

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted January 10-12, 2015
Margin of Error $\pm 4.8\%$

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	46%
Some of the time	32%
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	29%
Off on the wrong track	58%
Not sure	14%

3. Have you heard mostly positive or mostly negative news stories about the economy, or have you not heard much news at all about the economy?

Mostly positive	26%
Equally positive and negative	40%
Mostly negative	24%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	11%

4. When you have discussed the economy with your friends and family, has the discussion been mostly positive or mostly negative, or have you not discussed the economy at all with your friends and family?

Mostly positive	19%
Equally positive and negative	29%
Mostly negative	34%
Not discussed the economy at all	18%

5. What is the current unemployment rate in the U.S.? Please tell us the percentage of adults who want to work that are currently unemployed and looking for a job. If you don't know, please make your best guess.

Less than 5%	3%
Between 5% and 6%	33%
Between 6% and 7%	21%
Between 7% and 8%	14%
Greater than 8%	15%
Not sure	14%

6. According to the figures just released by the federal government for December 2014, is the national unemployment rate NOW higher or lower than the national unemployment rate was back in January 2009, when President Obama first took office?

Higher now	14%
About the same	20%
Lower now	54%
Don't know	13%

7. How serious a problem is unemployment in the U.S.?

Very serious	38%
Somewhat serious	46%
A minor problem	11%
Not a problem	2%
Not sure	3%

8. How serious a problem is unemployment in your LOCAL community?

Very serious	27%
Somewhat serious	34%
A minor problem	21%
Not a problem	9%
Not sure	10%

9. Is the number of jobs today higher or lower than the number of jobs in the US before the Great Recession of 2008?

Higher now	30%
The same	18%
Lower now	33%
Not sure	19%

10. Is increasing the number of jobs something a president can do a lot about, or is that beyond any president's control?

Yes, the President can do a lot	47%
No, it is beyond the President's control	35%
Don't know	17%

11. Should the federal government encourage employment through various incentives, laws and regulations or should the federal government not be directly involved?

Federal government should encourage employment	57%
Federal government should not be directly involved	29%
Not sure	14%

12. How would you rate the job the federal government has done in encouraging employment?

Asked of those who think the federal government should attempt to encourage employment

Federal government should not be directly involved	29%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	14%
Very good	4%
Good	21%
Poor	17%
Very poor	10%
Not sure	5%

13. Should the federal government attempt to stimulate economic growth through various incentives, laws and regulations or should the federal government not be directly involved?

Federal government should attempt to stimulate economic growth	56%
Federal government should not be directly involved	29%
Not sure	15%

14. How would you rate the job the federal government has done in stimulating economic growth?

Asked of those who think the federal government should attempt to stimulate economic growth

Federal government should not be directly involved	29%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	15%
Very good	4%
Good	20%
Poor	19%
Very poor	8%
Not sure	5%

15. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole unemployment rates during THE NEXT YEAR will increase, decrease or remain about the same?

Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot lower</u> than they are today	5%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	29%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	32%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	15%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	7%
Not sure	12%

16. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole unemployment rates during THE NEXT FIVE YEARS will increase, decrease or remain about the same?

- Unemployment rates will be a lot lower than they are today 6%
- Unemployment rates will be somewhat lower than they are today 21%
- Unemployment rates will be about the same as they are today 28%
- Unemployment rates will be somewhat higher than they are today 16%
- Unemployment rates will be a lot higher than they are today 11%
- Not sure 18%

17. How much responsibility do you think the following people have for the economy improving?

	All of it	Most of it	Some of it	None of it	Not sure
President Obama	14%	22%	41%	17%	6%
Republicans in Congress	10%	19%	38%	25%	8%
American consumers	10%	31%	46%	6%	6%
American businesses	14%	35%	41%	4%	5%
Wall St	7%	19%	44%	18%	12%

18. In general, how many of the statistics reported by the government are reliable and accurate?

- None 10%
- A small portion 31%
- About half 28%
- Most 27%
- All 4%

19. Do you think the 2010 US Census accurately counted the number of people living in the United States or do you think there were more people or fewer people than the Census reported?

More people living in US	60%
The Census count is accurate	18%
Fewer people living in US	3%
Don't know	19%

20. The government released December's unemployment numbers on Friday. Do you think the government numbers are accurate or do you think there are more unemployed people or fewer unemployed people?

More unemployed people	52%
The government numbers are accurate	25%
Fewer unemployed people	6%
Don't know	17%

21. Last year, the government reported 8 million people signed up for health insurance under the the Affordable Care Act. Do you think the government numbers are accurate or do you think fewer people or more people signed up for health insurance?

