

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted November 8-10, 2014  
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	42%
Some of the time	33%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	10%
Don't know	1%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	23%
Off on the wrong track	61%
Not sure	16%

3. Do the results of the recent election make you feel happy, unhappy, or indifferent?

Happy	34%
Indifferent	27%
Unhappy	31%
Not sure	9%

4. Do you think the results of the recent election will affect you personally?

Yes	49%
No	24%
Not sure	26%

5. Do you support or oppose the following policies?

	Support	Oppose	Not sure
Repeal Obamacare	49%	34%	17%
Toughen border security	73%	15%	12%
Raise the minimum wage	60%	27%	13%
Lower individual taxes	71%	13%	16%
Lower corporate taxes	32%	49%	19%
Increase defense spending	36%	42%	22%
Balance the budget	79%	7%	14%
Provide illegal immigrants with a pathway to citizenship	39%	40%	21%

6. In January, Republicans will control both Houses of Congress. When compared to the current Congress, do you think the next Congress, under Republican control, will approve more or fewer pieces of legislation?

More pieces of legislation	35%
The same number of pieces of legislation	21%
Fewer pieces of legislation	22%
Not sure	22%

7. How likely is it that the Republican controlled Congress will approve legislation that attempts to...

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Not sure
Repeal Obamacare	38%	28%	15%	9%	10%
Toughen border security	36%	32%	12%	8%	11%
Raise the minimum wage	9%	13%	29%	37%	12%
Lower individual taxes	15%	26%	23%	21%	14%
Lower corporate taxes	31%	28%	16%	10%	14%
Increase defense spending	32%	32%	12%	6%	17%
Balance the budget	14%	21%	26%	22%	17%
Provide illegal immigrants with a pathway to citizenship	6%	9%	27%	41%	17%

8. Do you think the Republican controlled Congress should compromise and pass legislation that President Obama will sign into law, or should the Republican controlled Congress not compromise and pass legislation regardless of whether or not President Obama will veto it?

Compromise to get legislation signed into law .....	40%
Pass legislation regardless of whether it gets a Presidential veto or not ..	41%
Not sure .....	19%

9. In January, Republicans will control both Houses of Congress. Compared to the number of bills he signed into law during the current Congress, do you think President Obama will sign more bills or fewer bills into law during the next Congress?

More bills will become law .....	13%
Same number of bills will become law .....	20%
Fewer bills will become law .....	45%
Not sure .....	22%

10. Do you think President Obama will sign into law or veto any legislation the Republican Congress approves that attempts to...

	Sign into law	Veto	Not sure
Repeal Obamacare	10%	76%	14%
Toughen border security	28%	39%	34%
Raise the minimum wage	73%	9%	18%
Lower individual taxes	35%	35%	30%
Lower corporate taxes	16%	52%	32%
Increase defense spending	25%	44%	31%
Balance the budget	30%	35%	35%
Provide illegal immigrants with a pathway to citizenship	60%	12%	28%

11. Do you think the Republican controlled Congress should conduct more or fewer investigations of the Obama administration?

More investigations	37%
The same number of investigations	20%
Fewer investigations	26%
Not sure	17%

12. Do you think the Republican controlled Congress should or should not attempt to impeach President Obama?

Should attempt to impeach President Obama	28%
Should not attempt to impeach President Obama	58%
Not sure	14%

13. Did you vote in the recent election?

Yes .....	59%
No .....	33%
Prefer not to say .....	8%

14. Compared to the way they treat other public figures, do you think the news media has been harder or easier on Barack Obama, or have they treated him the same as other public figures?

Harder .....	24%
About the same .....	33%
Easier .....	35%
Not sure .....	8%

15. Regardless of your overall opinion of Barack Obama, do you think he shares the values most people try to live by?

Yes .....	42%
No .....	44%
Not sure .....	13%

16. How much do you think Barack Obama cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself?

A lot .....	24%
Some .....	27%
Not much .....	19%
Not at all .....	31%

17. Do you think Barack Obama has more or less honesty and integrity, or about the same level of honesty and integrity as most people in public life?

More honesty .....	21%
Same level of honesty .....	35%
Less honesty .....	38%
Not sure .....	6%

18. Are you confident in Barack Obama's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident .....	32%
Uneasy .....	53%
Not sure .....	15%

19. Due to the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, Barack Obama may not run for a third term. Do you wish Barack Obama could run for President in 2016?

