

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents

Conducted August 9-11, 2014

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	41%
Some of the time	34%
Only now and then	15%
Hardly at all	8%
Don't know	2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	25%
Off on the wrong track	61%
Not sure	15%

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

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

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

Yes	53%
No	27%
Not sure	20%

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

Yes 32%
No 50%
Not sure 18%

6. Do you think the United States is making a mistake now by conducting air strikes against ISIS fighters?

Yes 22%
No 49%
Not sure 28%

7. Does the US have a responsibility to get involved in Iraq now?

Yes 38%
No 39%
Not sure 23%

8. Does the US have a responsibility to use military force to prevent humanitarian crises around the world?

Yes 39%
No 35%
Not sure 26%

9. Is bringing peace to the Middle East something a president can do a lot about, or is that beyond any president's control?

Yes, the President can do a lot 24%
No, it is beyond the President's control 60%
Don't know 15%

10. In the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, are your sympathies more with...?

The Israelis	35%
About equal	28%
The Palestinians	11%
Not sure	26%

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling Iraq?

Strongly approve	11%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	23%
No opinion	17%

12. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling Israel?

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	28%
No opinion	23%

13. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the conflict in Ukraine?

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	26%
No opinion	24%

14. In your opinion, how important are the following international news stories?

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not important at all	Hadn't heard about this	Not sure
Israeli-Palestinian fighting in the Gaza strip	49%	31%	8%	3%	2%	7%
Fighting between Ukrainian government and pro-Russia separatists	38%	38%	9%	4%	3%	8%
Ebola outbreak in western Africa	53%	29%	6%	3%	2%	6%
US air strikes on ISIS fighters in Iraq	54%	28%	5%	3%	2%	8%

15. Do you approve or disapprove of medical charities sending doctors, nurses, and medical supplies to western Africa to treat victims of the ebola outbreak?

Approve	75%
Disapprove	10%
Not sure	15%

16. Does the US have a responsibility to help countries in western Africa contain the ebola outbreak and help treat its victims?

Yes	53%
No	29%
Not sure	18%

17. If any American medical personnel become infected with ebola while treating victims in Africa, should the ebola infected American medical personnel be allowed to return to the US for treatment, or not?

Should be allowed to return to the US	54%
Should <u>not</u> be allowed to return to the US	28%
Not sure	18%

18. How concerned are you that the ebola outbreak in western Africa could spread to the United States?

Very concerned	28%
Somewhat concerned	41%
Not very concerned	22%
Not concerned at all	9%

19. How confident are you that there will not be a large ebola outbreak in the US?

Very confident	23%
Somewhat confident	45%
Not very confident	22%
Not confident at all	10%

20. How closely have you been following the news about the return of two American aid workers infected with ebola while helping victims of the outbreak in Africa for treatment at a hospital in Atlanta, Georgia?

Very closely	20%
Somewhat closely	51%
Not very closely	19%
Not closely at all	10%

21. On the subject of climate change do you think:

The world's climate is changing as a result of human activity	54%
The world's climate is changing but NOT because of human activity	24%
The world's climate is NOT changing	9%
Not sure	13%

22. How sure are you that the world's climate is changing as a result of human activity?
Asked of those who believe the worlds' climate is changing because of human activity

Absolutely sure	21%
Pretty sure	21%
Somewhat sure	9%
Not very sure	2%
Not sure at all	0%
Believes climate change is not a result of human activity	24%
Believes climate is not changing	9%
Not sure about climate change	13%

23. How sure are you that the world's climate is changing but NOT because of human activity?
Asked of those who believe the worlds' climate is changing, but not because of human activity

Absolutely sure	7%
Pretty sure	8%
Somewhat sure	6%
Not very sure	2%
Not sure at all	0%
Believes climate change is a result of human activity	54%
Believes climate is not changing	9%
Not sure about climate change	13%

24. How sure are you that the world's climate is NOT changing?

Asked of those who believe the world's climate is not changing

Absolutely sure	2%
Pretty sure	4%
Somewhat sure	2%
Not very sure	1%
Not sure at all	0%
Believes climate change is a result of human activity	54%
Believes climate change is not a result of human activity	24%
Not sure about climate change	13%

25. To the best of your knowledge, do you think there is a consensus in the scientific community that climate change is occurring and is mainly caused by human activity?

Yes	54%
No	25%
Not sure	21%

26. Would you say that you personally have felt the effects of climate change, or not?

Yes, I have	44%
No, I have not	36%
Not sure	20%

27. Do you think that you personally will feel the effects of climate change in your lifetime, or not?

Yes, I will	57%
No, I will not	24%
Not sure	19%

28. Do you think climate change will do any of the following within your lifetime? (Check all that apply.)

Cause rising sea levels that threaten coastal areas	50%
Cause more frequent or intense storms such as hurricanes	57%
Make it more difficult for farmers to grow their crops	53%
Make certain areas harder for humans to live in	48%
None of these	24%

29. Do you think the world's most developed countries have a greater responsibility to control greenhouse gases and pollution than less developed countries do?

Yes	60%
No	27%
Not sure	13%

30. Which statement comes closer to your opinion?

As the world's leading industrial country, the United States should avoid measures to control greenhouse gases and pollution that could make it less competitive in the global economy.	19%
As the world's leading industrial country, the United States has a responsibility to control greenhouse gases and pollution, even if that makes it less competitive in the global economy.	53%
Not sure	28%

31. Do you think governments and countries can take actions that will significantly slow the speed of climate change?

Yes	47%
No	30%
Not sure	23%

32. Do you agree or disagree that developed countries have a responsibility to help poorer nations with the effects of climate change?

