

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted October 12-14, 2013
Margin of Error $\pm 4.6\%$

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	45%
Some of the time	33%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	8%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	15%
Off on the wrong track	74%
Not sure	12%

3. How much have you heard or read about the temporary shutdown of the federal government because Congress and the President cannot reach an agreement on federal spending?

A lot	70%
A little	28%
Nothing at all	2%

4. How much longer do you think the government shutdown will last?

Less than one week more	13%
One week more	11%
Between 1-2 weeks more	27%
Almost a month more	12%
One month more or longer	7%
Not sure	30%

5. Please indicate if you know personally... (Check all that apply)

	Yes, and that person is me	Yes, I know someone like this	No, don't know anyone like this
Someone who is a federal employee who is on furlough	1%	23%	72%
Someone who is a federal employee who is <u>NOT</u> on furlough	2%	21%	72%
Someone who needed to visit a federal office that is shutdown	4%	16%	77%
Someone who was going to visit a national park or monument	5%	20%	72%
Someone who was unable to use a federal government service	8%	24%	68%
Someone who needed to collect data from a federal government website that is temporarily offline	9%	17%	72%
Someone who needed to apply for a federal home loan guarantee like VA or FHA	2%	10%	86%
Someone who was unable to apply for a visa or a passport due to the shutdown	2%	6%	89%
Someone who is not a federal employee but whose business has been affected by the shutdown	2%	21%	74%

6. Who do you think is to blame for the shutdown of the federal government?

Democrats in Congress only	1%
Republicans in Congress only	19%
President Obama only	7%
Tea Party Republicans	16%
President Obama and the Democrats in Congress both	15%
President Obama and the Republicans in Congress both	1%
Both the Democrats and Republicans in Congress	3%
All three (President Obama, Democrats and Republicans in Congress)	33%
Other	1%
None of the above	3%

7. Do you have a favorable opinion of the following groups in Congress?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
House Democrats	10%	23%	17%	36%	13%
House Republicans	10%	16%	18%	46%	11%
Senate Democrats	12%	23%	14%	39%	12%
Senate Republicans	6%	18%	24%	40%	12%

8. What is your view of the Tea Party movement – would you say it is very positive, somewhat positive, neutral, somewhat negative, or very negative, or don't you know enough about the Tea Party movement to say?

Very positive	13%
Somewhat positive	13%
Neutral	12%
Somewhat negative	7%
Very negative	36%
Don't know enough to say	11%
No opinion	8%

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

Yes 13%
 No 74%
 Not Sure 13%

10. Which do you prefer, protecting or stopping the new health care reform law?

Protecting the new health care reform law 37%
 Stopping the new health care reform law 45%
 Not sure 18%

11. Which is more important, your position on Stopping the new health care reform law or ending the government shutdown?

Protecting the new health care reform law 27%
 Stopping the new health care reform law 39%
 Ending the federal government shutdown 34%

12. Please indicate if you know personally... (Check all that apply)

	Yes, and that person is me	Yes, I know someone like this	No, don't know anyone like this
Someone who does not have health insurance	19%	54%	27%
Someone who has a child in college	7%	49%	42%
Someone who has been denied coverage due to a preexisting condition	5%	27%	66%
Someone who is on Medicare	18%	62%	20%
Someone who is on Medicaid	8%	50%	39%

13. Have you tried to visit a federal or state-run health care insurance exchange website?

Yes	16%
No	81%
Not sure	3%

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

Expanded	27%
Kept the same	13%
Repealed	41%
Not sure	19%

15. How concerned are you about the health care costs you will face in the future?

Very concerned	53%
Somewhat concerned	32%
Not very concerned	10%
Not at all concerned	5%

16. Do you think that you will receive better or worse care under the new health care system?

A lot better	7%
A little better	8%
About the same	25%
A little worse	8%
A lot worse	33%
Not sure	18%

17. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	74%
No	26%

18. Why do you not have health insurance at the moment? Check all that apply.

Asked if respondent does not have health insurance

Too expensive	65%
Healthy and did not need it	11%
Refused by an insurance company	3%
Lost my job	19%
Other	19%
Prefer not to say	11%

19. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Major League Baseball?

Very favorable	11%
Somewhat favorable	35%
Somewhat unfavorable	16%
Very unfavorable	11%
Not sure	28%

20. How closely are you following the Major League Baseball playoffs this fall?

Very closely	8%
Somewhat closely	15%
Not very closely	23%
Not closely at all	53%

21. Which team do you want to win the American League Championship Series and advance to the World Series?

Asked of those who are either very closely or somewhat closely following MLB playoffs

Boston Red Sox	50%
Detroit Tigers	50%

22. Which team do you want to win the National League Championship Series and advance to the World Series?

Asked of those who are either very closely or somewhat closely following MLB playoffs

Los Angeles Dodgers	59%
St Louis Cardinals	41%

23. If these two teams meet in the World Series, which one do you want to win?

Asked of those who are either very closely or somewhat closely following MLB playoffs

Boston Red Sox	57%
Los Angeles Dodgers	43%

24. If these two teams meet in the World Series, which one do you want to win?

Asked of those who are either very closely or somewhat closely following MLB playoffs

Boston Red Sox	54%
St Louis Cardinals	46%

25. If these two teams meet in the World Series, which one do you want to win?

Asked of those who are either very closely or somewhat closely following MLB playoffs

Detroit Tigers	58%
Los Angeles Dodgers	42%

26. If these two teams meet in the World Series, which one do you want to win?

Asked of those who are either very closely or somewhat closely following MLB playoffs

