

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted February 8-10, 2014
Margin of Error $\pm 4\%$

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	46%
Some of the time	30%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	10%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	30%
Off on the wrong track	59%
Not sure	11%

3. 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 January 2014?

Unemployment rate <u>decreased</u> by 1% or more	30%
Unemployment rate <u>decreased</u> by between 0% and 1%	11%
Unemployment rate is the same	10%
Unemployment rate <u>increased</u> by between 0% and 1%	9%
Unemployment rate <u>increased</u> by 1% or more	29%
Don't know	11%

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

Doing enough	21%
Should do more	68%
Not sure	11%

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

Doing enough	11%
Should do more	76%
Not sure	13%

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

Doing enough	14%
Should do more	74%
Not sure	12%

7. 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	53%
Federal government should not be directly involved	34%
Not sure	13%

8. 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

Very good	4%
Good	21%
Poor	44%
Very poor	24%
Not sure	7%

9. 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	56%
Federal government should not be directly involved	31%
Not sure	13%

10. 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

Very good	2%
Good	25%
Poor	42%
Very poor	22%
Not sure	9%

11. 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	5%
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	33%
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	14%
Not sure	8%

12. 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	10%
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	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	14%
Not sure	12%

13. Do you think the healthcare reform law will help or hurt the economy?

Help a lot	11%
Help somewhat	22%
Hurt somewhat	17%
Hurt a lot	37%
Not sure	13%

14. Do you think companies will force their employees to work fewer hours as a result of the healthcare reform law?

Yes	55%
No	21%
Not sure	24%

15. How many companies do you think will force their employees to work fewer hours as a result of the healthcare reform law?

Asked of those who think companies will force their employees to work fewer hours

All	6%
Most	39%
Half	29%
Some	25%
None	1%

16. Do you support or oppose requiring employers to provide healthcare plans that cover the cost of contraceptives for their employees?

Support strongly	32%
Support somewhat	21%
Oppose somewhat	11%
Oppose strongly	24%
Not sure	12%

17. Regardless of whether it should be legal or not, do you personally consider birth control to be morally acceptable or morally wrong?

Morally acceptable	65%
Morally wrong	8%
It depends	23%
Not sure	4%

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	25%
More of a failure than a success	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success	19%
More of a success than a failure	13%
A complete success	2%
Too early to tell	13%
Not sure	5%

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

Yes	31%
No	67%
Not sure	2%

20. 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	19%
To get information about health insurance	40%
Just curious	38%
Other	4%
Not sure	0%

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

Asked of those who have tried to visit healthcare.gov

Very positive	21%
Somewhat positive	15%
Neither positive nor negative	18%
Somewhat negative	16%
Very negative	30%
Not sure	1%

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

Asked of those who have tried to visit healthcare.gov

October	10%
November	18%
December	29%
January	30%
February	10%
Don't remember	4%

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

Expanded	28%
Kept the same	11%
Repealed	44%
Not sure	17%

24. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	79%
No	21%

25. 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	15%
Pay the fine	28%
Already signed up	9%
Not sure	49%

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

Yes	78%
No	22%

27. Do you agree or disagree that a religious private school should be able to fire an unmarried teacher who becomes pregnant?

Agree strongly	12%
Agree somewhat	13%
Disagree somewhat	17%
Disagree strongly	45%
Not sure	13%

28. Do you agree or disagree that a religious private school should be able to fire an unmarried teacher who gets a woman pregnant?

Agree strongly	13%
Agree somewhat	15%
Disagree somewhat	16%
Disagree strongly	43%
Not sure	12%

29. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Catholic Church?

Very favorable	11%
Somewhat favorable	26%
Somewhat unfavorable	28%
Very unfavorable	18%
Not sure	17%

30. How closely have you been following the news about the recent reports of past sexual abuse of children by Catholic priests?

Very closely	16%
Somewhat closely	42%
Not very closely	29%
Not at all	8%
Don't know	5%

31. In the past, do you think the Vatican mainly tried to prevent sexual abuse of children by (Catholic) priests, or mainly tried to cover up the problem?

Prevent	5%
Cover up	58%
Both	24%
Don't know	12%

32. And how about now? Do you think the Vatican now is mainly trying to prevent sexual abuse of children by (Catholic) priests, or mainly trying to cover up the problem?

Prevent	30%
Cover up	25%
Both	31%
Don't know	15%

33. Do you think the problem of sexual abuse of children and teenagers is a more common problem in the Catholic Church than it is in other walks of life, or is it just as common a problem in other walks of life?

