

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted May 23-25, 2015
Margin of Error $\pm 3.9\%$

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	47%
Some of the time	30%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	8%
Don't know	1%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	28%
Off on the wrong track	59%
Not sure	13%

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)	57%	24%	10%	2%	7%
Al Qaeda	41%	33%	16%	4%	7%
Hamas	19%	27%	21%	10%	23%
Pro-Russia separatists in Ukraine	11%	27%	30%	18%	14%
Iran	29%	36%	19%	6%	9%
Islamist militants in Syria (ISIS)	55%	25%	10%	3%	7%
Russia	15%	38%	28%	9%	10%
Syria	19%	34%	23%	10%	13%
China	18%	34%	25%	13%	10%

4. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Bashir al-Assad?

Very favorable	2%
Somewhat favorable	7%
Somewhat unfavorable	17%
Very unfavorable	30%
Don't know	45%

5. Do you think the United States has a responsibility to do something about the fighting in Syria between government forces and anti-government rebels, or doesn't the United States have this responsibility?

Has responsibility	27%
Does not have responsibility	49%
Not sure	24%

6. Do you think the United States has a responsibility to do something about the fighting in Syria involving ISIS, or doesn't the United States have this responsibility?

Has responsibility	53%
Does not have responsibility	30%
Not sure	17%

7. Which side should the US support in the Syrian conflict?

Syrian government	11%
It should support neither side	43%
Anti-government rebels	14%
Not sure	32%

8. When it comes to US policy in Syria which statement do you agree with most?

The US should have provided Syrian rebels with more aid sooner	24%
The US should not have gotten involved at all	44%
The US did the best it could in a difficult situation	32%

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

Favor strongly	6%
Favor somewhat	28%
Oppose somewhat	17%
Oppose strongly	14%
Not sure	34%

10. Do you think the US government should consider taking any type of action against Islamist militants **in Syria** ONLY IF the Syrian government approves?

Yes	33%
No	33%
Not sure	34%

11. Do you think that the Islamic State, also known as ISIS, is currently winning or losing the war in Iraq and Syria?

Winning 51%
 Losing 13%
 Not sure 35%

12. Do you think that ISIS is more or less powerful than they were 6 months ago?

More powerful 55%
 About the same 24%
 Less powerful 9%
 Not sure 12%

13. Do you think that ISIS is gaining or losing more territory than they had 6 months ago?

Gaining more territory 55%
 About the same 22%
 Losing more territory 8%
 Not sure 15%

14. Do you support or oppose...

	Support	Oppose	Not sure
U.S. air strikes in Iraq and Syria against ISIS?	66%	19%	14%
Sending U.S. ground troops to fight ISIS?	34%	47%	19%
Sending weapons to moderate groups to fight ISIS?	45%	32%	23%

15. How much have you heard or read about the health care reform law?

A great deal	31%
A fair amount	44%
Not much	22%
Nothing at all	4%

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

Expanded	31%
Kept the same	16%
Repealed	38%
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	16%
More of a failure than a success	24%
Equal amount of both failure and success	20%
More of a success than a failure	24%
A complete success	5%
Too early to tell	5%
Not sure	5%

18. Since President Obama and Congress enacted the health care reform law, do you think you personally have received better or worse care than you received before the law?

Better care	17%
About the same	49%
Worse care	25%
Not sure	9%

19. Do you think you personally have paid more, either in taxes or insurance costs, under the health care reform bill passed in 2010 by Congress and signed by President Obama?

Pay more	44%
About the same	36%
Pay less	8%
Not sure	12%

20. Overall, do you think you personally are better or worse off since the health care reform law went into effect?

Better off	19%
About the same	43%
Worse off	32%
Not sure	6%

21. Since Congress passed and the President signed the Affordable Care Act, do you think...

	Yes	No
there have been long-term savings in health care costs?	36%	64%
health care has been rationed?	51%	49%
there have been limits to medical care for the elderly and people with disabilities?	54%	46%
people have been able to get health insurance coverage for pre-existing conditions?	71%	29%
the elderly have been required to have consultations with doctors about end of life decisions?	45%	55%
you would be able to keep your health care coverage even if you became seriously ill?	71%	29%

22. Do you favor or oppose having a "public option" which would allow individuals to purchase health insurance coverage from the government?

Favor	46%
Oppose	30%
Not sure	24%

23. How good a job do you think the government can do in determining the comparative effectiveness of different medical procedures?

