

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents

Conducted March 22-24, 2014

Margin of Error  $\pm 4\%$

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	45%
Some of the time	32%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	9%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	29%
Off on the wrong track	57%
Not sure	14%

3. How closely have you been following recent events going on in Ukraine?

Very closely	17%
Somewhat closely	42%
Not very closely	25%
Not closely at all	15%

4. Do you think the U.S. should get involved in Russia's dispute with Ukraine, or not?

Yes	22%
No	56%
Not sure	22%

5. Should the US formally recognize the results of the Crimean secession vote, or not?

Yes .....	25%
No .....	38%
Not sure .....	37%

6. Do you approve or disapprove of Russia's plan to annex Crimea?

Approve strongly .....	5%
Approve somewhat .....	10%
Disapprove somewhat .....	23%
Disapprove strongly .....	30%
Not sure .....	32%

7. How important is it to the United States to maintain friendly relations with Russia?

Very important .....	32%
Somewhat important .....	47%
Not very important .....	9%
Not important at all .....	4%
Not sure .....	8%

8. Which is more important, punishing Russia for its aggressive policy against Ukraine or maintaining good relations with Russia so they will help the US find solutions to problems with Syria and Iran?

Punishing Russia for its aggression .....	38%
Maintaining good relations with Russia .....	62%

9. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia?

Very favorable	3%
Somewhat favorable	12%
Somewhat unfavorable	30%
Very unfavorable	35%
Don't know	20%

10. Would you say Vladimir Putin is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	35%
Somewhat strong	45%
Somewhat weak	15%
Very weak	5%

11. Since Vladimir Putin became the Russian leader, do you think Russia has become more friendly towards the United States, less friendly to the United States, or has there been no change in relations?

More friendly	6%
No change	25%
Less friendly	51%
Not sure	18%

12. Do you think Vladimir Putin poses a threat to the United States?

Yes	49%
No	26%
Not sure	25%

**13. Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama’s handling of the crisis in Ukraine?**

Approve strongly .....	9%
Approve somewhat .....	15%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	22%
Disapprove somewhat .....	16%
Disapprove strongly .....	24%
Not sure .....	14%

**14. Do you think US intelligence agencies are doing all they could reasonably be expected to do to monitor the actions of suspected terrorists, or could they be doing more?**

Doing all they can .....	39%
Could do more .....	43%
Not sure .....	18%

**15. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency)?**

Very favorable .....	10%
Somewhat favorable .....	42%
Somewhat unfavorable .....	22%
Very unfavorable .....	12%
Don’t know .....	14%

**16. Do you think it is sometimes justified for the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) to resort to assassination, or is that never justified?**

Sometimes justified .....	54%
Never justified .....	24%
Don’t know .....	22%

17. Do you agree or disagree that the CIA can usually be trusted to make decisions that are right for the country as a whole?

Agree strongly	8%
Agree somewhat	40%
Disagree somewhat	24%
Disagree strongly	13%
Not sure	14%

18. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job of monitoring the actions of the CIA?

Approve strongly	5%
Approve somewhat	22%
Disapprove somewhat	25%
Disapprove strongly	21%
Not sure	27%

19. Which organization do you trust more to do what is right for the country, the Congress or the CIA?

Congress	10%
CIA	24%
Both equally	16%
Neither	40%
Don't know	10%

20. Do you personally know anybody who is gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender?

Yes	75%
No	25%

21. Which of these statements comes closer to your opinion:

Homosexuality is a way of life that should be accepted by society	63%
Homosexuality is a way of life that should be discouraged by society	37%

22. Do you think being homosexual is something a person chooses to be, or do you think it is something a person cannot change?

Homosexuality is a choice ..... 43%  
 Homosexuality is not a choice ..... 57%

23. Overall, how much social acceptance, if any, of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people do you think there is in this country today?

A lot ..... 28%  
 Some ..... 49%  
 Only a little ..... 19%  
 None at all ..... 4%

24. How closely have you been following the news about several federal court decisions around the country declaring different states' bans on same-sex marriage unconstitutional?

Very closely ..... 15%  
 Somewhat closely ..... 42%  
 Not very closely ..... 30%  
 Not at all ..... 12%

25. Which comes closest to your view?

Gay and Lesbian couples should be allowed to marry. .... 41%  
 Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry. 25%  
 There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship. .... 24%  
 Not sure ..... 11%

26. Who should decide same-sex marriage?

Federal government ..... 50%  
 State governments ..... 50%

27. Do you think gay marriage will be legal in the entire country thirty years from now?

Yes .....	77%
No .....	23%

28. Did the President expressing his support for gay marriage make you think more favorably of him, less favorably of him, or did it not affect your opinion of Barack Obama?