More common	23%
As common	59%
Don't know	17%

34. Has the Vatican's handling of recent reports of past sexual abuse of children by priests made you feel more positive toward the Catholic Church, more negative toward the Catholic Church, or has it had no effect on your views of the Catholic Church?

Positive	10%
No effect	43%
Negative	33%
Don't know	14%

35. Should all presidential candidates be required to produce their birth certificates before being placed on the ballot?

Yes	70%
No	19%
Not sure	11%

36. Please tell us whether you think the following statement about Barack Obama is true or false: Barack Obama was born in the United States.

True	62%
False	38%

37. Would you say you know for sure he was born outside the US, or do you think it's possible he was born in the United States?

Know for sure he was born outside the US	39%
It's possible he was born inside the US	61%

38. Do you think most people who say President Obama was born outside the United States really believe that, or do you think they say this because they don't like the President?

Really believe that	25%
Don't like the President	67%
Something else	8%

39. Did you watch the Opening Ceremonies for the Winter Olympics in Sochi?

Yes	30%
No	70%

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

Yes	17%
No	49%
Not sure	33%

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

Very successful	9%
Somewhat successful	27%
Somewhat unsuccessful	14%
Very unsuccessful	7%
Not sure	44%

42. Do you want the Winter Olympics in Sochi to be successful or unsuccessful?

Very successful	54%
Somewhat successful	17%
Somewhat unsuccessful	5%
Very unsuccessful	4%
Not sure	19%

43. In your opinion, which recent winter olympics was the most successful?

Sochi, Russia - 2014	2%
Vancouver, Canada - 2010	17%
Turin, Italy - 2006	1%
Salt Lake City, Utah - 2002	12%
Nagano, Japan - 1998	3%
Lillehammer, Norway - 1994	2%
Albertville, France - 1992	1%
Calgary, Canada - 1988	2%
Sarajevo, Yugoslavia - 1984	1%
Lake Placid, New York - 1980	5%
Not sure	53%

44. In your opinion, which recent winter olympics was the least successful?

Sochi, Russia - 2014	14%
Vancouver, Canada - 2010	2%
Turin, Italy - 2006	1%
Salt Lake City, Utah - 2002	2%
Nagano, Japan - 1998	2%
Lillehammer, Norway - 1994	2%
Albertville, France - 1992	2%
Calgary, Canada - 1988	1%
Sarajevo, Yugoslavia - 1984	4%
Lake Placid, New York - 1980	2%
Not sure	69%

45. How much of the Winter Olympic Games do you plan to watch?

I'll be watching lots of events every day	8%
I'll be watching lots of events when I can	22%
I'll probably watch a few events, not more	35%
I doubt I'll watch them	36%

46. Do you think the Olympic Games are more of a competition between the individual athletes or more of a competition between countries?

Between athletes	17%
Between countries	31%
Both	44%
Not sure	8%

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

a great deal of confidence	10%
some confidence	31%
a little confidence	29%
no confidence	14%
Don't know	17%

48. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	78%	17%	3%	2%
Immigration	46%	32%	16%	6%
The environment	46%	31%	15%	8%
Terrorism	57%	27%	11%	6%
Gay rights	26%	24%	20%	30%
Education	63%	26%	7%	3%
Health care	66%	26%	5%	3%
Social security	64%	27%	7%	2%
The budget deficit	56%	27%	13%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	33%	38%	21%	8%
Taxes	60%	28%	9%	2%
Medicare	56%	29%	12%	3%
Abortion	37%	28%	22%	13%

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

The economy	33%
Immigration	4%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	5%
Gay rights	2%
Education	10%
Health care	11%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	6%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	2%
Abortion	4%

50. 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	27%	21%	10%	38%	5%
Joe Biden	19%	22%	15%	32%	13%
John Boehner	5%	16%	20%	34%	25%
Mitch McConnell	4%	13%	19%	28%	37%
Harry Reid	7%	17%	15%	30%	31%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	18%	13%	37%	20%

51. 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	26%	24%	10%	32%	8%
Chris Christie	8%	25%	21%	24%	23%
Brian Schweitzer	2%	9%	9%	11%	69%
Scott Walker	11%	13%	10%	18%	48%