More people signed up	11%
The government numbers are accurate	30%
Fewer people signed up	39%
Don't know	20%

22. The government has reported a steady decline in the rate of violent crime over the last twenty years. Do you think the government is correct and the rate of violent crime has decreased or do you think the rate of violent crime has remained the same or even increased over the past twenty years?

Increased	31%
Remained the same	27%
Decreased	24%
Don't know	18%

23. Do you think the government accurately reports the number of sexual assault cases in the military or do you think there are more or fewer cases?

More cases	55%
Accurate number	12%
Fewer cases	12%
Don't know	22%

24. How much discrimination do the following groups face in America today?

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	None at all
Arab Americans	30%	40%	21%	9%
Asian Americans	5%	31%	49%	15%
African Americans	25%	34%	32%	10%
Mexican Americans	19%	44%	28%	8%
Women	15%	36%	36%	13%
Lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender people	25%	44%	22%	9%
Christians	16%	25%	36%	24%
Jewish people	10%	37%	39%	13%
Muslim people	36%	33%	21%	10%

25. Do you think race relations in the United States are generally...

Good	44%
Bad	56%

26. How big a problem is racism in our society today?

A big problem	28%
Somewhat of a problem	41%
A small problem	24%
Not a problem	7%

27. Since the 1960's, do you think race relations in the United States have gotten...

Better	54%
Stayed about the same	30%
Worse	16%

28. Since Barack Obama has been president, do you think race relations in the United States have gotten...

Better	9%
Stayed about the same	42%
Worse	49%

29. Do you think the 'I Have a Dream Speech' (given by Martin Luther King in 1963) is still relevant today to people of your generation, or don't you think it matters much to people of your generation today?

It is still relevant	66%
It doesn't matter	34%

30. How much of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream of racial equality has been realized today?

A great deal of it	14%
Quite a bit	36%
Only some	32%
Very little	10%
Not much at all	3%
Not sure	4%

31. Do you feel the protest marches led by Martin Luther King in the 1960's speeded up civil rights legislation, slowed it down, or didn't make much difference one way or the other?

Speeded up civil rights legislation	74%
Slowed down civil rights legislation	8%
Didn't make much of a difference one way or the other	18%

32. Do you have to work on Martin Luther King’s birthday?

Yes	39%
No	51%
Not sure	10%

33. Are the public schools in your community open on Martin Luther King’s birthday?

Yes	15%
No	58%
Not sure	28%

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

Expanded	33%
Kept the same	13%
Repealed	44%
Not sure	10%

35. 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	19%
More of a failure than a success	27%
Equal amount of both failure and success	18%
More of a success than a failure	23%
A complete success	3%
Too early to tell	5%
Not sure	5%

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

Increased	48%
Remained the same	21%
Decreased	19%
Don't know	11%

37. 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	47%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people	18%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	17%
Not sure	18%

38. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	85%
No	15%

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

Yes	79%
No	21%

40. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	69%	27%	3%	0%
Immigration	44%	35%	16%	4%
The environment	38%	37%	19%	6%
Terrorism	56%	29%	12%	3%
Gay rights	20%	25%	25%	29%
Education	54%	36%	8%	2%
Health care	58%	32%	9%	2%
Social security	60%	27%	10%	3%
The budget deficit	50%	34%	11%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	28%	40%	24%	7%
Taxes	57%	34%	7%	1%
Medicare	51%	30%	15%	4%
Abortion	33%	30%	21%	16%
Foreign policy	39%	43%	15%	3%

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

The economy	26%
Immigration	6%
The environment	4%
Terrorism	9%
Gay rights	2%
Education	7%
Health care	9%
Social security	16%
The budget deficit	6%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	5%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	5%
Foreign policy	2%

42. 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%	25%	11%	38%	3%
Joe Biden	15%	29%	16%	30%	10%
John Boehner	4%	23%	20%	33%	20%
Mitch McConnell	6%	20%	22%	24%	28%
Harry Reid	6%	20%	17%	31%	26%
Nancy Pelosi	10%	22%	10%	39%	18%

43. 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	13%	26%	18%	21%	23%
Chris Christie	8%	28%	19%	26%	20%
Paul Ryan	13%	24%	15%	26%	22%
Jeb Bush	6%	28%	19%	26%	20%
Mike Huckabee	14%	24%	13%	25%	23%
Marco Rubio	11%	22%	12%	25%	29%
Hillary Clinton	22%	26%	10%	35%	7%
Elizabeth Warren	21%	13%	12%	24%	29%
Ted Cruz	14%	18%	13%	28%	26%
Scott Walker	14%	16%	9%	22%	39%
Brian Schweitzer	2%	11%	7%	6%	74%
Rick Perry	8%	27%	13%	24%	27%
Bernie Sanders	12%	11%	9%	14%	55%
Martin O'Malley	2%	9%	8%	9%	73%
Jim Webb	3%	12%	11%	8%	66%
Mitt Romney	16%	26%	16%	34%	9%
Lindsey Graham	4%	19%	13%	24%	40%
Ben Carson	15%	15%	9%	13%	48%