Excellent	5%
Good	22%
Fair	33%
Poor	40%

24. Do you think the majority of the public favors or opposes health care reform?

Favors	21%
Evenly split	44%
Opposes	35%

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

Increased	56%
Remained the same	20%
Decreased	17%
Don't know	7%

26. 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	49%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people	21%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	16%
Not sure	14%

27. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	88%
No	12%

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

Yes 78%
 No 22%

29. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	72%	24%	4%	1%
Immigration	47%	36%	13%	4%
The environment	49%	34%	12%	5%
Terrorism	60%	27%	11%	2%
Gay rights	25%	25%	23%	27%
Education	60%	31%	7%	2%
Health care	60%	32%	7%	1%
Social security	61%	29%	9%	1%
The budget deficit	51%	33%	14%	2%
The war in Afghanistan	27%	45%	22%	6%
Taxes	55%	35%	8%	2%
Medicare	51%	33%	12%	4%
Abortion	36%	29%	22%	13%
Foreign policy	38%	43%	16%	3%

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

The economy	22%
Immigration	6%
The environment	8%
Terrorism	12%
Gay rights	4%
Education	9%
Health care	8%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	5%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	2%
Abortion	3%
Foreign policy	2%

31. 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	23%	22%	15%	36%	4%
John Boehner	5%	19%	18%	32%	27%
Mitch McConnell	4%	17%	20%	26%	33%
Nancy Pelosi	7%	24%	13%	36%	20%
Harry Reid	6%	18%	15%	28%	34%

32. 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%	25%	22%	30%	16%
Ben Carson	14%	18%	12%	19%	38%
Chris Christie	4%	23%	24%	27%	22%
Ted Cruz	10%	22%	12%	29%	28%
Carly Fiorina	5%	21%	16%	17%	41%
Lindsey Graham	4%	17%	17%	21%	40%
Mike Huckabee	11%	23%	16%	25%	25%
Bobby Jindal	8%	17%	14%	18%	43%
John Kasich	6%	13%	11%	14%	56%
Rand Paul	8%	27%	17%	19%	28%
Rick Perry	7%	22%	15%	26%	30%
Marco Rubio	12%	25%	14%	20%	28%
Rick Santorum	5%	21%	18%	26%	31%
Scott Walker	13%	17%	9%	23%	38%

33. 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	13%	28%	14%	30%	14%
Lincoln Chafee	2%	11%	11%	11%	66%
Hillary Clinton	21%	26%	10%	37%	7%
Martin O'Malley	2%	13%	13%	11%	61%
Bernie Sanders	12%	16%	11%	18%	42%
Jim Webb	3%	13%	11%	10%	62%

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

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	28%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	2%

35. 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	18%	26%	17%	34%	6%
Immigration	15%	22%	14%	40%	9%
The environment	14%	30%	17%	26%	13%
Terrorism	14%	25%	22%	31%	7%
Gay rights	17%	24%	11%	27%	21%
Education	15%	29%	16%	26%	13%
Health care	23%	22%	14%	37%	5%
Social security	13%	24%	17%	29%	17%
The war in Afghanistan	11%	26%	22%	29%	11%
The budget deficit	13%	24%	15%	37%	10%
Taxes	12%	24%	20%	32%	12%
Medicare	13%	27%	16%	30%	13%
Abortion	13%	20%	13%	28%	26%
Foreign policy	12%	24%	17%	33%	13%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	10%
Neither approve nor disapprove	19%
Somewhat disapprove	27%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	6%

37. 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	7%
Somewhat approve	16%
Neither approve nor disapprove	22%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	21%
Not sure	15%

38. 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	34%
Less than usual	47%
Not sure	12%

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

Better off now	27%
About the same	30%
Worse off now	38%
Not sure	5%

40. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	35%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	13%

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

Very strong	16%
Somewhat strong	30%
Somewhat weak	23%
Very weak	31%

42. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	52%
Not sure	9%

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

Like a lot	31%
Like somewhat	31%
Dislike	30%
Not sure	8%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	38%	32%	29%
Bold	27%	54%	19%
Effective	21%	45%	34%
Exciting	13%	62%	25%
Experienced	19%	49%	32%
Honest	26%	37%	37%
Hypocritical	36%	38%	26%
Inspiring	28%	44%	28%
Intelligent	50%	34%	16%
Partisan	20%	63%	16%
Patriotic	23%	46%	31%
Religious	11%	56%	33%
Sincere	25%	44%	31%
Steady	24%	55%	20%
Strong	28%	43%	29%

45. 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%

46. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	68%
No	30%
Don't know	3%

47. Which of the following is more important to you in a presidential candidate?

Experience as a state governor	34%
Congressional experience (US Senate or House of Representatives)	28%
Not sure	39%

48. Which of the following is more important to you in a presidential candidate?

Someone who will stick to their core values and positions	50%
Someone who will compromise with the other party	37%
Not sure	13%

49. Which of the following is more important to you in a presidential candidate?

Experience and a proven record	48%
New ideas and a different approach	38%
Not sure	14%

50. If you had to choose, would you rather see the Republican party nominate a presidential candidate who...

Asked of Republicans and Independents who lean Republican

Agrees with you on every issue that matters to you but may not be able to beat the Democratic candidate	18%
A presidential candidate who can beat the Democratic candidate but does not agree with you on every issue that matters to you	68%
Not sure	15%

51. Would you prefer the 2016 Republican nominee for President be someone whose political experience was mostly outside of Washington, someone whose experience was mostly in the government in Washington, or would this not matter to you?

