

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample            1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted        August 23-25, 2014  
Margin of Error   ±4.3%

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	42%
Some of the time	33%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	10%
Don't know	1%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	24%
Off on the wrong track	62%
Not sure	15%

**3. How serious a threat do you think the following groups or countries pose to the United States?**

	An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	A minor threat to the U.S.	Not a threat to the U.S.	Not sure
Islamist militants in Iraq (ISIS)	49%	25%	12%	4%	10%
Al Qaeda	39%	33%	16%	4%	9%
Hamas	21%	27%	25%	11%	16%
Pro-Russia separatists in Ukraine	12%	29%	29%	17%	13%
Iran	25%	34%	23%	8%	10%
North Korea	16%	36%	30%	8%	9%
Russia	15%	40%	25%	9%	11%

**4. How closely are you following the news about the current situation in Iraq?**

Very closely	23%
Somewhat closely	46%
Not very closely	24%
Not at all	8%

**5. Do you favor or oppose cooperating with Syria in order to resolve the current crisis in Iraq?**

Favor strongly	8%
Favor somewhat	30%
Oppose somewhat	17%
Oppose strongly	10%
Not sure	34%

6. In dealing with the current situation in Iraq, which of the following things do you think the U.S. should do? (Select all that apply.)

Send ground troops to fight for the Iraqis .....	8%
Send ground troops to fight with the Iraqis .....	14%
Send military troop trainers to help the Iraqis fight .....	25%
Conduct air strikes against Islamist militants in Iraq .....	47%
Conduct drone strikes against Islamist militants in Iraq .....	50%
Conduct air strikes against Islamist militants in Syria .....	41%
Conduct drone strikes against Islamist militants in Syria .....	43%
Something else .....	9%
None of the above .....	23%

7. Does the US need to destroy ISIS or is this a matter for the Iraqis to solve?

US must destroy ISIS .....	45%
A matter for the Iraqis to solve .....	27%
Not sure .....	28%

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

Yes .....	51%
No .....	32%
Not sure .....	18%

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

Yes .....	35%
No .....	48%
Not sure .....	18%

10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the following international crises?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Fighting between ISIS fighters and the government of Iraq	12%	26%	14%	27%	20%
Fighting between Israelis and Palestinians in Gaza	8%	22%	17%	29%	23%
Fighting between pro-Russia separatists and the government of Ukraine	9%	24%	18%	26%	23%
Fighting between rebels and the government of Syria	8%	23%	19%	25%	26%

11. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Bill Clinton?

Very favorable	25%
Somewhat favorable	35%
Somewhat unfavorable	19%
Very unfavorable	14%
Don't know	7%

12. Do you approve or disapprove of the welfare reform law that President Bill Clinton signed in 1996 that required welfare recipients to work within two years of applying for benefits, eliminated eligibility for most federal benefits for most legal immigrants until they become citizens, required able-bodied adults with no dependent children to work 20 hours per week in order to be eligible for food stamps, and imposed a five-year lifetime cap on welfare benefits whether or not a person can find a job?

Approve strongly .....	40%
Approve somewhat .....	33%
Disapprove somewhat .....	11%
Disapprove strongly .....	5%
Don't know .....	10%

13. Do you think the welfare reform law passed in 1996 succeeded or failed in moving people off welfare and into work?

Succeeded .....	26%
Failed .....	36%
Not sure .....	38%

14. What do you think was President Bill Clinton's top achievement?

Balanced the federal budget .....	25%
Economic prosperity in the 1990s .....	28%
Welfare reform law .....	12%
Family Medical Leave Act .....	13%
NAFTA/GATT .....	2%
Restoration of democracy in Haiti .....	2%
Assault weapons ban .....	2%
Intervention in Bosnia .....	2%
Northern Ireland peace process .....	3%
Something else .....	10%

15. What do you think was President Bill Clinton’s worst failure?

The Lewinsky affair .....	36%
Somalia mission .....	4%
Defense of Marriage Act .....	6%
Don’t Ask/Don’t Tell Policy .....	9%
Welfare reform law .....	3%
NAFTA/GATT .....	9%
Assault weapons ban .....	7%
Inaction in Rwanda .....	7%
Failure to pass health care reform .....	11%
Something else .....	8%

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

Expanded .....	27%
Kept the same .....	15%
Repealed .....	43%
Not sure .....	15%

17. 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 .....	22%
More of a failure than a success .....	21%
Equal amount of both failure and success .....	21%
More of a success than a failure .....	19%
A complete success .....	3%
Too early to tell .....	7%
Not sure .....	7%

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

Increased .....	46%
Remained the same .....	20%
Decreased .....	18%
Don't know .....	17%

19. 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 .....	48%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people .....	17%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do .....	15%
Not sure .....	19%

20. Do you support or oppose the federal government providing subsidies for low income people to be able to buy private health care insurance?

Support strongly .....	24%
Support somewhat .....	30%
Oppose somewhat .....	16%
Oppose strongly .....	16%
Not sure .....	14%

21. Have you been following the news about an appeals court ruling that said the federal government could only provide subsidies to low income people who purchased health insurance policies on state run health insurance marketplace websites, but the federal government could not provide those same subsidies to low income people who purchased their health insurance policies through the federal health insurance marketplace website because their state had refused to run its own health insurance marketplace website?