Detroit Tigers	60%
St Louis Cardinals	40%

27. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	76%	18%	3%	3%
Immigration	38%	36%	17%	9%
The environment	40%	32%	16%	12%
Terrorism	43%	34%	17%	6%
Gay rights	21%	24%	20%	35%
Education	55%	31%	9%	6%
Health care	64%	27%	5%	4%
Social security	55%	31%	10%	4%
The budget deficit	57%	27%	10%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	25%	44%	20%	11%
Taxes	54%	34%	8%	4%
Medicare	47%	35%	13%	4%
Abortion	32%	31%	19%	18%

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

The economy	31%
Immigration	5%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	2%
Education	9%
Health care	12%
Social security	13%
The budget deficit	11%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	1%
Abortion	4%

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

The economy	34%
Immigration	4%
The environment	4%
Terrorism	4%
Gay rights	0%
Education	16%
Health care	8%
Social security	0%
The budget deficit	14%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	13%
Medicare	0%
Abortion	3%

30. 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%	22%	9%	40%	4%
John Boehner	7%	16%	18%	39%	20%
Mitch McConnell	4%	16%	19%	31%	30%
Harry Reid	6%	21%	10%	37%	26%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	19%	11%	41%	17%
Joe Biden	19%	22%	13%	35%	11%
Hillary Clinton	27%	23%	13%	30%	7%

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

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	42%
Not sure	4%

32. 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%	23%	14%	39%	9%
Immigration	12%	24%	16%	34%	13%
The environment	13%	24%	20%	27%	17%
Terrorism	19%	26%	19%	26%	11%
Gay rights	20%	22%	11%	28%	19%
Education	17%	25%	15%	26%	16%
Health care	23%	19%	11%	40%	8%
Social security	15%	22%	17%	31%	15%
The war in Afghanistan	16%	25%	20%	26%	13%
The budget deficit	14%	19%	15%	41%	10%
Taxes	13%	23%	16%	36%	13%
Medicare	16%	22%	18%	30%	14%
Abortion	16%	23%	13%	28%	20%

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

Strongly approve	1%
Somewhat approve	6%
Neither approve nor disapprove	14%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	54%
Not sure	5%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	36%
Conservative	23%
Very conservative	8%
Not sure	9%

35. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	35%
Liberal	21%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	13%

36. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	42%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	49%
Not sure	9%

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

Like a lot	30%
Like somewhat	25%
Dislike	36%
Not sure	9%

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

Getting better	16%
About the same	32%
Getting worse	47%
Not sure	6%

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

Higher	19%
About the same	32%
Lower	23%
Not sure	25%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	19%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	45%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	31%
Not sure	4%

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

Owned by you or your family	62%
Rented from someone else	36%
Other	2%

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

Increased	25%
Stayed about the same	43%
Decreased	24%
Not sure	8%

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

Increased	28%
Stayed about the same	45%
Decreased	8%
Not sure	18%

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

Will increase a lot	3%
Will increase a little	30%
Will stay about the same	35%
Will decrease a little	9%
Will decrease a lot	4%
Not sure	18%

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

Very worried	5%
Somewhat worried	22%
Not worried	34%
Don't have mortgage payments	39%

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

Will definitely buy a home	2%
Am considering buying a home	13%
Not looking for a home now	84%

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

Yes	24%
No	76%

48. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	27%
Don't know	3%

49. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student	2%
Part-time student	9%
Not a student	89%

50. Do you have a job outside of school?

Full-time job	50%
Part-time job	47%
No job outside of school	3%

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

Full-time employed	41%
Part-time employed	13%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	9%
Retired	18%
Permanently disabled	7%
Homemaker	10%
Other	1%

52. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	17%
No	83%

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

Mean 19

54. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried 10%
Somewhat worried 29%
Not very worried 61%

55. 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. 35%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.
..... 38%
Not very hard 18%
Not sure 9%

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

More jobs 15%
The same amount of jobs 41%
Fewer jobs 29%
Not sure 15%

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

Very happy 19%
Happy 38%
Neither happy nor unhappy 30%
Unhappy 8%
Very unhappy 5%

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

Higher	21%
Same	63%
Lower	16%

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

I don't have any savings	33%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	17%
I could last a few months on my savings	28%
I could last a year on my savings	12%
I could last more than a year on my savings	10%

60. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

61. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat	32%
Republican	23%
Independent	35%
Other	3%
Not sure	7%

62. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	67%
Black	15%
Hispanic	11%
Asian	3%
Native American	1%
Middle Eastern	0%
Mixed	2%
Other	1%

63. Education

No high school	12%
High school graduate	30%
Some college	23%
2-year college	11%
4-year college	15%
Post-graduate	9%

64. What is your marital status?

Married	47%
Separated	1%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	4%
Single	30%
Domestic partnership	6%

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

Yes	29%
No	71%

66. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	34%
Somewhat important	28%
Not too important	17%
Not at all important	21%

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

More than once a week	7%
Once a week	14%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	25%
Never	30%
Don't know	3%

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

Several times a day	26%
Once a day	12%
A few times a week	13%
Once a week	2%
A few times a month	10%
Seldom	15%
Never	17%
Don't know	4%

69. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	37%
Roman Catholic	18%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	0%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	3%
Nothing in particular	27%
Something else	6%

70. Age

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

71. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat	33%
Republican	22%
Independent	34%
Other	3%
Not sure	8%

72. Race

White	67%
Black	15%
Hispanic	11%
Other	7%

73. Region

Northeast	17%
Midwest	23%
South	37%
West	23%

74. Party Identification

Democrat	32%
Lean Democrat	12%
Independent	23%
Lean Republican	10%
Republican	23%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	October 12-14, 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 7.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.08.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.6% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.