

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted January 11-13, 2014
Margin of Error $\pm 4.3\%$

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	28%
Off on the wrong track	58%
Not sure	14%

3. Do you think collecting and analyzing Americans' phone records is justified as a way to combat terrorism, or is it an unnecessary intrusion into Americans' lives?

Justified as a way to combat terrorism	23%
Unnecessary intrusion into Americans' lives	62%
Not sure	15%

4. The National Security Agency has been collecting information about telephone records – length of calls and the numbers called – in order to reduce the threat of terrorism. Do you approve or disapprove of their doing this?

Approve strongly	8%
Approve somewhat	25%
Disapprove somewhat	26%
Disapprove strongly	34%
Not sure	8%

5. The phone records information has been collected since 2007. How likely do you think it is that this information has prevented a terrorist attack?

Very likely	11%
Somewhat likely	23%
Somewhat unlikely	24%
Very unlikely	30%
Not sure	10%

6. The NSA says that it is not listening in to phone conversations, just looking at the "metadata" of call duration, etc. Do you think the NSA is telling the truth about this, or do you think it is listening in to phone conversations on a regular basis?

Telling the truth	16%
Is listening in on phone conversations on a regular basis	58%
Not sure	26%

7. How confident are you that the things people do on the following websites are private and will not be used by others without their permission?

	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
Google	6%	16%	31%	43%	4%
Bing	4%	16%	31%	36%	13%
Facebook	4%	10%	29%	55%	2%
Amazon	8%	28%	27%	31%	5%
Twitter	2%	9%	30%	51%	7%
Healthcare.gov	9%	20%	21%	40%	10%
IRS	9%	22%	22%	42%	5%

8. Since September 11, 2001, the United States has fought against the threat of terrorism through military operations abroad and increased security and surveillance inside of the United States. Do you think these actions have been worth the cost?

Worth cost	41%
Not worth cost	36%
Not sure	23%

9. Are we safer from terrorist attacks now than we were in 2001?

Much more safe	12%
Somewhat more safe	32%
About the same	35%
Somewhat less safe	8%
Much less safe	7%
Not sure	6%

10. What do you think are the chances of a terrorist attack against the United States in the next 12 months?

Very likely (more than 50%)	11%
Somewhat likely (10% to 50%)	39%
Not very likely (1% to 10%)	29%
Very unlikely (less than 1%)	9%
Not sure	12%

11. Since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, there is more security and surveillance in public places, especially at airports and large public events. Some people say that these measures go too far and restrict our basic civil liberties. Are these increased public security and surveillance measures...

Going too far	27%
Just about right	49%
Not going far enough	12%
Not sure	12%

12. Next week, President Obama will deliver a major policy speech on the National Security Agency. Do you think the President will announce major changes, minor changes, or no changes to the NSA?

Major changes limiting the NSA	5%
Minor changes limiting the NSA	29%
No changes	22%
Minor changes expanding the NSA	15%
Major changes expanding the NSA	7%
Not sure	22%

13. Do you think the NSA should face major changes, minor changes, or no changes at all?

Major changes limiting the NSA	28%
Minor changes limiting the NSA	26%
No changes	12%
Minor changes expanding the NSA	10%
Major changes expanding the NSA	5%
Not sure	19%

14. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the NSA?

Approve strongly	8%
Approve somewhat	21%
Disapprove somewhat	20%
Disapprove strongly	29%
Not sure	21%

15. Edward Snowden, a former NSA contractor, made the news recently for leaking information of government surveillance on Americans, including monitoring internet usage and telephone records, to the press. What is your opinion on Snowden, if any?

Very favorable	19%
Somewhat favorable	22%
Somewhat unfavorable	17%
Very unfavorable	25%
Not sure	16%

16. Do you approve or disapprove of Edward Snowden’s decision to leak information about U.S. surveillance activities?

Strongly approve	19%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	28%
Not sure	13%

17. Would you support or oppose the prosecution of Edward Snowden for leaking the information?

I would support prosecution	30%
I neither support nor oppose	25%
I would oppose his prosecution	32%
Not sure	13%

18. 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 December 2013?

Unemployment rate <u>decreased</u> by 1% or more	26%
Unemployment rate <u>decreased</u> by between 0% and 1%	12%
Unemployment rate is the same	13%
Unemployment rate <u>increased</u> by between 0% and 1%	5%
Unemployment rate <u>increased</u> by 1% or more	33%
Don’t know	11%

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

Doing enough	16%
Should do more	74%
Not sure	10%

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

Doing enough	9%
Should do more	79%
Not sure	12%

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

Doing enough	12%
Should do more	77%
Not sure	11%

22. 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	54%
Federal government should not be directly involved	31%
Not sure	14%

23. 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	24%
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	19%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	11%
Not sure	10%

24. 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	27%
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	20%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	13%
Not sure	12%

25. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole we'll have continuous good times during the next year or so, or that we will have periods of widespread unemployment or depression, or what?