Yes .....	38%
No .....	40%
Don't remember .....	23%

22. Do you support or oppose the appeals court ruling that said the federal government cannot provide subsidies to low income people to who purchase health insurance policies on the federally run health insurance marketplace website?

Support strongly	14%
Support somewhat	16%
Oppose somewhat	19%
Oppose strongly	24%
Not sure	28%

23. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	78%	18%	2%	2%
Immigration	49%	33%	13%	5%
The environment	41%	35%	15%	9%
Terrorism	57%	28%	10%	6%
Gay rights	21%	24%	22%	34%
Education	59%	29%	8%	4%
Health care	60%	31%	7%	3%
Social security	56%	31%	9%	5%
The budget deficit	57%	31%	9%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	25%	42%	24%	8%
Taxes	58%	32%	9%	2%
Medicare	47%	37%	13%	3%
Abortion	29%	31%	23%	17%
Foreign policy	38%	41%	16%	5%



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

The economy .....	28%
Immigration .....	8%
The environment .....	8%
Terrorism .....	7%
Gay rights .....	1%
Education .....	7%
Health care .....	9%
Social security .....	11%
The budget deficit .....	7%
The war in Afghanistan .....	1%
Taxes .....	4%
Medicare .....	3%
Abortion .....	4%
Foreign policy .....	2%

25. 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	21%	25%	12%	38%	5%
Joe Biden	15%	27%	16%	27%	14%
John Boehner	4%	19%	20%	32%	24%
Mitch McConnell	4%	16%	19%	26%	36%
Harry Reid	5%	18%	14%	32%	31%
Nancy Pelosi	10%	21%	13%	37%	20%
John Kerry	11%	28%	16%	27%	18%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Rand Paul	12%	24%	17%	21%	26%
Chris Christie	4%	25%	24%	25%	21%
Paul Ryan	11%	23%	14%	26%	26%
Jeb Bush	8%	23%	23%	24%	22%
Mike Huckabee	14%	19%	17%	24%	26%
Marco Rubio	10%	19%	16%	21%	34%
Hillary Clinton	22%	24%	15%	33%	7%
Elizabeth Warren	17%	12%	13%	20%	38%
Ted Cruz	12%	17%	11%	29%	31%
Scott Walker	12%	11%	10%	21%	45%
Brian Schweitzer	3%	9%	12%	8%	68%
Rick Perry	13%	18%	14%	30%	26%

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

Strongly approve	14%
Somewhat approve	28%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Not sure	4%

28. 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	13%	25%	17%	38%	7%
Immigration	10%	22%	18%	40%	10%
The environment	11%	26%	19%	26%	18%
Terrorism	13%	26%	17%	35%	9%
Gay rights	17%	25%	11%	28%	18%
Education	13%	28%	17%	28%	14%
Health care	19%	24%	10%	42%	6%
Social security	11%	23%	20%	26%	19%
The war in Afghanistan	12%	24%	21%	28%	14%
The budget deficit	11%	20%	16%	41%	11%
Taxes	10%	24%	18%	35%	13%
Medicare	11%	26%	19%	29%	15%
Abortion	11%	23%	12%	26%	29%
Foreign policy	10%	24%	18%	35%	12%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	6%
Neither approve nor disapprove	15%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	46%
Not sure	9%

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

Very liberal .....	6%
Liberal .....	18%
Moderate .....	34%
Conservative .....	31%
Very conservative .....	9%
Not sure .....	1%

**31. Would you say Barack Obama is...**

Very liberal .....	36%
Liberal .....	20%
Moderate .....	28%
Conservative .....	4%
Very conservative .....	3%
Not sure .....	10%

**32. Do you think Barack Obama...**

Says what he believes .....	37%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	51%
Not sure .....	12%

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

Like a lot .....	31%
Like somewhat .....	26%
Dislike .....	33%
Not sure .....	10%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	40%	32%	28%
Bold	22%	60%	17%
Effective	18%	47%	35%
Exciting	10%	66%	24%
Experienced	17%	48%	34%
Honest	27%	36%	38%
Hypocritical	35%	43%	23%
Inspiring	26%	48%	26%
Intelligent	49%	37%	14%
Partisan	26%	62%	12%
Patriotic	24%	46%	30%
Religious	11%	64%	25%
Sincere	28%	41%	31%
Steady	22%	59%	19%
Strong	26%	50%	24%

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

Getting better	24%
About the same	40%
Getting worse	31%
Not sure	5%

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

More jobs	21%
The same amount of jobs	42%
Fewer jobs	25%
Not sure	12%

37. 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 .....	40%
Military Household - None .....	47%

**38. Gender**

Male .....	49%
Female .....	51%

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

Strongly support .....	13%
Somewhat support .....	19%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	20%
Somewhat oppose .....	7%
Strongly oppose .....	26%
Not sure .....	16%

**40. Education**

No high school .....	10%
High school graduate .....	32%
Some college .....	22%
2-year college .....	12%
4-year college .....	16%
Post-graduate .....	8%

**41. Age**

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

**42. Race**

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

**43. Region**

Northeast .....	19%
Midwest .....	24%
South .....	34%
West .....	24%

**44. Party Identification**

Democratic .....	36%
Independent .....	40%
Republican .....	24%

**45. Are you registered to vote?**

Yes .....	68%
No .....	28%
Don't know .....	4%

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	August 23-25, 2014
<b>Target population</b>	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
<b>Sampling method</b>	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.
<b>Weighting</b>	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 to 5, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.98.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 4.3% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	21 questions not reported.