Yes .....	18%
No .....	70%
Not sure .....	12%

20. Which politician do you prefer?

Hillary Clinton .....	21%
Barack Obama .....	21%
Neither one .....	46%
Not sure .....	12%

21. Which politician do you think is worse?

*Asked of those who prefer neither Clinton nor Obama*

Hillary Clinton .....	22%
Barack Obama .....	43%
Not sure .....	35%

**22. Which politician do you prefer?**

*Combined responses to original question with responses to follow up question for those who answered 'neither one'*

Hillary Clinton .....	41%
Barack Obama .....	32%
Not sure .....	28%

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

Expanded .....	28%
Kept the same .....	14%
Repealed .....	44%
Not sure .....	14%

**24. 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 .....	22%
More of a failure than a success .....	24%
Equal amount of both failure and success .....	17%
More of a success than a failure .....	21%
A complete success .....	4%
Too early to tell .....	5%
Not sure .....	8%

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

Increased .....	46%
Remained the same .....	19%
Decreased .....	18%
Don't know .....	17%

26. 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 .....	16%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do .....	16%
Not sure .....	21%

27. Have you heard mostly positive or mostly negative news stories about the economy, or have you not heard much news at all about the economy?

Mostly positive .....	17%
Equally positive and negative .....	34%
Mostly negative .....	31%
Not heard much news about the economy at all .....	17%

28. When you have discussed the economy with your friends and family, has the discussion been mostly positive or mostly negative, or have you not discussed the economy at all with your friends and family?

Mostly positive .....	10%
Equally positive and negative .....	24%
Mostly negative .....	44%
Not discussed the economy at all .....	21%

29. What is the current unemployment rate in the U.S.? Please tell us the percentage of adults who want to work that are currently unemployed and looking for a job. If you don't know, please make your best guess.

Less than 5% .....	1%
Between 5% and 6% .....	33%
Between 6% and 7% .....	21%
Between 7% and 8% .....	13%
Greater than 8% .....	17%
Not sure .....	16%



30. According to the figures just released by the federal government for October 2014, is the national unemployment rate NOW higher or lower than the national unemployment rate was back in January 2009, when President Obama first took office?

Higher now .....	11%
About the same .....	19%
Lower now .....	53%
Don't know .....	17%

31. Is the number of jobs today higher or lower than the number of jobs in the US before the Great Recession of 2008?

Higher now .....	32%
The same .....	14%
Lower now .....	31%
Not sure .....	23%

32. Is increasing the number of jobs something a president can do a lot about, or is that beyond any president's control?

Yes, the President can do a lot .....	48%
No, it is beyond the President's control .....	33%
Don't know .....	19%

33. 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 .....	32%
Not sure .....	14%

**34. How would you rate the job the federal government has done in encouraging employment?**  
*Asked of those who think the federal government should attempt to encourage employment*

Federal government should not be directly involved .....	32%
Not sure if federal government should be involved .....	14%
Very good .....	2%
Good .....	16%
Poor .....	18%
Very poor .....	10%
Not sure .....	7%

**35. Should the federal government attempt to stimulate economic growth through various incentives, laws and regulations or should the federal government not be directly involved?**

Federal government should attempt to stimulate economic growth .....	52%
Federal government should not be directly involved .....	32%
Not sure .....	16%

**36. How would you rate the job the federal government has done in stimulating economic growth?**  
*Asked of those who think the federal government should attempt to stimulate economic growth*

Federal government should not be directly involved .....	32%
Not sure if federal government should be involved .....	16%
Very good .....	3%
Good .....	18%
Poor .....	18%
Very poor .....	8%
Not sure .....	5%

37. 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 a lot lower than they are today ..... 3%
- Unemployment rates will be somewhat lower than they are today ..... 23%
- Unemployment rates will be about the same as they are today ..... 39%
- Unemployment rates will be somewhat higher than they are today ..... 13%
- Unemployment rates will be a lot higher than they are today ..... 7%
- Not sure ..... 14%

38. 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 a lot lower than they are today ..... 5%
- Unemployment rates will be somewhat lower than they are today ..... 24%
- Unemployment rates will be about the same as they are today ..... 27%
- Unemployment rates will be somewhat higher than they are today ..... 14%
- Unemployment rates will be a lot higher than they are today ..... 7%
- Not sure ..... 23%

39. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	72%	25%	2%	1%
Immigration	50%	29%	14%	6%
The environment	39%	35%	17%	9%
Terrorism	52%	29%	13%	6%
Gay rights	21%	24%	23%	32%
Education	60%	27%	10%	3%
Health care	66%	26%	6%	3%
Social security	63%	25%	10%	2%
The budget deficit	50%	33%	12%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	27%	42%	24%	8%
Taxes	57%	35%	6%	2%
Medicare	53%	32%	13%	2%
Abortion	32%	30%	21%	16%
Foreign policy	37%	44%	15%	4%

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

The economy	27%
Immigration	8%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	6%
Gay rights	2%
Education	6%
Health care	8%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	6%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	6%
Foreign policy	2%

