

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted December 6-8, 2014
Margin of Error $\pm 4.9\%$

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	31%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	11%
Don't know	2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	22%
Off on the wrong track	65%
Not sure	13%

3. 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	21%
Equally positive and negative	40%
Mostly negative	28%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	11%

4. 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	32%
Mostly negative	39%
Not discussed the economy at all	19%

5. 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%	3%
Between 5% and 6%	32%
Between 6% and 7%	19%
Between 7% and 8%	15%
Greater than 8%	15%
Not sure	16%

6. According to the figures just released by the federal government for November 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	15%
About the same	19%
Lower now	53%
Don't know	12%

7. How serious a problem is unemployment in the U.S.?

Very serious	43%
Somewhat serious	44%
A minor problem	8%
Not a problem	2%
Not sure	3%

8. How serious a problem is unemployment in your LOCAL community?

Very serious	26%
Somewhat serious	40%
A minor problem	19%
Not a problem	6%
Not sure	9%

9. 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	27%
The same	18%
Lower now	35%
Not sure	19%

10. 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	46%
No, it is beyond the President's control	36%
Don't know	18%

11. 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	57%
Federal government should not be directly involved	28%
Not sure	15%

12. 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	28%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	15%
Very good	2%
Good	14%
Poor	23%
Very poor	13%
Not sure	6%

13. 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	58%
Federal government should not be directly involved	26%
Not sure	17%

14. 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	26%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	17%
Very good	2%
Good	16%
Poor	23%
Very poor	11%
Not sure	5%

15. 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	21%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	37%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	15%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	10%
Not sure	14%

16. 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	5%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	26%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	26%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	16%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	9%
Not sure	19%

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

Expanded	32%
Kept the same	16%
Repealed	41%
Not sure	11%

18. 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	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success	22%
More of a success than a failure	23%
A complete success	2%
Too early to tell	4%
Not sure	5%

19. 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	19%
Decreased	19%
Don't know	13%

20. 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 45%

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 19%

Not sure 19%

21. Do you have health insurance?

Yes 81%

No 19%

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

Yes 74%

No 26%

23. How good a job do you think police departments around the country are doing in the following areas?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Holding police officers accountable when misconduct occurs	7%	27%	25%	41%
Using the right amount of force for each situation	9%	29%	29%	33%
Treating racial and ethnic groups equally	12%	28%	25%	35%
Respecting people's privacy	7%	35%	30%	28%
Protecting people from crime	11%	38%	36%	14%

24. How good a job do you think the police department in your LOCAL community is doing in the following areas?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Holding police officers accountable when misconduct occurs	15%	32%	29%	24%
Using the right amount of force for each situation	15%	40%	24%	20%
Treating racial and ethnic groups equally	19%	36%	26%	20%
Respecting people's privacy	17%	35%	30%	19%
Protecting people from crime	16%	40%	30%	13%

25. If you were on a jury in a trial, would you be more willing to believe the testimony of a police officer than another witness who is not a police officer?

Yes, more willing to believe a police officer	24%
No, not more willing	50%
Not sure	26%

26. Which level of government do you think should investigate and prosecute cases of LOCAL police department misconduct?

Local	21%
State	43%
Federal	22%
Not sure	14%

27. Do you support or oppose a new Wisconsin law that requires any deaths in police custody to be investigated by outside organizations?

Support	68%
Oppose	12%
Not sure	20%

28. Do you think the racial makeup of a community's police department should be similar to the racial makeup of that community as a whole, or don't you think that's necessary?

Yes	47%
No	30%
Not sure	23%

29. Was there ever a specific instance when you felt discriminated against by the police because of your race or ethnic background?

Yes	19%
No	75%
Not sure	6%

30. "Stop and Frisk" is a policing method where officers stop and frisk anyone who they think looks suspicious. Supporters of the method say that it cuts crime rates, while opponents say it is overwhelmingly used on ethnic minorities and violates constitutional rights.

Overall, do you support or oppose use of this policing method?

Strongly support	20%
Somewhat support	23%
Somewhat oppose	17%
Strongly oppose	27%
Not sure	12%

31. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics there were 11,075 arrests for murder and non-negligent manslaughter in the United States in 2012.

Which number do you think is higher?

The number of white people arrested for murder and non-negligent manslaughter	12%
The number of black people arrested for murder and non-negligent manslaughter	56%
They are about the same	15%
Not sure	17%

32. According to the FBI Uniform Crime Reports for 2011, do you think most white victims of murder were killed by...

A white person	50%
A black person	20%
Not sure	30%

33. According to the FBI Uniform Crime Reports for 2011, do you think most black victims of murder were killed by...

A white person	7%
A black person	71%
Not sure	22%

34. How serious a problem is racism in the United States?

Very serious	30%
Somewhat serious	36%
A minor problem	25%
Not a problem	6%
Not sure	3%

35. How serious a problem is racism in your LOCAL community?

Very serious	11%
Somewhat serious	20%
A minor problem	37%
Not a problem	24%
Not sure	9%

36. Do you approve or disapprove of the decision of the grand jury in Ferguson, Missouri not to charge the police officer who shot to death Michael Brown with any crime?