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

Strongly approve	18%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	5%

45. 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	19%	23%	15%	34%	10%
Immigration	19%	22%	11%	39%	9%
The environment	17%	28%	12%	28%	14%
Terrorism	19%	25%	13%	33%	10%
Gay rights	19%	25%	9%	28%	18%
Education	22%	28%	12%	28%	10%
Health care	23%	19%	11%	40%	7%
Social security	14%	26%	14%	29%	18%
The war in Afghanistan	16%	25%	17%	31%	11%
The budget deficit	17%	23%	13%	37%	9%
Taxes	13%	25%	14%	33%	14%
Medicare	17%	26%	14%	29%	13%
Abortion	15%	24%	9%	29%	23%
Foreign policy	15%	27%	12%	35%	11%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	13%
Neither approve nor disapprove	17%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	7%

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

Better off now	25%
About the same	35%
Worse off now	32%
Not sure	7%

48. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	35%
Liberal	23%
Moderate	25%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	9%

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

Very strong	17%
Somewhat strong	30%
Somewhat weak	20%
Very weak	33%

50. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	42%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	48%
Not sure	10%

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

Like a lot	34%
Like somewhat	26%
Dislike	30%
Not sure	10%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	39%	32%	28%
Bold	23%	57%	19%
Effective	20%	47%	33%
Exciting	15%	60%	26%
Experienced	16%	49%	35%
Honest	29%	33%	38%
Hypocritical	35%	42%	23%
Inspiring	30%	41%	29%
Intelligent	51%	31%	18%
Partisan	25%	60%	15%
Patriotic	25%	43%	33%
Religious	11%	60%	29%
Sincere	26%	44%	30%
Steady	25%	54%	22%
Strong	23%	46%	31%

53. 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%

54. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	29%
Don't know	2%

55. If you had to choose one, which of these individuals would you want to be the Republican nominee for president in 2016?

Asked only of registered voters

Rand Paul	8%
Chris Christie	8%
Paul Ryan	2%
Jeb Bush	8%
Mike Huckabee	4%
Marco Rubio	2%
Ted Cruz	6%
Scott Walker	4%
Rick Perry	2%
Mitt Romney	12%
Lindsey Graham	1%
Ben Carson	8%
Other	7%
No preference	28%

56. If the choice was between Mitt Romney and Jeb Bush, which one would you want to be the Republican nominee for president in 2016?

Asked only of registered voters

Jeb Bush	26%
Mitt Romney	38%
No preference	36%

57. If you had to choose one, which of these individuals would you want to be the Democratic nominee for president in 2016?

Asked only of registered voters

Joe Biden	11%
Hillary Clinton	31%
Elizabeth Warren	14%
Brian Schweitzer	2%
Bernie Sanders	3%
Martin O'Malley	1%
Jim Webb	4%
Other	5%
No preference	30%

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

Asked only of registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	40%
The Republican Party candidate	37%
Other	2%
Not sure	18%
I would not vote	3%

59. 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	11%
Somewhat approve	20%
Neither approve nor disapprove	21%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	17%
Not sure	17%

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

Getting better	32%
About the same	36%
Getting worse	26%
Not sure	5%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	22%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	48%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	26%
Not sure	4%

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

Owned by you or your family	63%
Rented from someone else	34%
Other	3%

63. 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	25%
Stayed about the same	47%
Decreased	17%
Not sure	10%

64. 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	35%
Stayed about the same	33%
Decreased	14%
Not sure	18%

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

Will increase a lot	5%
Will increase a little	33%
Will stay about the same	33%
Will decrease a little	9%
Will decrease a lot	2%
Not sure	19%

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

Asked of those who own their own homes

Very worried	6%
Somewhat worried	22%
Not worried	35%
Don't have mortgage payments	37%

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

Will definitely buy a home	5%
Am considering buying a home	13%
Not looking for a home now	83%

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

More jobs	23%
The same amount of jobs	43%
Fewer jobs	22%
Not sure	12%

69. 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	11%
Military Household - Family served previously	37%
Military Household - None	49%

70. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

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

Strongly support	12%
Somewhat support	20%
Neither support, nor oppose	19%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	24%
Not sure	16%

72. Education

No high school	10%
High school graduate	30%
Some college	25%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	8%

73. Age

18-29	23%
30-44	27%
45-64	33%
65+	16%

74. Race

White	65%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Other	10%

75. Region

Northeast	18%
Midwest	22%
South	38%
West	23%

76. Party Identification

Democratic	37%
Independent	34%
Republican	29%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	January 10-12, 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 to 6.2, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.18.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.8% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.