

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1424 US Adults
Conducted January 7 - 10, 2017
Margin of Error $\pm 3.1\%$

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

Generally headed in the right direction	25%
Off on the wrong track	58%
Not sure	16%

2. Is the country better off now than it was eight years ago?

Better off now	30%
Better off eight years ago	37%
No difference	20%
Not sure	13%

3. Are you better off now than you were eight years ago?

Better off now	32%
Better off eight years ago	31%
No difference	27%
Not sure	10%

4. Do you expect that the country will be better off or worse off in four years?

Better off	36%
Worse off	35%
About the same	13%
Not sure	16%

5. Do you expect that you will be better off or worse off in four years?

Better off	41%
Worse off	21%
About the same	22%
Not sure	16%

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the presidential transition?

Strongly Approve	22%
Somewhat Approve	22%
Somewhat Disapprove	11%
Strongly Disapprove	30%
Not Sure	14%

7. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the next four years with Donald Trump as President?

Optimistic	42%
Pessimistic	39%
Not sure	19%

8. Donald Trump has nominated several people to serve in his cabinet. How much have you heard about the following people?

	A lot	A little	Not much	Nothing at all
Ben Carson	41%	27%	15%	17%
Mike Flynn	18%	24%	26%	32%
James N. Mattis	17%	22%	24%	36%
Rick Perry	33%	26%	17%	24%
Jeff Sessions	27%	22%	20%	31%
Rex Tillerson	20%	22%	22%	35%

9. Do you approve or disapprove of nominating the following people to serve in Donald Trump's cabinet?

	Approve	Disapprove	Not sure
Ben Carson Secretary of Housing and Urban Development	39%	30%	31%
Mike Flynn National Security Advisor	29%	24%	47%
James N. Mattis Secretary of Defense	32%	22%	45%
Rick Perry Secretary of Energy	30%	29%	41%
Jeff Sessions Attorney General	29%	29%	43%
Rex Tillerson Secretary of State	26%	27%	46%

10. In making his nominations to Cabinet positions, how much attention do you think President-elect Trump is paying to the needs and problems of...

	Too much	Too little	The right amount	Not sure
Rich people	41%	8%	29%	22%
Working people	4%	45%	34%	17%
Poor people	4%	48%	30%	19%
People like you	4%	46%	31%	19%

11. About how many of Donald Trump's campaign promises do you think he will be able to keep?

All of them	5%
Most of them	20%
Some of them	32%
Hardly any of them	30%
Not sure	13%

12. About how many of Donald Trump’s campaign promises do you think he will TRY to keep?

All of them	15%
Most of them	24%
Some of them	32%
Hardly any of them	20%
Not sure	10%

13. How likely is Donald Trump to do the following things as President?

	Definitely will happen	Probably will happen	Unlikely to happen	Will not happen
Run an open and transparent administration	12%	33%	30%	25%
Improve the way government works	17%	30%	32%	22%
Set a high moral standard	13%	31%	28%	28%
Use the office to enrich family and friends	26%	36%	27%	12%
Cut taxes	15%	42%	30%	14%
Repeal Obamacare	22%	54%	17%	6%

14. Do you favor or oppose building a wall along the US-Mexico border to try to stop illegal immigration?

Favor	43%
Oppose	39%
Not sure	19%

15. Should the U.S. build the wall even if Mexico doesn’t pay for it?

Yes	38%
No	43%
Not sure	19%

16. Are you confident or uneasy about Donald Trump's ability handle Russia?

Confident	35%
Uneasy	46%
Not sure	20%

17. From what you know now, do you believe the Russian government interfered with the U.S. presidential election?

Yes	41%
No	32%
Not sure	26%

18. How much confidence do you, yourself, have in each one of the following institutions in American society?

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little	None at all
The CIA (Central Intelligence Agency)	10%	19%	39%	21%	11%
The FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)	10%	22%	40%	18%	10%
The military	21%	35%	29%	10%	6%
The police	14%	28%	31%	17%	10%
The criminal justice system	4%	15%	40%	27%	14%
The church (organized religion)	13%	18%	31%	21%	17%
The medical system	6%	21%	41%	23%	9%
The public schools	5%	17%	42%	24%	11%
The President	11%	17%	35%	20%	17%
The Congress	4%	7%	33%	34%	22%
The U.S. Supreme Court	8%	20%	42%	21%	10%
Television News	4%	10%	35%	32%	19%
Internet News	3%	7%	36%	38%	16%
Newspapers	4%	12%	37%	30%	17%
Wall Street	3%	8%	34%	33%	22%
Big business	4%	10%	38%	30%	18%
Small business	12%	31%	41%	9%	7%
Public opinion polls	3%	11%	43%	29%	14%

19. Do you think improving the economy is...

- Something the president can do a lot about 47%
- Something the president can do a little about 40%
- Something that is that mostly beyond the president's control 13%

20. Where would you rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means you think the government should do only those things necessary to provide the most basic government functions, and 5 means you think the government should take active steps in every area it can to try and improve the lives of its citizens?

