrease a little	12%
Will decrease a lot	2%
Not sure	12%

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

Very worried	8%
Somewhat worried	26%
Not worried	30%
Don't have mortgage payments	36%

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

Will definitely buy a home	5%
Am considering buying a home	13%
Not looking for a home now	82%

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

Yes	23%
No	77%

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

Full-time employed	36%
Part-time employed	11%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	15%
Retired	19%
Permanently disabled	9%
Homemaker	7%
Other	2%

60. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	14%
No	86%

61. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	13%
Somewhat worried	27%
Not very worried	60%

62. 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.	38%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	40%
Not very hard	14%
Not sure	8%

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

More jobs	21%
The same amount of jobs	39%
Fewer jobs	29%
Not sure	11%

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

Very happy	19%
Happy	38%
Neither happy nor unhappy	27%
Unhappy	9%
Very unhappy	7%

65. How would you guess your total family income to be six months from now?

Higher	17%
Same	69%
Lower	15%

66. If you lost your job, how long would it be before you exhausted your savings?

I don't have any savings	30%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	22%
I could last a few months on my savings	27%
I could last a year on my savings	12%
I could last more than a year on my savings	9%

67. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

68. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the goals of the Tea Party movement?
Asked if respondent is aware of Tea Party movement

Strongly support	11%
Somewhat support	21%
Neither support, nor oppose	19%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	23%
Not sure	16%

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

Yes	13%
No	73%
Not Sure	14%

70. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	68%
Black	14%
Hispanic	12%
Asian	3%
Native American	0%
Middle Eastern	0%
Mixed	2%
Other	1%

71. Education

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

72. What is your marital status?

Married	41%
Separated	2%
Divorced	9%
Widowed	4%
Single	39%
Domestic partnership	5%

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

Yes	30%
No	70%

74. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	39%
Somewhat important	26%
Not too important	13%
Not at all important	22%

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

More than once a week	11%
Once a week	16%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	22%
Never	28%
Don't know	2%

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

Several times a day	30%
Once a day	15%
A few times a week	11%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	16%
Never	17%
Don't know	1%

77. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	39%
Roman Catholic	19%
Mormon	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	0%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	22%
Something else	2%

78. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	26%
45-64	34%
65+	15%

79. Race

White	68%
Black	14%
Hispanic	12%
Other	6%

80. Region

Northeast	19%
Midwest	24%
South	35%
West	21%

81. Party Identification

Democrat	34%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	25%
Lean Republican	9%
Republican	24%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	February 15-17, 2014
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, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.93.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.2% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.