

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted July 20-22, 2013
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	51%
Some of the time	31%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	5%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	30%
Off on the wrong track	57%
Not sure	13%

3. 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	13%
Somewhat favorable	22%
Somewhat unfavorable	19%
Very unfavorable	27%
Not sure	19%

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

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	28%
Not sure	14%

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

I would support prosecution	35%
I neither support nor oppose	24%
I would oppose his prosecution	26%
Not sure	15%

6. Edward Snowden recently applied for temporary asylum in Russia. Do you support or oppose Russia granting his request for asylum?

Strongly support	11%
Somewhat support	13%
Somewhat oppose	16%
Strongly oppose	30%
Not sure	29%

7. President Obama is currently scheduled to attend the G-20 summit which will be held this September in Russia. If the Russian government grants Edward Snowden’s request for asylum, should President Obama cancel his trip?

Strongly agree	16%
Somewhat agree	12%
Somewhat disagree	14%
Strongly disagree	32%
Not sure	27%

8. Since Vladimir Putin became the Russian leader, do you think Russia has become more friendly towards the United States, less friendly to the United States, or has there been no change in relations?

More friendly	8%
Less friendly	41%
No change	24%
Not sure	28%

9. How important is it to the United States to maintain friendly relations with Russia: very important, somewhat important, only a little important, or not important at all?

Very important	35%
Somewhat important	45%
Not very important	7%
Not important at all	1%
Not sure	11%

10. Do you think the United States should participate in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, or should it boycott the games?

Participate	74%
Boycott	9%
Not sure	17%

11. How closely have you followed news about the city of Detroit filing for bankruptcy?

Very closely	14%
Somewhat closely	25%
Only a little	34%
Not at all	23%
Not sure	4%

12. How much of a factor did the severe economic crisis of the past few years, long term economic trends, or corruption and mismanagement play in the bankrupting of Detroit?

	Major factor	Minor factor	Not a factor	Not sure
The severe economic crisis of the past few years	54%	29%	3%	13%
Long term changes in the economy	52%	30%	4%	14%
Government corruption and mismanagement	66%	13%	3%	17%

13. To the best of your knowledge, is the city or town where you live experiencing financial problems?

My city or town is experiencing financial problems	33%
My city or town is <u>not</u> experience financial problems	43%
Not sure	24%

14. If you had to choose, which of the following measures would you prefer in order to balance your city's or town's municipal budget? (check all that apply)

Cut city services	31%
Raise fees or taxes for city services	27%
Require city employees and retirees to take cuts in pay and benefits	33%
Not sure	27%

15. What if your community faced bankruptcy, or was struggling to pay its bills and had to cut back on city services? How willing would you be to have your community cut back spending on each of these services??

	Cut a lot	Cut a little	Do not cut
Police department	9%	25%	66%
Garbage	7%	45%	48%
Public libraries	18%	50%	32%
Public museums	30%	54%	16%
Public schools	12%	26%	61%
Health department	12%	32%	56%
Public parks	26%	53%	21%
Public housing	31%	37%	31%
Water service	7%	32%	61%
Street maintenance	12%	48%	40%
Public transit	19%	44%	37%
Parking	34%	50%	16%
Fire department	6%	21%	73%
Electricity	9%	38%	53%
Natural gas	13%	40%	47%
Food inspection	9%	31%	60%

16. When the spouse or child of a well known politician runs for office, are you more likely or less likely to feel the same way about the relative as you did about the well known politician?

More likely	15%
Less likely	18%
About the same	37%
Not sure	31%

17. When the spouse or child of a well known politician runs for office, do you think he or she has an unfair advantage?

Yes, it is an unfair advantage	45%
No, it is not an unfair advantage	34%
Not sure	22%

18. Here are the six dramas that have been nominated for the Emmy award for Best Drama Series on television. Which of them have you ever watched?

Breaking Bad	18%
Downton Abbey	14%
Homeland	14%
Game of Thrones	19%
House of Cards	9%
Mad Men	17%
None of them	54%

19. Here are the six comedy series that have been nominated for the Emmy Award of Best Comedy Series. Which of them have you ever watched?