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

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	5%

53. 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%	26%	15%	37%	7%
Immigration	14%	20%	19%	34%	13%
The environment	15%	27%	17%	26%	15%
Terrorism	22%	25%	16%	27%	10%
Gay rights	21%	24%	11%	25%	20%
Education	18%	26%	18%	26%	12%
Health care	20%	21%	11%	40%	7%
Social security	15%	25%	18%	29%	14%
The war in Afghanistan	18%	23%	18%	30%	11%
The budget deficit	14%	22%	14%	40%	10%
Taxes	12%	25%	19%	33%	11%
Medicare	17%	23%	17%	31%	13%
Abortion	16%	21%	12%	29%	23%

54. 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	16%
Somewhat disapprove	26%
Strongly disapprove	45%
Not sure	6%

55. 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%	21%	35%	10%
Republicans in Congress	5%	18%	25%	44%	9%

56. 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%	19%	34%	9%
The Republican Party	5%	22%	23%	42%	9%

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

The Democratic Party candidate	34%
The Republican Party candidate	25%
Other	8%
Not sure	25%
I would not vote	8%

58. 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	38%
The Republican Party candidate	28%
Other	4%
Not sure	21%
I would not vote	9%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	36%
Conservative	29%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	1%

60. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	35%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	13%

61. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	52%
Not sure	10%

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

Like a lot	32%
Like somewhat	29%
Dislike	31%
Not sure	8%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	39%	32%	29%
Bold	30%	57%	13%
Effective	20%	47%	34%
Exciting	13%	66%	21%
Experienced	19%	50%	31%
Honest	27%	37%	36%
Hypocritical	36%	41%	24%
Inspiring	32%	43%	25%
Intelligent	55%	31%	14%
Partisan	23%	61%	16%
Patriotic	31%	42%	27%
Religious	11%	61%	27%
Sincere	28%	42%	30%
Steady	26%	57%	17%
Strong	30%	50%	20%

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

Getting better	22%
About the same	37%
Getting worse	36%
Not sure	4%

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

Higher	23%
About the same	36%
Lower	23%
Not sure	18%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	16%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	44%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	37%
Not sure	2%

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

Owned by you or your family	64%
Rented from someone else	33%
Other	3%

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

Increased	24%
Stayed about the same	45%
Decreased	25%
Not sure	6%

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

Increased	36%
Stayed about the same	34%
Decreased	11%
Not sure	18%

70. 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	30%
Will stay about the same	37%
Will decrease a little	9%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	13%

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

Very worried	10%
Somewhat worried	25%
Not worried	35%
Don't have mortgage payments	30%

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

Will definitely buy a home	5%
Am considering buying a home	14%
Not looking for a home now	81%

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

Yes	29%
No	71%

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

Full-time employed	39%
Part-time employed	12%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	15%
Retired	20%
Permanently disabled	6%
Homemaker	8%
Other	1%

75. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	17%
No	83%

76. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	28%
Not very worried	60%

77. 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.	42%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	34%
Not very hard	18%
Not sure	6%

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

More jobs	20%
The same amount of jobs	40%
Fewer jobs	30%
Not sure	10%

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

Very happy	23%
Happy	36%
Neither happy nor unhappy	28%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	8%

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

Higher	20%
Same	65%
Lower	15%

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

I don't have any savings	32%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	18%
I could last a few months on my savings	26%
I could last a year on my savings	10%
I could last more than a year on my savings	15%

82. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

83. 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	18%
Neither support, nor oppose	23%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	24%
Not sure	17%

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

Yes	11%
No	70%
Not Sure	18%

85. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	68%
Black	15%
Hispanic	11%
Asian	2%
Native American	1%
Middle Eastern	0%
Mixed	2%
Other	1%

86. Education

No high school	11%
High school graduate	31%
Some college	26%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	16%
Post-graduate	8%

87. What is your marital status?

Married	47%
Separated	2%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	5%
Single	31%
Domestic partnership	4%

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

Yes	28%
No	72%

89. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	39%
Somewhat important	29%
Not too important	15%
Not at all important	18%

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

More than once a week	8%
Once a week	16%
Once or twice a month	7%
A few times a year	17%
Seldom	23%
Never	28%
Don't know	2%

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

Several times a day	29%
Once a day	15%
A few times a week	13%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	14%
Never	17%
Don't know	3%

92. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	37%
Roman Catholic	22%
Mormon	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	2%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	4%
Nothing in particular	20%
Something else	5%

93. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	27%
45-64	33%
65+	14%

94. Race

White	68%
Black	15%
Hispanic	11%
Other	6%

95. Region

Northeast	18%
Midwest	23%
South	37%
West	23%

96. Party Identification

Democrat	36%
Lean Democrat	11%
Independent	20%
Lean Republican	10%
Republican	23%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	February 8-10, 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 0.2 to 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.8.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.