Asked of Republicans and Independents who lean Republican

Mostly outside of Washington	38%
Mostly in the government in Washington	16%
Would not matter to you	46%

52. 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	9%
Ben Carson	8%
Chris Christie	6%
Ted Cruz	5%
Carly Fiorina	2%
Lindsey Graham	1%
Mike Huckabee	6%
Bobby Jindal	1%
John Kasich	2%
Rand Paul	9%
Rick Perry	2%
Marco Rubio	8%
Rick Santorum	2%
Scott Walker	6%
Other	5%
No preference	29%

53. If an election for the Republican nomination for president was going to be held now and the only candidates were Marco Rubio and Jeb Bush, would you vote for...

Asked only of registered voters

Marco Rubio	35%
Jeb Bush	20%
Not sure	19%
I would not vote	26%

54. If an election for the Republican nomination for president was going to be held now and the only candidates were Marco Rubio and Rand Paul, would you vote for...

Asked only of registered voters

Marco Rubio	27%
Rand Paul	29%
Not sure	18%
I would not vote	26%

55. If an election for the Republican nomination for president was going to be held now and the only candidates were Jeb Bush and Rand Paul, would you vote for...

Asked only of registered voters

Jeb Bush	22%
Rand Paul	36%
Not sure	17%
I would not vote	26%

56. If an election for the Republican nomination for president was going to be held now and the only candidates were Marco Rubio and Scott Walker, would you vote for...

Asked only of registered voters

Marco Rubio	29%
Scott Walker	18%
Not sure	24%
I would not vote	30%

57. 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	14%
Somewhat satisfied	25%
Somewhat dissatisfied	14%
Very dissatisfied	29%
Not sure	18%

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

Asked only of registered voters

Ben Carson	8%
Ted Cruz	8%
Carly Fiorina	4%
Mike Huckabee	10%
Rand Paul	16%
Marco Rubio	15%
None of them	39%

59. 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	10%
Lincoln Chafee	1%
Hillary Clinton	32%
Bernie Sanders	14%
Martin O'Malley	4%
Jim Webb	4%
Other	4%
No preference	31%

60. 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	21%
Somewhat satisfied	23%
Somewhat dissatisfied	13%
Very dissatisfied	30%
Not sure	13%

61. 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	26%
Not sure	10%
I would not vote	26%

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

Asked only of registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	42%
The Republican Party candidate	39%
Other	2%
Not sure	15%
I would not vote	3%

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

Getting better	26%
About the same	37%
Getting worse	33%
Not sure	4%

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

Owned by you or your family	55%
Rented from someone else	42%
Other	3%

65. 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	45%
Decreased	20%
Not sure	5%

66. 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	45%
Stayed about the same	32%
Decreased	8%
Not sure	15%

67. 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	33%
Will stay about the same	31%
Will decrease a little	10%
Will decrease a lot	4%
Not sure	13%

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

Asked of those who own their own homes

Very worried	7%
Somewhat worried	23%
Not worried	32%
Don't have mortgage payments	38%

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

Will definitely buy a home	3%
Am considering buying a home	17%
Not looking for a home now	80%

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

More jobs	24%
The same amount of jobs	44%
Fewer jobs	20%
Not sure	12%

71. 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	7%
Military Household - I served previously	12%
Military Household - Family served previously	37%
Military Household - None	48%

72. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

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

Strongly support	11%
Somewhat support	16%
Neither support, nor oppose	22%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	26%
Not sure	18%

74. Education

No high school	11%
High school graduate	30%
Some college	24%
2-year college	10%
4-year college	16%
Post-graduate	8%

75. Age

18-29	26%
30-44	26%
45-64	33%
65+	14%

76. Race

White	68%
Black	15%
Hispanic	11%
Other	6%

77. Region

Northeast	18%
Midwest	24%
South	37%
West	22%

78. Party Identification

Democratic	38%
Independent	32%
Republican	31%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	May 23-25, 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 0.2 to 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.78.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 3.9% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.