41. 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%	12%	40%	5%
Joe Biden	15%	23%	20%	30%	12%
John Boehner	7%	22%	19%	29%	24%
Mitch McConnell	7%	21%	16%	24%	32%
Harry Reid	7%	16%	15%	34%	27%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	21%	12%	38%	20%

42. 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	13%	24%	15%	21%	27%
Chris Christie	9%	26%	19%	23%	23%
Paul Ryan	14%	25%	11%	23%	26%
Jeb Bush	9%	25%	21%	22%	23%
Mike Huckabee	14%	26%	14%	20%	26%
Marco Rubio	12%	20%	15%	20%	32%
Hillary Clinton	26%	21%	14%	32%	7%
Elizabeth Warren	17%	13%	9%	18%	43%
Ted Cruz	14%	18%	9%	28%	30%
Scott Walker	13%	15%	9%	19%	44%
Brian Schweitzer	2%	9%	9%	7%	72%
Rick Perry	12%	19%	14%	24%	30%
Bernie Sanders	9%	10%	13%	11%	57%
Martin O'Malley	3%	8%	8%	10%	70%
Jim Webb	2%	9%	11%	9%	68%
Mitt Romney	15%	25%	18%	28%	14%

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

Strongly approve .....	14%
Somewhat approve .....	26%
Somewhat disapprove .....	17%
Strongly disapprove .....	38%
Not sure .....	4%

**44. 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%	25%	17%	34%	9%
Immigration	10%	21%	16%	40%	12%
The environment	13%	27%	17%	25%	17%
Terrorism	14%	25%	19%	31%	11%
Gay rights	15%	26%	11%	29%	20%
Education	14%	29%	18%	25%	14%
Health care	20%	22%	13%	40%	6%
Social security	14%	23%	20%	26%	17%
The war in Afghanistan	13%	24%	21%	29%	14%
The budget deficit	13%	21%	17%	36%	12%
Taxes	11%	27%	17%	33%	12%
Medicare	14%	25%	16%	28%	17%
Abortion	11%	22%	12%	27%	29%
Foreign policy	11%	21%	18%	35%	15%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	7%
Neither approve nor disapprove	18%
Somewhat disapprove	25%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	10%

46. 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	7%
Somewhat approve	15%
Neither approve nor disapprove	20%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	24%
Not sure	16%

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

Very liberal	5%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	34%
Conservative	30%
Very conservative	10%
Not sure	2%

48. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	38%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	21%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	10%

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

Very strong .....	13%
Somewhat strong .....	27%
Somewhat weak .....	25%
Very weak .....	35%

50. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes .....	39%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	49%
Not sure .....	12%

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

Like a lot .....	27%
Like somewhat .....	29%
Dislike .....	34%
Not sure .....	11%



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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	41%	32%	27%
Bold	22%	58%	20%
Effective	16%	45%	39%
Exciting	11%	65%	24%
Experienced	19%	50%	31%
Honest	27%	34%	38%
Hypocritical	36%	40%	24%
Inspiring	25%	48%	27%
Intelligent	48%	37%	15%
Partisan	23%	63%	14%
Patriotic	24%	46%	30%
Religious	10%	61%	29%
Sincere	25%	42%	33%
Steady	20%	60%	20%
Strong	22%	46%	32%

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

Yes	70%
No	29%
Don't know	2%

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

Not a registered voter	30%
The Democratic Party candidate	24%
The Republican Party candidate	29%
Other	2%
Not sure	13%
I would not vote	3%

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

Getting better .....	25%
About the same .....	42%
Getting worse .....	27%
Not sure .....	6%

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

Full-time employed .....	36%
Part-time employed .....	13%
Self-employed .....	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff .....	14%
Retired .....	18%
Permanently disabled .....	9%
Homemaker .....	8%
Other .....	3%

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

More jobs .....	20%
The same amount of jobs .....	44%
Fewer jobs .....	20%
Not sure .....	15%

58. 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 .....	11%
Military Household - Family served previously .....	33%
Military Household - None .....	53%

**59. Gender**

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

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

Strongly support .....	15%
Somewhat support .....	18%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	19%
Somewhat oppose .....	7%
Strongly oppose .....	24%
Not sure .....	16%

**61. Education**

No high school .....	9%
High school graduate .....	30%
Some college .....	25%
2-year college .....	10%
4-year college .....	17%
Post-graduate .....	8%

**62. Age**

18-29 .....	24%
30-44 .....	26%
45-64 .....	34%
65+ .....	16%

**63. Race**

White .....	66%
Black .....	14%
Hispanic .....	11%
Other .....	9%

**64. Region**

Northeast .....	19%
Midwest .....	24%
South .....	36%
West .....	20%

**65. Party Identification**

Democratic .....	37%
Independent .....	32%
Republican .....	31%

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	November 8-10, 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 0.1 to 5.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.03.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 4.5% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	21 questions not reported.