Strongly agree	21%
Somewhat agree	34%
Somewhat disagree	17%
Strongly disagree	13%
Not sure	15%

33. How much do you trust the following groups to tell the truth about climate change?

	Completely	A lot	A moderate amount	A little	Not at all
Climate scientists	21%	22%	26%	14%	16%
Republican politicians	3%	6%	19%	22%	49%
Democratic politicians	6%	11%	24%	17%	42%
Military officials	5%	12%	32%	22%	29%
Federal government officials	4%	7%	27%	20%	42%
State government officials	4%	6%	28%	27%	35%
Representatives from oil and gas companies	3%	4%	19%	19%	54%

34. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling climate change?

Strongly approve	9%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	25%
No opinion	27%

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

Expanded	31%
Kept the same	16%
Repealed	41%
Not sure	12%

36. 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	21%
More of a failure than a success	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success	17%
More of a success than a failure	19%
A complete success	4%
Too early to tell	9%
Not sure	8%

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

Increased	47%
Remained the same	21%
Decreased	17%
Don't know	15%

38. 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	44%
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	14%
Not sure	25%

39. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	74%	23%	2%	1%
Immigration	52%	33%	10%	5%
The environment	48%	31%	16%	5%
Terrorism	55%	30%	12%	4%
Gay rights	25%	24%	18%	34%
Education	64%	27%	6%	3%
Health care	63%	30%	7%	1%
Social security	64%	29%	6%	1%
The budget deficit	53%	33%	11%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	28%	44%	21%	7%
Taxes	57%	33%	8%	2%
Medicare	56%	33%	10%	1%
Abortion	36%	31%	17%	16%
Foreign policy	36%	45%	15%	4%

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

The economy	24%
Immigration	11%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	5%
Gay rights	4%
Education	9%
Health care	8%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	3%
Foreign policy	1%

41. 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	25%	23%	10%	35%	6%
Joe Biden	18%	25%	14%	28%	15%
John Boehner	5%	17%	20%	32%	26%
Mitch McConnell	4%	14%	18%	27%	37%
Harry Reid	6%	17%	13%	31%	33%
Nancy Pelosi	8%	19%	12%	35%	26%
John Kerry	12%	29%	14%	26%	19%

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
Rand Paul	11%	22%	16%	20%	30%
Chris Christie	8%	22%	25%	22%	23%
Paul Ryan	12%	19%	15%	25%	29%
Jeb Bush	8%	23%	21%	23%	26%
Mike Huckabee	15%	19%	17%	21%	29%
Marco Rubio	11%	19%	16%	18%	36%
Hillary Clinton	26%	26%	11%	29%	8%
Elizabeth Warren	16%	14%	11%	18%	40%
Ted Cruz	14%	16%	12%	26%	32%
Scott Walker	11%	15%	10%	19%	46%
Brian Schweitzer	4%	11%	12%	7%	66%
Rick Perry	11%	22%	12%	24%	30%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	30%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Not sure	6%

44. 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	16%	25%	13%	35%	10%
Immigration	14%	22%	13%	39%	13%
The environment	14%	26%	14%	28%	18%
Terrorism	17%	24%	16%	29%	15%
Gay rights	21%	21%	9%	29%	21%
Education	15%	28%	14%	25%	18%
Health care	21%	21%	11%	37%	9%
Social security	15%	22%	16%	29%	19%
The war in Afghanistan	14%	25%	17%	29%	15%
The budget deficit	14%	21%	15%	37%	13%
Taxes	15%	21%	13%	34%	16%
Medicare	14%	23%	17%	28%	19%
Abortion	16%	21%	11%	26%	26%
Foreign policy	12%	26%	17%	31%	15%

45. 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	16%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	42%
Not sure	8%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	35%
Conservative	31%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	1%

47. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	36%
Liberal	19%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	11%

48. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	39%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	46%
Not sure	15%

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

Like a lot	33%
Like somewhat	28%
Dislike	29%
Not sure	10%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	37%	33%	30%
Bold	23%	53%	24%
Effective	19%	46%	35%
Exciting	13%	63%	24%
Experienced	18%	49%	33%
Honest	27%	37%	36%
Hypocritical	33%	42%	25%
Inspiring	25%	47%	27%
Intelligent	53%	30%	17%
Partisan	21%	64%	15%
Patriotic	26%	44%	30%
Religious	13%	58%	30%
Sincere	31%	40%	29%
Steady	23%	55%	22%
Strong	28%	43%	29%

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

Getting better	24%
About the same	38%
Getting worse	34%
Not sure	5%

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

More jobs	18%
The same amount of jobs	43%
Fewer jobs	26%
Not sure	14%

53. 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	14%
Military Household - Family served previously	37%
Military Household - None	48%

54. Gender

Male	50%
Female	50%

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

Strongly support	13%
Somewhat support	17%
Neither support, nor oppose	21%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	25%
Not sure	16%

56. Education

No high school	10%
High school graduate	32%
Some college	22%
2-year college	11%
4-year college	16%
Post-graduate	8%

57. Age

18-29	24%
30-44	27%
45-64	34%
65+	15%

58. Race

White	67%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Other	7%

59. Region

Northeast	19%
Midwest	21%
South	38%
West	22%

60. Party Identification

Democratic	39%
Independent	37%
Republican	24%

61. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	73%
No	27%
Don't know	0%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	August 9-11, 2014
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 5.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.11.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.6% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.