The Big Bang Theory	47%
Girls	9%
Louie	8%
Modern Family	26%
30 Rock	23%
Veep	7%
None of them	36%

20. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	76%	19%	4%	2%
Immigration	44%	33%	17%	5%
The environment	38%	32%	19%	11%
Terrorism	48%	34%	12%	6%
Gay rights	17%	19%	22%	42%
Education	56%	31%	10%	3%
Health care	66%	25%	7%	2%
Social security	61%	29%	8%	2%
The budget deficit	59%	26%	10%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	28%	39%	23%	10%
Taxes	63%	27%	7%	2%
Medicare	55%	30%	11%	4%
Abortion	37%	29%	19%	14%

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

The economy	33%
Immigration	5%
The environment	4%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	2%
Education	7%
Health care	12%
Social security	13%
The budget deficit	9%
The war in Afghanistan	2%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	4%

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

The economy	36%
Immigration	11%
The environment	3%
Terrorism	1%
Gay rights	0%
Education	1%
Health care	10%
Social security	15%
The budget deficit	14%
The war in Afghanistan	3%
Taxes	1%
Medicare	5%
Abortion	0%

23. 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	26%	17%	11%	40%	6%
John Boehner	7%	21%	17%	30%	26%
Mitch McConnell	4%	17%	14%	26%	38%
Harry Reid	6%	15%	13%	35%	31%
Nancy Pelosi	10%	18%	14%	42%	16%
Joe Biden	22%	21%	11%	35%	11%
Hillary Clinton	28%	21%	11%	34%	6%
Dick Cheney	8%	23%	15%	38%	16%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	28%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Not sure	5%

25. 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	16%	21%	13%	41%	9%
Immigration	15%	24%	12%	36%	13%
The environment	14%	24%	16%	27%	18%
Terrorism	20%	25%	15%	28%	12%
Gay rights	18%	20%	9%	34%	20%
Education	16%	25%	17%	27%	16%
Health care	20%	18%	10%	43%	9%
Social security	13%	22%	14%	36%	15%
The war in Afghanistan	16%	25%	18%	26%	15%
The budget deficit	16%	19%	11%	43%	11%
Taxes	15%	22%	13%	39%	12%
Medicare	15%	24%	14%	34%	13%
Abortion	17%	17%	11%	33%	23%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	9%
Neither approve nor disapprove	13%
Somewhat disapprove	25%
Strongly disapprove	42%
Not sure	8%

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

Very liberal	7%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	33%
Conservative	29%
Very conservative	10%
Not sure	4%

28. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	37%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	10%

29. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	39%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	52%
Not sure	9%

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

Like a lot	31%
Like somewhat	28%
Dislike	33%
Not sure	8%

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

Getting better	24%
About the same	35%
Getting worse	35%
Not sure	6%

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

Higher	22%
About the same	37%
Lower	17%
Not sure	24%

33. 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	48%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	33%
Not sure	4%

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

Owned by you or your family	66%
Rented from someone else	32%
Other	3%

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

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

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

Increased	36%
Stayed about the same	30%
Decreased	12%
Not sure	21%

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

Will increase a lot	6%
Will increase a little	33%
Will stay about the same	32%
Will decrease a little	11%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	14%

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

Very worried	10%
Somewhat worried	22%
Not worried	38%
Don't have mortgage payments	30%

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

Will definitely buy a home	3%
Am considering buying a home	11%
Not looking for a home now	87%

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

Yes	28%
No	72%

41. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	73%
No	25%
Don't know	3%

42. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student	4%
Part-time student	5%
Not a student	91%

43. Do you have a job outside of school?

Full-time job	34%
Part-time job	54%
No job outside of school	12%

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

Full-time employed	40%
Part-time employed	13%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	12%
Retired	18%
Permanently disabled	8%
Homemaker	9%
Other	1%

45. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	17%
No	83%

46. In a typical week, about how many hours do you work for pay?

Mean 18

47. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried 12%
Somewhat worried 29%
Not very worried 58%

48. 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. 37%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.
..... 35%
Not very hard 21%
Not sure 6%

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

More jobs 20%
The same amount of jobs 40%
Fewer jobs 29%
Not sure 11%

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

Very happy 19%
Happy 33%
Neither happy nor unhappy 34%
Unhappy 5%
Very unhappy 8%

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

Higher	21%
Same	63%
Lower	16%

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

I don't have any savings	30%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	16%
I could last a few months on my savings	29%
I could last a year on my savings	10%
I could last more than a year on my savings	14%

53. Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

54. Education

No high school	7%
High school graduate	34%
Some college	24%
2-year college	10%
4-year college	15%
Post-graduate	10%

55. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	27%
45-64	34%
65+	14%

56. Race

White	69%
Black	15%
Hispanic	10%
Other	7%

57. Region

Northeast	16%
Midwest	23%
South	40%
West	21%

58. Party Identification

Democrat	37%
Lean Democrat	10%
Independent	17%
Lean Republican	11%
Republican	26%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	July 20-22, 2013
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 7.2, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.04.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.5% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.