

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted May 16-18, 2015
Margin of Error $\pm 4.1\%$

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	31%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	8%
Don't know	1%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	27%
Off on the wrong track	62%
Not sure	11%

3. Do you favor or oppose the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and the Gaza strip?

Favor strongly	13%
Favor somewhat	23%
Oppose somewhat	11%
Oppose strongly	16%
Not sure	37%

4. Do you favor or oppose having the United States re-establish diplomatic relations with Cuba?

Favor	57%
Oppose	22%
Not sure	22%

5. On the subject of climate change do you think:

The world's climate is changing as a result of human activity	55%
The world's climate is changing but NOT because of human activity	30%
The world's climate is NOT changing	7%
Not sure	8%

6. Do you think the world's most developed countries have a greater responsibility to control greenhouse gases and pollution than less developed countries do?

Yes	64%
No	27%
Not sure	9%

7. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Pope Francis?

Very favorable	28%
Somewhat favorable	33%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	6%
Don't know	23%

8. Do you think that the Pope has a great deal of influence in world affairs, some influence, or no influence at all?

A great deal of influence	20%
Some influence	61%
No influence at all	10%
Not sure	9%

9. Do you approve or disapprove of Pope Francis' efforts to help normalize relations between Cuba and the United States?

Approve strongly	23%
Approve somewhat	38%
Disapprove somewhat	10%
Disapprove strongly	8%
Not sure	20%

10. Do you approve or disapprove of the Vatican's decision to formally recognize the state of Palestine?

Approve strongly	18%
Approve somewhat	27%
Disapprove somewhat	9%
Disapprove strongly	13%
Not sure	32%

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the Pope urging world leaders to work to stop climate change?

Approve strongly	40%
Approve somewhat	24%
Disapprove somewhat	10%
Disapprove strongly	12%
Not sure	14%

12. Do you think the Pope should take an active part in world affairs when he thinks he can help, or whether he should stay out?

Should take an active part	62%
Should stay out	24%
Not sure	14%

13. Back in 2003, did you support or oppose sending troops to fight in Iraq?

Support	38%
Oppose	47%
Don't remember	15%

14. Do you think the United States made a mistake sending troops to fight in Iraq back in 2003?

Yes	55%
No	32%
Not sure	14%

15. Do you think the United States made a mistake withdrawing troops from Iraq back in 2011?

Yes	36%
No	49%
Not sure	14%

16. Knowing what you know now, do you think the United States should or should not have sent troops to fight in Iraq back in 2003?

Should	30%
Should not	57%
Not sure	13%

17. Which statement comes closer to your view?

It should be harder for the government to access my private information and communications.	60%
The government needs easier access to everyone's information and communications in order to make us more safe.	9%
The current level of government access to information and communications fairly balances people's 4th Amendment rights with the government's security requirements.	29%
Other	2%

18. How well do you believe your 4th amendment rights are being protected by your local government?

Very Poorly					Very Well	
1	2	3	4	5	6	Not sure
15%	13%	16%	19%	13%	9%	15%

19. How well do you believe your 4th amendment rights are being protected by your state government?

Very Poorly					Very Well	
1	2	3	4	5	6	Not sure
14%	17%	17%	19%	12%	8%	13%

20. How well do you believe your 4th amendment rights are being protected by the federal government?

Very Poorly					Very Well	
1	2	3	4	5	6	Not sure
22%	17%	15%	20%	10%	6%	10%

21. Which comes closer to your view of the Patriot Act?

- It is a necessary tool that helps the government find terrorists 44%
- It goes too far and poses a threat to civil liberties 44%
- I don't know 13%

22. 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 17%
- Approve somewhat 29%
- Disapprove somewhat 26%
- Disapprove strongly 21%
- Not sure 8%

23. 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	15%
Somewhat likely	31%
Somewhat unlikely	23%
Very unlikely	18%
Not sure	13%

24. This year marks the end of the PATRIOT Act extension law signed in 2011. Do you support or oppose extending the PATRIOT Act for another period of years?

Support	38%
Oppose	38%
Not sure	24%

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

Expanded	34%
Kept the same	12%
Repealed	47%
Not sure	8%

26. 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	19%
More of a failure than a success	25%
Equal amount of both failure and success	20%
More of a success than a failure	22%
A complete success	5%
Too early to tell	3%
Not sure	5%

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

Increased	58%
Remained the same	19%
Decreased	13%
Don't know	9%

28. 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	52%
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	20%
Not sure	13%

29. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	85%
No	15%

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

Yes	79%
No	21%

31. Do you consider Memorial Day to be the unofficial start of the summer?

Yes	67%
No	24%
Not sure	9%

32. What do you, personally, plan to do on the Memorial Day weekend and holiday? Select all that apply.

Stay home/relax	40%
Family/family get-together	29%
Cookout/barbecue/picnic	29%
Work	9%
Travel	7%
Camping/hiking	4%
Fishing	4%
Visit gravesites	9%
Local event/parade	8%
Home improvements/repairs	8%
Household chores	18%
Yard work/landscaping	15%
Graduation parties	6%
Birthday party	4%
Church/religious observances	8%
Beach	6%
Golf	2%
Watch sports	10%
Watch TV (not sports)	20%
Nothing/No plans	13%
Air travel	2%
Something else	5%
Not sure	9%
None of these	3%

33. Should America eliminate any of the following federal holidays? Select all that apply.

New Year's Day	2%
Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.	12%
Washington's Birthday (Presidents' Day)	2%
Memorial Day	1%
Independence Day	1%
Labor Day	4%
Columbus Day	19%
Veterans' Day	0%
Thanksgiving Day	0%
Christmas Day	2%
None of these	53%
Not sure	5%

34. Should Easter be a federal holiday?

Yes	47%
No	42%
Not sure	11%

35. Should there be any other federal holidays added?

Yes	20%
No	52%
Not sure	28%

36. Do you think the United States made a mistake sending troops to fight in the following wars?

	Yes	No	Not sure
World War I	12%	71%	17%
World War II	10%	77%	13%
Korea	25%	46%	29%
Vietnam	54%	26%	20%
Desert Shield/Desert Storm	31%	48%	21%
Afghanistan	41%	42%	16%
Iraq	55%	31%	14%

37. Do you personally know any military veterans?

Yes	84%
No	14%
Not sure	1%

38. Do you personally know any military veterans, living or dead, who served in the following wars?

	Yes	No	Not sure
World War I	14%	74%	12%
World War II	52%	39%	9%
Korean War	42%	46%	12%
Vietnam War	65%	26%	9%
Desert Storm	48%	41%	11%
Afghanistan	50%	42%	8%
Iraq	53%	38%	9%

39. Do you personally know anyone who lost their life while serving in the military?

Yes	31%
No	64%
Not sure	6%

40. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	72%	24%	3%	1%
Immigration	51%	32%	12%	4%
The environment	46%	33%	12%	9%
Terrorism	62%	27%	8%	3%
Gay rights	24%	24%	23%	30%
Education	64%	27%	6%	4%
Health care	68%	25%	5%	3%
Social security	65%	27%	5%	3%
The budget deficit	51%	34%	11%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	22%	50%	21%	7%
Taxes	57%	35%	6%	2%
Medicare	55%	33%	9%	4%
Abortion	39%	28%	23%	10%
Foreign policy	43%	40%	13%	4%

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

The economy	19%
Immigration	6%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	9%
Gay rights	4%
Education	10%
Health care	8%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	7%
Foreign policy	2%

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
Barack Obama	25%	21%	14%	37%	3%
John Boehner	2%	18%	21%	31%	27%
Mitch McConnell	3%	14%	19%	26%	38%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	18%	13%	37%	24%
Harry Reid	7%	13%	11%	33%	36%

43. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Jeb Bush	7%	23%	22%	32%	16%
Ben Carson	15%	14%	10%	19%	43%
Chris Christie	6%	23%	23%	27%	21%
Ted Cruz	15%	18%	12%	28%	27%
Carly Fiorina	7%	17%	8%	20%	48%
Lindsey Graham	4%	13%	15%	23%	45%
Mike Huckabee	11%	21%	14%	25%	28%
Bobby Jindal	10%	17%	10%	19%	45%
John Kasich	6%	12%	11%	12%	59%
Rand Paul	11%	22%	19%	21%	26%
Rick Perry	11%	18%	13%	26%	32%
Marco Rubio	16%	18%	14%	22%	30%
Rick Santorum	7%	19%	14%	26%	33%
Scott Walker	16%	11%	11%	23%	39%

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
Joe Biden	15%	24%	16%	30%	15%
Lincoln Chafee	2%	8%	9%	12%	68%
Hillary Clinton	23%	24%	10%	37%	5%
Martin O'Malley	3%	11%	10%	13%	63%
Bernie Sanders	13%	13%	11%	20%	42%
Jim Webb	3%	13%	10%	11%	63%

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

Strongly approve	19%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	36%
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	17%	24%	13%	36%	9%
Immigration	16%	22%	13%	39%	10%
The environment	16%	26%	17%	29%	13%
Terrorism	17%	26%	17%	31%	9%
Gay rights	19%	23%	10%	27%	22%
Education	15%	28%	17%	26%	14%
Health care	24%	18%	10%	42%	6%
Social security	14%	22%	19%	26%	19%
The war in Afghanistan	11%	24%	22%	30%	13%
The budget deficit	14%	21%	14%	38%	13%
Taxes	13%	24%	18%	34%	12%
Medicare	15%	24%	15%	29%	17%
Abortion	15%	18%	12%	28%	28%
Foreign policy	15%	22%	15%	34%	15%

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

Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	10%
Neither approve nor disapprove	21%
Somewhat disapprove	25%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Not sure	7%

48. 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	5%
Somewhat approve	18%
Neither approve nor disapprove	22%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	22%
Not sure	14%

49. Do you think the current Congress has accomplished more or less than Congress usually does at this point in its two-year term?