Basic functions			Active steps in every area	
1	2	3	4	5
12%	10%	24%	21%	33%

21. Some people think the government is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and businesses. Others think that government should do more to solve our country's problems. Which comes closer to your own view?

Government is doing too much43%
 Government should do more57%

22. Which would you rather have?

More government involvement in addressing the nation's problems if that meant more taxes 28%
 Less government involvement in addressing the nation's problems in order to reduce taxes48%
 Government involvement and taxes about as we have them now 24%

23. Which statement do you agree with more?

The government in Washington should see to it that everyone who wants to work has a job. 51%
 It is not the role of government to see to it that everyone has a job. 49%

24. Which statement do you agree with more?

The government in Washington should see to it that everyone has access to affordable health insurance.66%
 It is not the role of government to see to it that everyone has access to affordable health insurance. 34%

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

Expanded	29%
Kept the same	15%
Repealed	39%
Not sure	18%

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 success	4%
More of a success than a failure	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success	24%
More of a failure than a success	21%
A complete failure	20%
Not sure	10%

27. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time? (A health plan would include any private insurance plan through your employer or a plan that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or Medicaid)

Covered by health insurance	79%
Not covered by health insurance	13%
Don't know	7%

28. Over the past five years, has the amount you pay for health insurance increased or decreased?

Asked of those who are covered by health insurance

Increased a lot	22%
Increased somewhat	35%
About the same	35%
Decreased somewhat	5%
Decreased a lot	3%

29. At any point in your life have you ever NOT had health insurance coverage?

Yes, there has been some point in my life when I did not have health insurance coverage.56%
 No, I have never been without health insurance coverage.37%
 Prefer not to say 6%

30. At any point in your life have you not been able to afford medical care?

Yes, there has been some point in my life when I was not able to afford medical care. 52%
 No, I have always been able to afford medical care. 40%
 Prefer not to say 8%

31. How much per month do you think is an affordable amount to pay for health insurance coverage for one adult?

median 100

32. How much per month do you think is an affordable amount to pay for health insurance coverage for a family of four (two adults and two children)?

median200

33. Over the past five years, has the quality of healthcare that you receive gotten better or worse?

Much better7%
 Somewhat better 15%
 About the same47%
 Somewhat worse 20%
 Much worse 11%

34. Do you think that the proportion of persons WITHOUT insurance has increased or decreased over the past five years?

Increased	31%
Stayed the same	29%
Decreased	40%

35. Donald Trump and many Republicans in Congress promised to repeal and replace Obamacare. Do you think they should...

Repeal Obamacare now and not replace it with anything	13%
Repeal Obamacare now and replace it with something else later	23%
Repeal Obamacare later when they have a replacement plan	65%

36. Do you favor or oppose creating a public health insurance option to compete with private health insurance plans?

Favor strongly	23%
Favor somewhat	29%
Oppose somewhat	12%
Oppose strongly	11%
Not sure	25%

37. Do you favor or oppose providing government vouchers to help the following people afford buying private health insurance?

	Favor	Oppose	Not sure
Poor people	67%	16%	17%
Unemployed people	58%	20%	22%
Working single adults	53%	26%	21%
Working adults with families	58%	21%	21%
Middle class single adults	48%	30%	23%
Middle class families	53%	24%	24%
Retired people	66%	17%	18%
People with disabilities	72%	14%	14%
Homeless people	61%	18%	21%

38. If Donald Trump and the Republican controlled Congress repeal the Affordable Care Act, do you think that the proportion of persons WITHOUT health insurance will increase or decrease?

Increase	50%
Stay the same	33%
Decrease	17%

39. If Donald Trump and the Republican controlled Congress repeal the Affordable Care Act, how worried are you about losing your health insurance?

Asked of those who are covered by health insurance

Very worried	13%
Somewhat worried	19%
Not very worried	20%
Not worried at all	41%
Not sure	6%

40. If Donald Trump and the Republican controlled Congress repeal the Affordable Care Act, how worried are you about someone close to you, a friend or family member, losing his or her health insurance?

Very worried	27%
Somewhat worried	22%
Not very worried	17%
Not worried at all	23%
Not sure	10%

41. If Donald Trump and the Republican controlled Congress repeal the Affordable Care Act, do you think the amount you pay for health insurance will increase or decrease?