Good times	4%
Mostly good times	11%
Mixture	57%
Mostly bad times	13%
Bad times	8%
Not sure	7%

26. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole we'll have continuous good times during THE NEXT FIVE YEARS or so, or that we will have periods of widespread unemployment or depression, or what?

Good times	3%
Mostly good times	13%
Mixture	55%
Mostly bad times	11%
Bad times	9%
Not sure	9%

27. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole we'll have continuous good times during THE NEXT TEN YEARS or so, or that we will have periods of widespread unemployment or depression, or what?

Good times	5%
Mostly good times	12%
Mixture	54%
Mostly bad times	8%
Bad times	8%
Not sure	13%

28. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following potential Republican candidates for President?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Ted Cruz	16%	13%	9%	29%	33%
Chris Christie	13%	28%	21%	18%	21%
Rand Paul	15%	19%	13%	26%	27%
Scott Walker	11%	14%	11%	21%	43%
Marco Rubio	14%	16%	18%	21%	32%
Jeb Bush	13%	18%	20%	25%	25%
Paul Ryan	16%	19%	14%	26%	25%
Mike Huckabee	17%	16%	14%	25%	28%

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

Ted Cruz	7%
Chris Christie	20%
Rand Paul	8%
Scott Walker	3%
Marco Rubio	6%
Jeb Bush	7%
Paul Ryan	5%
Mike Huckabee	8%
Other	6%
No preference	32%

30. How much of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream of racial equality has been realized today?

A great deal of it	27%
Quite a bit	28%
Only some	28%
Very little	8%
Not much at all	6%
Not sure	3%

31. Do you think race relations in the United States are generally...

Good	58%
Bad	42%

32. How big a problem is racism in our society today?

A big problem	19%
Somewhat of a problem	43%
A small problem	31%
Not a problem	8%

33. Since the 1960's, do you think race relations in the United States have gotten...

Better	77%
Stayed about the same	14%
Worse	10%

34. Since Barack Obama has been president, do you think race relations in the United States have gotten...

Better	13%
Stayed about the same	52%
Worse	35%

35. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the National Football League?

Very favorable	19%
Somewhat favorable	35%
Somewhat unfavorable	16%
Very unfavorable	10%
Not sure	21%

36. How closely do you follow the National Football League?

Very closely	19%
Somewhat closely	28%
Not very closely	18%
Not closely at all	35%

37. Which team would you like to see win the Superbowl this year?

Asked of those who follow the NFL at least somewhat closely

Indianapolis Colts	5%
New England Patriots	11%
Denver Broncos	27%
San Diego Chargers	5%
New Orleans Saints	7%
Seattle Seahawks	15%
San Francisco 49ers	13%
Carolina Panthers	6%
Not sure	12%

38. Who would you select for the Pro-Football Hall of Fame? (Select up to 5 nominees from the list of finalists below.)

Asked of those who follow the NFL at least somewhat closely

Morten Andersen	16%
Jerome Bettis	33%
Derrick Brooks	13%
Tim Brown	28%
Edward DeBartolo	12%
Tony Dungy	40%
Kevin Greene	19%
Charles Haley	11%
Marvin Harrison	19%
Walter Jones	12%
John Lynch	16%
Andre Reed	20%
Will Shields	5%
Michael Strahan	38%
Aeneas Williams	6%
None of them	17%

39. Do you approve or disapprove of using public money to build professional sports stadiums?

Approve strongly	4%
Approve somewhat	16%
Disapprove somewhat	29%
Disapprove strongly	45%
Not sure	6%

40. Do you approve or disapprove of giving special tax breaks in order to retain or attract a professional sports team to a city?

Approve strongly	8%
Approve somewhat	24%
Disapprove somewhat	25%
Disapprove strongly	34%
Not sure	10%

41. Do you support or oppose legislation that would revoke the tax-exempt status of the National Football League?

Support strongly	41%
Support somewhat	23%
Oppose somewhat	9%
Oppose strongly	11%
Not sure	17%

42. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	78%	17%	3%	2%
Immigration	43%	34%	17%	6%
The environment	45%	37%	12%	6%
Terrorism	50%	34%	12%	4%
Gay rights	21%	26%	23%	30%
Education	65%	26%	7%	3%
Health care	71%	22%	5%	3%
Social security	62%	29%	7%	2%
The budget deficit	55%	29%	12%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	34%	40%	19%	8%
Taxes	61%	30%	7%	2%
Medicare	58%	28%	10%	3%
Abortion	36%	26%	23%	15%

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

The economy	30%
Immigration	5%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	2%
Gay rights	3%
Education	9%
Health care	12%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	9%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	6%

44. 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%	19%	14%	37%	5%
Joe Biden	19%	23%	15%	31%	12%
John Boehner	6%	21%	23%	29%	21%
Mitch McConnell	5%	14%	20%	25%	36%
Harry Reid	7%	16%	17%	31%	29%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	21%	15%	37%	18%
Hillary Clinton	28%	24%	14%	28%	5%

