

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted September 14-16, 2013
Margin of Error $\pm 4.5\%$

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	43%
Some of the time	31%
Only now and then	15%
Hardly at all	11%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	26%
Off on the wrong track	57%
Not sure	17%

3. Please indicate if you know personally... (Check all that apply)

	Yes, and that person is me	Yes, I know someone like this	No, don't know anyone like this
Someone who died in Iraq or Afghanistan	0%	13%	87%
Someone who dropped out of high school	11%	58%	31%
Someone who is a millionaire	1%	36%	63%
Someone who owns stock in the stock market	20%	41%	38%
Anyone who is Israeli?	0%	19%	80%
Anyone who doesn't have health care?	14%	57%	28%
Anyone who died in 9/11?	0%	8%	92%
Anyone who lost his or her job in the financial crisis?	7%	52%	41%
Anyone who has served in the military?	15%	69%	16%
Anyone who has served in Iraq?	1%	49%	50%
Anyone who has served in Afghanistan?	1%	42%	57%
Anyone who is Palestinian?	0%	11%	88%

4. Which of the following countries do you consider to be a friend or an enemy of the United States?

	Ally of U.S.	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy of the U.S.	Not sure
Russia	4%	14%	43%	14%	25%
Iraq	2%	12%	38%	23%	25%
Egypt	6%	17%	33%	9%	35%
Israel	50%	15%	8%	4%	23%
Jordan	14%	24%	18%	6%	37%
Iran	1%	3%	23%	53%	21%
Syria	1%	1%	36%	40%	22%
Turkey	16%	26%	18%	5%	35%
Lebanon	2%	12%	33%	13%	40%

5. Do you support or oppose the use of military force against Syria?

Strongly support	6%
Somewhat support	14%
Somewhat oppose	22%
Strongly oppose	40%
Not sure	18%

6. How much have you heard about a proposal for the Syrian government to surrender its chemical weapons stockpile in order to prevent US military strikes?

Heard a lot	40%
Heard a little	46%
Heard nothing at all	14%

7. Do you trust the Russian government's attempt to negotiate a peaceful resolution of the Syrian chemical weapons crisis?

Yes, I trust the Russian government	14%
No, I do not trust the Russian government	54%
Not sure	32%

8. Do you think the Syrian government will surrender its chemical weapons stockpile in order to prevent a U.S. military strike?

Yes	19%
No	43%
Not sure	38%

9. Do you think the Syrian government is negotiating in good faith or do you think they are just stalling?

Negotiating in good faith	10%
Stalling	60%
Not sure	29%

10. Should the U.S. threaten to use military force if the Syrian government refuses to surrender its chemical weapons stockpile or should the U.S. stay out of the conflict?

Use military force if Syrians refuse to surrender	23%
Stay out	52%
Not sure	25%

11. Will President Obama order military action against the government of Syria if they refuse to disarm?

Yes	45%
No	14%
Not sure	41%

12. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama is handling the situation in Syria?

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	20%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	37%
No opinion	20%

13. How much have you heard about the term "American exceptionalism"?

Heard a lot	23%
Heard a little	28%
Heard nothing at all	49%

14. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The United States is unique and unlike any other nation.	26%	45%	12%	13%	4%
The United States is like the biblical shining "City upon a Hill"?	5%	15%	40%	24%	15%
The United States is morally better than most other countries.	11%	23%	22%	30%	13%
The United States is free of rigid class distinctions.	4%	14%	24%	38%	19%

15. Did the financial crisis of 2008 have much of an impact on you personally?

A serious effect	41%
Not a very serious effect.	47%
Not sure	12%

16. How much responsibility do you think the following groups have for CAUSING the financial crisis of 2008?

	A great deal	Some	Only a little	None	Not sure
Wall Street companies	56%	23%	7%	3%	11%
Major banks and financial institutions	66%	19%	4%	2%	9%
The Securities Exchange Commission and other government agencies	42%	35%	5%	3%	16%
The Obama Administration	22%	18%	14%	34%	12%
The Bush Administration	37%	28%	16%	7%	12%
American consumers	14%	34%	25%	16%	11%

17. In your opinion, has the United States recovered from the financial crisis of 2008?

Has recovered	8%
Has yet to recover	67%
Will never recover	12%
Not sure	13%

18. In your opinion, do the American people currently focus too much or too little on the financial crisis of 2008?

Too much	12%
About the right amount	32%
Too little	33%
Not sure	24%

19. What do you think are the chances of another financial crisis in the next 12 months?

Very likely (more than 50%)	18%
Somewhat likely (10% to 50%)	38%
Not very likely (1% to 10%)	22%
Very unlikely (less than 1%)	3%
Not sure	18%

20. Do you think the policies of the Obama Administration have made the United States more or less safe from another financial crisis?

More safe	19%
No effect	22%
Less safe	40%
Not sure	20%

21. Smart Phone

Yes	49%
No	51%

22. To your best understanding, what operating system does your primary handset use?

Apple	15%
Symbian	0%
Windows Mobile	3%
Google Android	31%
BlackBerry	3%
Palm	0%
Linux	1%
Other system	2%
Don't know	17%
My phone does not have an operating system	28%

23. How much have you heard about the new iPhone models introduced this week?

Heard a lot	15%
Heard a little	54%
Heard nothing at all	31%

24. When you think of Apple, do you think it is..

A company that is better today than it used to be.	17%
Pretty much the same as it has always been.	46%
Not as good today as it used to be	18%
Not sure	19%

25. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following companies?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	No opinion	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable
Wal-Mart	20%	32%	16%	16%	16%
Exxon Mobil Corporation	7%	19%	40%	17%	16%
Chevron	7%	20%	50%	13%	10%
Samsung	29%	35%	30%	5%	1%
McDonald's	12%	39%	21%	17%	11%
IBM	14%	35%	41%	8%	2%
UPS	29%	42%	22%	6%	1%
Target	21%	42%	23%	9%	4%
Hewlett-Packard	23%	36%	30%	9%	3%
Apple	21%	36%	24%	12%	7%
Microsoft	26%	39%	19%	11%	4%
Google	29%	35%	20%	10%	6%
Yahoo	19%	39%	29%	9%	4%
Nokia	11%	34%	48%	6%	2%
HTC	9%	22%	61%	5%	3%

26. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	75%	20%	4%	1%
Immigration	42%	34%	17%	6%
The environment	45%	30%	16%	9%
Terrorism	47%	30%	18%	5%
Gay rights	20%	23%	21%	36%
Education	63%	25%	9%	3%
Health care	70%	23%	5%	2%
Social security	62%	28%	8%	2%
The budget deficit	56%	30%	10%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	30%	38%	22%	10%
Taxes	58%	32%	7%	3%
Medicare	55%	31%	10%	4%
Abortion	31%	33%	19%	17%

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

The economy	29%
Immigration	5%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	2%
Gay rights	1%
Education	11%
Health care	15%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	8%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	2%

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

The economy	11%
Immigration	13%
The environment	2%
Terrorism	2%
Gay rights	0%
Education	2%
Health care	27%
Social security	31%
The budget deficit	0%
The war in Afghanistan	3%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	0%
Abortion	5%

29. 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%	24%	9%	37%	7%
John Boehner	4%	14%	19%	32%	30%
Mitch McConnell	3%	15%	17%	27%	39%
Harry Reid	5%	16%	13%	31%	35%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	18%	14%	35%	24%
Joe Biden	19%	20%	13%	30%	19%
Hillary Clinton	26%	22%	11%	29%	12%

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

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	7%

31. 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	12%	24%	15%	37%	12%
Immigration	11%	22%	14%	36%	17%
The environment	11%	26%	19%	26%	18%
Terrorism	17%	27%	14%	29%	14%
Gay rights	19%	20%	9%	30%	22%
Education	14%	26%	15%	27%	18%
Health care	21%	19%	10%	42%	9%
Social security	12%	21%	19%	30%	18%
The war in Afghanistan	14%	23%	17%	29%	16%
The budget deficit	11%	23%	13%	39%	14%
Taxes	10%	21%	16%	36%	17%
Medicare	12%	23%	16%	32%	17%
Abortion	13%	20%	11%	29%	27%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	7%
Neither approve nor disapprove	14%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	49%
Not sure	10%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	31%
Conservative	25%
Very conservative	10%
Not sure	10%

34. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	34%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	24%
Conservative	3%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	16%

35. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	49%
Not sure	13%

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

Like a lot	29%
Like somewhat	28%
Dislike	31%
Not sure	12%

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

Getting better	25%
About the same	35%
Getting worse	31%
Not sure	9%

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

Higher	19%
About the same	34%
Lower	21%
Not sure	26%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	17%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	45%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	34%
Not sure	5%

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

Owned by you or your family	57%
Rented from someone else	41%
Other	2%

41. Do you think the value of your home has increased or decreased in the last year?

Increased	23%
Stayed about the same	43%
Decreased	25%
Not sure	9%

42. Do you think home prices in your area have increased or decreased in the last year?

Increased	36%
Stayed about the same	26%
Decreased	11%
Not sure	27%

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

Will increase a lot	6%
Will increase a little	35%
Will stay about the same	27%
Will decrease a little	10%
Will decrease a lot	4%
Not sure	19%

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

Very worried	8%
Somewhat worried	20%
Not worried	37%
Don't have mortgage payments	35%

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

Will definitely buy a home	3%
Am considering buying a home	12%
Not looking for a home now	85%

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

Yes	26%
No	74%

47. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	25%
Don't know	6%

48. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student	2%
Part-time student	5%
Not a student	94%

49. Do you have a job outside of school?

Full-time job	52%
Part-time job	44%
No job outside of school	4%

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

Full-time employed	37%
Part-time employed	13%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	12%
Retired	19%
Permanently disabled	8%
Homemaker	10%
Other	1%

51. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	18%
No	82%

52. In a typical week, about how many hours do you work for pay?

Mean 18

53. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried 11%
Somewhat worried 31%
Not very worried 58%

54. 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. 37%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.
..... 37%
Not very hard 18%
Not sure 9%

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

More jobs 16%
The same amount of jobs 40%
Fewer jobs 27%
Not sure 17%

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

Very happy 21%
Happy 32%
Neither happy nor unhappy 31%
Unhappy 11%
Very unhappy 6%

57. How would you guess your total family income to be six months from now?

Higher	17%
Same	69%
Lower	14%

58. If you lost your job, how long would it be before you exhausted your savings?

I don't have any savings	37%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	17%
I could last a few months on my savings	23%
I could last a year on my savings	10%
I could last more than a year on my savings	13%

59. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

60. Education

No high school	11%
High school graduate	31%
Some college	24%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	16%
Post-graduate	8%

61. Age

18-29	23%
30-44	30%
45-64	30%
65+	17%

62. Race

White	65%
Black	15%
Hispanic	12%
Other	9%

63. Region

Northeast	20%
Midwest	23%
South	34%
West	23%

64. Party Identification

Democrat	34%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	27%
Lean Republican	8%
Republican	21%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	September 14-16, 2013
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 8, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.06.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.5% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.