Increase a lot	19%
Increase somewhat	22%
About the same	38%
Decrease somewhat	14%
Decrease a lot	8%

42. If Donald Trump and the Republican controlled Congress repeal the Affordable Care Act, do you think the quality of healthcare that you receive will get better or worse?

Much better	8%
Somewhat better	15%
About the same	51%
Somewhat worse	16%
Much worse	10%

43. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	67%	27%	4%	2%
Immigration	44%	33%	16%	7%
The environment	43%	37%	14%	6%
Terrorism	60%	26%	9%	4%
Gay rights	22%	28%	22%	28%
Education	60%	30%	6%	4%
Health care	67%	25%	6%	3%
Social security	69%	22%	6%	3%
The budget deficit	47%	36%	12%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	31%	42%	19%	8%
Taxes	53%	36%	9%	3%
Medicare	59%	30%	7%	3%
Abortion	36%	30%	20%	14%
Foreign policy	43%	42%	10%	5%
Gun control	45%	29%	14%	12%
International trade and globalization	33%	48%	15%	4%
Use of military force	46%	40%	10%	4%

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

The economy	14%
Immigration	6%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	11%
Gay rights	2%
Education	7%
Health care	13%
Social security	21%
The budget deficit	4%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	3%
Foreign policy	1%
Gun control	3%

45. 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	34%	18%	11%	33%	4%
Donald Trump	23%	21%	12%	39%	6%
Joe Biden	27%	23%	13%	20%	17%
Mike Pence	25%	17%	11%	24%	23%
Paul Ryan	8%	25%	18%	24%	24%
Mitch McConnell	4%	17%	15%	29%	35%
Nancy Pelosi	8%	20%	13%	33%	27%
Chuck Schumer	8%	17%	12%	21%	42%

46. 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	16%	23%	17%	31%	12%
The Republican Party	12%	24%	19%	32%	13%

47. Is the Democratic Party...

Too liberal	38%
About right	27%
Not liberal enough	12%
Not sure	23%

48. Is the Republican Party...

Too conservative	36%
About right	25%
Not conservative enough	15%
Not sure	25%

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

Strongly Approve	26%
Somewhat Approve	23%
Somewhat Disapprove	12%
Strongly Disapprove	31%
Not Sure	9%

50. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	27%
Liberal	24%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	19%

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

Very strong	25%
Somewhat strong	27%
Somewhat weak	20%
Very weak	29%

52. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	47%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	42%
Not sure	12%

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

Like a lot	38%
Like somewhat	25%
Dislike	26%
Not sure	12%

54. How much do you think Barack Obama cares about the needs and problems of people like you?

A lot	31%
Some	23%
Not much	14%
Doesn't care at all	26%
Not sure	6%

55. Do you think Barack Obama has maintained consistent policy positions or has he made significant changes to his policy plans?

Maintained consistent policy positions	42%
Made significant changes to his policy plans	32%
Not sure	26%

56. 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
Abortion	21%	20%	12%	24%	24%
The war in Afghanistan	14%	24%	18%	28%	16%
The budget deficit	17%	23%	13%	33%	15%
The economy	21%	25%	12%	29%	12%
Education	19%	27%	16%	23%	16%
The environment	22%	25%	13%	23%	16%
Foreign policy	16%	24%	15%	29%	16%
Gay rights	23%	21%	10%	25%	20%
Gun control	16%	21%	17%	31%	16%
Health care	26%	20%	12%	33%	10%
Immigration	18%	21%	13%	35%	13%
Medicare	21%	23%	14%	23%	19%
Social security	19%	24%	14%	23%	19%
Taxes	16%	25%	15%	28%	15%
Terrorism	18%	24%	12%	31%	15%

57. Would you say Donald Trump is...

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	6%
Moderate	20%
Conservative	24%
Very conservative	14%
Not sure	29%

58. Would you say Donald Trump is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	27%
Somewhat strong	31%
Somewhat weak	15%
Very weak	27%

59. Do you think Donald Trump...

Says what he believes	44%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	42%
Not sure	13%

60. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like Donald Trump as a person?

Like a lot	20%
Like somewhat	26%
Dislike	44%
Not sure	10%

61. How much do you think Donald Trump cares about the needs and problems of people like you?

A lot	20%
Some	20%
Not much	15%
Doesn't care at all	36%
Not sure	9%

62. Do you think Donald Trump has maintained consistent policy positions or has he made significant changes to his policy plans?