Approve strongly	32%
Approve somewhat	16%
Disapprove somewhat	12%
Disapprove strongly	24%
Not sure	16%

37. Do you approve or disapprove of the decision of the grand jury in Staten Island, New York not to charge the police officer who used a choke hold that resulted in the death of Eric Garner with any crime?

Approve strongly	11%
Approve somewhat	13%
Disapprove somewhat	19%
Disapprove strongly	39%
Not sure	18%

38. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	70%	26%	4%	1%
Immigration	48%	35%	14%	3%
The environment	38%	39%	16%	7%
Terrorism	50%	31%	13%	6%
Gay rights	19%	26%	25%	30%
Education	55%	33%	9%	2%
Health care	61%	30%	8%	1%
Social security	61%	30%	9%	1%
The budget deficit	51%	32%	13%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	24%	43%	24%	8%
Taxes	54%	36%	10%	0%
Medicare	53%	33%	12%	2%
Abortion	32%	29%	23%	16%
Foreign policy	34%	44%	18%	4%

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

The economy	26%
Immigration	8%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	8%
Gay rights	1%
Education	10%
Health care	11%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	4%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	2%
Foreign policy	1%

40. 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	24%	21%	13%	36%	6%
Joe Biden	17%	26%	13%	31%	13%
John Boehner	4%	20%	20%	32%	24%
Mitch McConnell	5%	16%	19%	27%	33%
Harry Reid	7%	17%	15%	33%	28%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	17%	14%	39%	20%

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
Rand Paul	11%	20%	17%	21%	30%
Chris Christie	9%	24%	21%	23%	23%
Paul Ryan	12%	16%	17%	24%	31%
Jeb Bush	11%	20%	20%	25%	24%
Mike Huckabee	14%	19%	14%	24%	28%
Marco Rubio	11%	17%	18%	18%	36%
Hillary Clinton	26%	25%	12%	29%	9%
Elizabeth Warren	17%	14%	10%	18%	41%
Ted Cruz	12%	16%	11%	27%	34%
Scott Walker	12%	10%	11%	21%	45%
Brian Schweitzer	2%	7%	10%	7%	74%
Rick Perry	12%	17%	13%	29%	29%
Bernie Sanders	13%	9%	11%	12%	54%
Martin O'Malley	3%	10%	9%	8%	70%
Jim Webb	4%	11%	11%	8%	66%
Mitt Romney	15%	20%	20%	31%	14%
Lindsey Graham	5%	15%	17%	19%	45%
Ben Carson	12%	11%	9%	13%	55%

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

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	7%

43. 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%	24%	14%	37%	10%
Immigration	17%	19%	13%	40%	11%
The environment	13%	25%	19%	26%	17%
Terrorism	14%	28%	18%	29%	10%
Gay rights	18%	22%	14%	27%	20%
Education	14%	30%	16%	25%	16%
Health care	23%	22%	11%	37%	7%
Social security	13%	26%	17%	27%	17%
The war in Afghanistan	11%	25%	23%	28%	13%
The budget deficit	13%	23%	17%	36%	11%
Taxes	14%	24%	18%	31%	12%
Medicare	14%	28%	17%	27%	14%
Abortion	14%	23%	14%	23%	26%
Foreign policy	11%	24%	18%	32%	15%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	6%
Neither approve nor disapprove	20%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Not sure	9%

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

Better off now	21%
About the same	35%
Worse off now	36%
Not sure	8%

46. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	34%
Liberal	20%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	13%

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

Very strong	15%
Somewhat strong	29%
Somewhat weak	24%
Very weak	33%

48. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	49%
Not sure	13%

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

Like a lot	28%
Like somewhat	34%
Dislike	31%
Not sure	7%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	39%	34%	26%
Bold	24%	55%	21%
Effective	18%	47%	36%
Exciting	13%	61%	25%
Experienced	17%	52%	31%
Honest	24%	41%	36%
Hypocritical	34%	40%	25%
Inspiring	27%	47%	26%
Intelligent	51%	35%	14%
Partisan	21%	65%	14%
Patriotic	26%	45%	29%
Religious	9%	63%	28%
Sincere	24%	45%	31%
Steady	24%	53%	23%
Strong	24%	48%	28%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	35%
Conservative	31%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	1%

52. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	30%
Don't know	1%

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

Not a registered voter	31%
The Democratic Party candidate	27%
The Republican Party candidate	24%
Other	3%
Not sure	13%
I would not vote	2%

54. 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	8%
Somewhat approve	15%
Neither approve nor disapprove	25%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	19%
Not sure	19%

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

Getting better	29%
About the same	35%
Getting worse	30%
Not sure	5%

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

More jobs	19%
The same amount of jobs	44%
Fewer jobs	24%
Not sure	13%

57. 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	10%
Military Household - Family served previously	33%
Military Household - None	54%

58. Gender

Male	50%
Female	50%

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

Strongly support	14%
Somewhat support	14%
Neither support, nor oppose	21%
Somewhat oppose	6%
Strongly oppose	28%
Not sure	17%

60. Education

No high school	9%
High school graduate	30%
Some college	26%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	8%

61. Age

18-29	23%
30-44	27%
45-64	34%
65+	16%

62. Race

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

63. Region

Northeast	21%
Midwest	24%
South	34%
West	21%

64. Party Identification

Democratic	37%
Independent	39%
Republican	24%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	December 6-8, 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 to 6.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.21.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.9% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.