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

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	3%

46. 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	15%	23%	16%	37%	9%
Immigration	13%	22%	18%	35%	12%
The environment	13%	25%	19%	27%	16%
Terrorism	19%	28%	16%	26%	11%
Gay rights	17%	23%	12%	29%	19%
Education	15%	28%	20%	24%	13%
Health care	20%	19%	11%	44%	7%
Social security	13%	24%	20%	28%	15%
The war in Afghanistan	16%	22%	20%	32%	11%
The budget deficit	14%	21%	15%	40%	10%
Taxes	13%	23%	17%	34%	12%
Medicare	14%	24%	18%	31%	12%
Abortion	15%	19%	12%	29%	25%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	5%
Neither approve nor disapprove	13%
Somewhat disapprove	24%
Strongly disapprove	49%
Not sure	7%

48. 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	13%	21%	21%	37%	8%
Republicans in Congress	5%	19%	24%	44%	8%

49. 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	15%	23%	21%	35%	6%
The Republican Party	7%	22%	22%	42%	7%

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

The Democratic Party candidate	33%
The Republican Party candidate	28%
Other	7%
Not sure	23%
I would not vote	8%

51. 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	37%
The Republican Party candidate	28%
Other	4%
Not sure	23%
I would not vote	9%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	34%
Conservative	31%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	2%

53. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	36%
Liberal	23%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	10%

54. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	32%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	57%
Not sure	11%

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

Like a lot	33%
Like somewhat	27%
Dislike	30%
Not sure	10%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	41%	32%	27%
Bold	29%	58%	13%
Effective	21%	45%	33%
Exciting	14%	65%	21%
Experienced	18%	54%	28%
Honest	26%	37%	36%
Hypocritical	39%	39%	22%
Inspiring	30%	45%	24%
Intelligent	56%	32%	12%
Partisan	27%	61%	12%
Patriotic	24%	50%	26%
Religious	12%	63%	26%
Sincere	30%	40%	31%
Steady	25%	59%	16%
Strong	26%	52%	22%

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

Getting better	26%
About the same	39%
Getting worse	32%
Not sure	3%

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

Higher	24%
About the same	39%
Lower	17%
Not sure	20%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	17%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	47%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	33%
Not sure	3%

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

Owned by you or your family	60%
Rented from someone else	37%
Other	3%

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

Increased	30%
Stayed about the same	40%
Decreased	22%
Not sure	8%

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

Increased	40%
Stayed about the same	34%
Decreased	12%
Not sure	14%

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

Will increase a lot	8%
Will increase a little	35%
Will stay about the same	30%
Will decrease a little	11%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	13%

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

Very worried	8%
Somewhat worried	19%
Not worried	38%
Don't have mortgage payments	35%

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

Will definitely buy a home	4%
Am considering buying a home	15%
Not looking for a home now	81%

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

Yes	26%
No	74%

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

Full-time employed	37%
Part-time employed	12%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	13%
Retired	20%
Permanently disabled	7%
Homemaker	9%
Other	2%

68. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	19%
No	81%

69. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	11%
Somewhat worried	26%
Not very worried	63%

70. 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.	36%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	41%
Not very hard	16%
Not sure	7%

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

More jobs	18%
The same amount of jobs	46%
Fewer jobs	25%
Not sure	10%

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

Very happy	22%
Happy	40%
Neither happy nor unhappy	24%
Unhappy	8%
Very unhappy	6%

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

Higher	20%
Same	66%
Lower	14%

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

I don't have any savings	36%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	16%
I could last a few months on my savings	23%
I could last a year on my savings	9%
I could last more than a year on my savings	16%

75. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

76. 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	12%
Somewhat support	17%
Neither support, nor oppose	22%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	23%
Not sure	16%

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

Yes	12%
No	70%
Not Sure	17%

78. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	68%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Asian	3%
Native American	1%
Middle Eastern	1%
Mixed	2%
Other	1%

79. Education

No high school	9%
High school graduate	32%
Some college	25%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	8%

80. What is your marital status?

Married	44%
Separated	1%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	4%
Single	36%
Domestic partnership	5%

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

Yes	28%
No	72%

82. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	38%
Somewhat important	26%
Not too important	16%
Not at all important	20%

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

More than once a week	10%
Once a week	18%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	22%
Never	28%
Don't know	2%

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

Several times a day	31%
Once a day	14%
A few times a week	10%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	7%
Seldom	13%
Never	18%
Don't know	4%

85. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	36%
Roman Catholic	21%
Mormon	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	7%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	18%
Something else	5%

86. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	26%
45-64	33%
65+	15%

87. Race

White	68%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Other	7%

88. Region

Northeast	16%
Midwest	23%
South	37%
West	23%

89. Party Identification

Democrat	34%
Lean Democrat	12%
Independent	22%
Lean Republican	9%
Republican	23%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	January 11-13, 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 7, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.96.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.3% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.