Maintained consistent policy positions	28%
Made significant changes to his policy plans	39%
Not sure	33%

63. 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	18%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	15%

64. 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	11%	25%	18%	31%	16%
Republicans in Congress	8%	21%	21%	34%	16%

65. What do you think should be the top priority for Congress?

Build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border	4%
Temporarily ban Muslims from entering the United States	7%
Bring manufacturing jobs back	12%
Impose tariffs on goods made in China and/or Mexico	2%
Withdraw from unfair free trade deals	3%
Full repeal of Obamacare	10%
Make changes to Social Security	5%
Make changes to Medicare	3%
Cut taxes	11%
Authorize the use of ground troops to fight ISIS	2%
Increase funding for the U.S. Military	5%
Create a better way to help people out of poverty	20%
Something else	16%

66. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Paul Ryan is handling his job as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	7%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	19%
Not sure	31%

67. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mitch McConnell is handling his job as Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	24%
Not sure	37%

68. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chuck Schumer is handling his job as Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Strongly approve	7%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	18%
Not sure	44%

69. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Nancy Pelosi is handling her job as the Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	27%
Not sure	34%

70. Do you think this new congress will accomplish more or less than usual?

More than usual	31%
About the same	32%
Less than usual	16%
Not sure	21%

71. Who do you think will be more to blame for Congress achieving less than usual?

Asked if respondent says Congress will accomplish less than usual

Democrats in Congress	6%
Republicans in Congress	53%
Both equally	30%
Neither	5%
Not sure	6%

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

Getting better	24%
About the same	36%
Getting worse	25%
Not sure	14%

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

Higher	30%
About the same	22%
Lower	21%
Not sure	27%

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

Better off financially	20%
About the same as now	45%
Worse off financially	25%
Not sure	10%

75. Six months from now do you think there will be...

More jobs	33%
The same amount of jobs	28%
Fewer jobs	18%
Not sure	21%

76. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	29%
Not very worried	59%

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.	27%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	39%
Not very hard	23%
Not sure	11%

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

Very happy	25%
Happy	34%
Neither happy nor unhappy	32%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	3%

79. 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	44%
Some of the time	28%
Only now and then	15%
Hardly at all	7%
Don’t know	5%

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

Liberal	26%
Moderate	32%
Conservative	29%
Not sure	13%

81. Thinking about politics these days, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Very liberal	8%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	32%
Conservative	18%
Very Conservative	11%
Not sure	13%

82. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	75%
Not registered	25%

83. Did you vote in the election on Tuesday 8 November 2016?

Yes	60%
No	40%

84. Who did you vote for in the election for President?

Hillary Clinton	29%
Donald Trump	27%
Gary Johnson	2%
Jill Stein	1%
Evan McMullin	0%
Other	1%
Did not vote for President	41%

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

Democrat	38%
Republican	26%
Independent	32%
Other	3%

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

Strong Democrat	20%
Not very strong Democrat	14%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	17%
Lean Republican	10%
Not very strong Republican	10%
Strong Republican	14%
Not sure	7%

87. Would you describe yourself as a libertarian?

Yes	15%
No	55%
Not sure	30%

88. Would you describe yourself as a progressive?

Yes	32%
No	37%
Not sure	31%

89. Are you male or female?

Male	49%
Female	51%

90. Respondent age by category

Under 30	22%
30-44	25%
45-64	34%
65+	20%

91. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

HS or less	40%
Some college	32%
College grad	18%
Postgrad	9%

92. What is your marital status?

Married	48%
Separated	3%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	5%
Single	27%
Domestic partnership	6%

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

Yes	30%
No	70%

94. US National Region

Northeast	21%
Midwest	21%
South	37%
West	20%

95. How would you describe the place where you live?

City	31%
Suburb	32%
Town	16%
Rural area	20%
Other	0%

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

Full-time employed	35%
Part-time employed	11%
Self-employed	-
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	9%
Retired	24%
Permanently disabled	10%
Homemaker	10%
Other	1%

97. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family’s annual income?

Under \$50K	50%
\$50-100K	26%
\$100K or more	11%
Prefer not to say	13%

98. 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.

I am	3%
Family member	9%
I served previously	12%
Family served previously	38%
None	45%

99. Are you or is someone in your household a member of a labor union?

Yes, I am	9%
Yes, household member is	9%
No	82%

100. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	39%
Somewhat important	29%
Not too important	14%
Not at all important	18%

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

More than once a week	10%
Once a week	16%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	15%
Seldom	24%
Never	24%
Don't know	4%

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

Yes	30%
No	70%

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

Several times a day	28%
Once a day	16%
A few times a week	12%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	7%
Seldom	15%
Never	15%
Don't know	4%

104. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	33%
Roman Catholic	21%
Mormon	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	4%
Buddhist	0%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	20%
Something else	6%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	January 7 - 10, 2017
Target population	US Adult Population
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by gender, age, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2014 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2014 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement.
Weighting	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, and 2016 Presidential vote. The weights range from 0.2 to 4, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.68.
Number of respondents	1424 1237 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 3.1% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.2% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	26 questions not reported.