More than usual	7%
About the same	35%
Less than usual	43%
Not sure	15%

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

Better off now	25%
About the same	35%
Worse off now	34%
Not sure	5%

51. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	34%
Liberal	23%
Moderate	24%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	11%

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

Very strong	17%
Somewhat strong	32%
Somewhat weak	22%
Very weak	30%

53. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	39%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	51%
Not sure	10%

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

Like a lot	33%
Like somewhat	27%
Dislike	32%
Not sure	8%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	41%	30%	29%
Bold	23%	59%	18%
Effective	25%	46%	30%
Exciting	14%	62%	24%
Experienced	22%	51%	26%
Honest	27%	37%	36%
Hypocritical	35%	37%	28%
Inspiring	31%	41%	29%
Intelligent	51%	35%	14%
Partisan	24%	62%	13%
Patriotic	26%	43%	31%
Religious	11%	56%	33%
Sincere	28%	41%	32%
Steady	26%	56%	18%
Strong	29%	43%	28%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	36%
Conservative	29%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	2%

57. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	27%
Don't know	4%

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

Asked only of registered voters

Jeb Bush	8%
Ben Carson	8%
Chris Christie	7%
Ted Cruz	3%
Carly Fiorina	2%
Lindsey Graham	2%
Mike Huckabee	8%
Bobby Jindal	1%
John Kasich	3%
Rand Paul	7%
Rick Perry	1%
Marco Rubio	6%
Rick Santorum	2%
Scott Walker	9%
Other	4%
No preference	28%

59. So far, Ben Carson, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Mike Huckabee, Rand Paul, and Marco Rubio have formally announced candidacies for the Republican nomination for President in 2016. How satisfied are you with these options?

Asked only of registered voters

Very satisfied	15%
Somewhat satisfied	31%
Somewhat dissatisfied	13%
Very dissatisfied	22%
Not sure	19%

60. If these were the only candidates running for the Republican presidential nomination, which one would you choose?

Asked only of registered voters

Ben Carson	10%
Ted Cruz	10%
Carly Fiorina	5%
Mike Huckabee	13%
Rand Paul	12%
Marco Rubio	13%
None of them	38%

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

Asked only of registered voters

Joe Biden	11%
Hillary Clinton	34%
Bernie Sanders	11%
Martin O'Malley	4%
Jim Webb	7%
Other	4%
No preference	29%

62. So far, only Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders have formally announced candidacies for the Democratic nomination for President in 2016. How satisfied are you with these two options?

Asked only of registered voters

Very satisfied	20%
Somewhat satisfied	24%
Somewhat dissatisfied	14%
Very dissatisfied	30%
Not sure	14%

63. If an election for the Democratic nomination for president was going to be held now and the only candidates were Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, would you vote for...

Asked only of registered voters

Hillary Clinton	38%
Bernie Sanders	21%
Not sure	11%
I would not vote	30%

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

Asked only of registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	40%
The Republican Party candidate	41%
Other	1%
Not sure	14%
I would not vote	4%

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

Getting better	27%
About the same	33%
Getting worse	34%
Not sure	5%

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

Owned by you or your family	63%
Rented from someone else	36%
Other	1%

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

Asked of those who own their own homes

Increased	30%
Stayed about the same	41%
Decreased	21%
Not sure	7%

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

Asked of those who do NOT own their own homes

Increased	49%
Stayed about the same	29%
Decreased	5%
Not sure	16%

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

Will increase a lot	10%
Will increase a little	36%
Will stay about the same	27%
Will decrease a little	10%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	14%

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

Asked of those who own their own homes

Very worried	11%
Somewhat worried	23%
Not worried	35%
Don't have mortgage payments	31%

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

Will definitely buy a home	4%
Am considering buying a home	14%
Not looking for a home now	81%

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

More jobs	25%
The same amount of jobs	39%
Fewer jobs	21%
Not sure	15%

73. 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	42%
Military Household - None	44%

74. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

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

Strongly support	13%
Somewhat support	18%
Neither support, nor oppose	21%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	25%
Not sure	16%

76. Education

No high school	9%
High school graduate	32%
Some college	25%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	16%
Post-graduate	8%

77. Age

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

78. Race

White	69%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Other	6%

79. Region

Northeast	18%
Midwest	22%
South	38%
West	22%

80. Party Identification

Democratic	37%
Independent	32%
Republican	30%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	May 16-18, 2015
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 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.86.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.1% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.