More favorably .....	21%
Did not affect your opinion .....	45%
Less favorably .....	30%
Not sure .....	4%

29. Do you think the Republican Party's position on gay marriage is too conservative, not conservative enough, or about right?

Too conservative .....	36%
About right .....	24%
Not conservative enough .....	17%
Not sure .....	23%

30. Do you think the Democratic Party's position on gay marriage is too liberal, not liberal enough, or about right?

Too liberal .....	34%
About right .....	33%
Not liberal enough .....	10%
Not sure .....	23%

31. Does the Republican Party or the Democratic Party come closer to your views on gay marriage?

Republican Party .....	22%
Democratic Party .....	35%
Neither .....	23%
Both equally .....	5%
Not sure .....	15%

32. Do you think President Barack Obama uses too much power, not enough power, or the right amount of power?

Too much power .....	41%
The right amount of power .....	26%
Not enough power .....	23%
Not sure .....	10%

33. Would you say Barack Obama was a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong .....	16%
Somewhat strong .....	32%
Somewhat weak .....	23%
Very weak .....	29%

34. 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 .....	30%
More of a failure than a success .....	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success .....	18%
More of a success than a failure .....	14%
A complete success .....	2%
Too early to tell .....	11%
Not sure .....	4%



35. Have you heard mostly positive or mostly negative news stories about the healthcare law, or have you not heard much news at all about the healthcare law?

Mostly positive .....	9%
Equally positive and negative .....	29%
Mostly negative .....	54%
Not heard much news at all .....	8%

36. When you have discussed the new healthcare law with your friends and family, has the discussion been mostly positive or mostly negative, or have you not discussed the healthcare law at all with your friends and family?

Mostly positive .....	15%
Equally positive and negative .....	20%
Mostly negative .....	49%
Not discussed at all .....	17%

37. Have you been personally affected by the new healthcare law?

Yes .....	33%
No .....	54%
Not sure .....	13%

38. Has the new health care law made your life better or worse?

*Asked of those who reported being personally affected by the new health care law*

Better .....	6%
About the same .....	4%
Worse .....	20%
Not sure .....	2%
Has not been personally affected by the law .....	54%
Not sure if they have been personally affected .....	13%

39. Has at least one of your close relatives been personally affected by the new health care law?

Yes .....	36%
No .....	39%
Not sure .....	26%

40. Thinking about the close relative who has been personally affected by the new health care law, has their life been made better or worse?

*Asked of those who reported a close relative has been personally affected by the new health care law*

Better .....	8%
About the same .....	4%
Worse .....	22%
Has not been personally affected by the law .....	39%
Not sure if they have been personally affected .....	26%
Not sure .....	2%

41. Have you tried to visit the federal health insurance exchange website, healthcare.gov?

Yes .....	28%
No .....	68%
Not sure .....	4%

42. Which month was your most recent visit to healthcare.gov?

October .....	1%
November .....	4%
December .....	4%
January .....	5%
February .....	5%
March .....	5%
Has not tried to visit the federal website .....	68%
Not sure about visiting the federal website .....	4%
I don't remember .....	3%

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

Expanded .....	24%
Kept the same .....	13%
Repealed .....	46%
Not sure .....	17%

**44. What do you think is the most likely action Congress will take on the new healthcare law?**

Repeal the Affordable Care Act and not replace it with anything else .....	20%
Replace the Affordable Care Act with something better .....	34%
Replace the Affordable Care Act with something worse .....	9%
Leave the Affordable Care Act as it is .....	37%

**45. Do you have health insurance?**

Yes .....	79%
No .....	21%

**46. Which of the following best describes your primary health insurance?**

*Asked of those who reported having health insurance*

I have health insurance that is provided through my or a family member's employer, union, school, trade group or professional association .....	37%
I have health insurance provided through Medicare .....	15%
I have health insurance that I or a family member purchased directly from the health insurance company or HMO, not through an employer, union, school, trade group or professional association .....	9%
I have health insurance through the military or through VA Benefits .....	4%
I have health insurance that is provided through a government health program, such as Medicaid .....	10%
Does not have health insurance .....	21%
Prefer not to say .....	4%

**47. Did you have health insurance before January 1, 2014?**

Yes .....	76%
No .....	22%
Not sure .....	2%

**48. How important are the following issues to you?**

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	77%	18%	3%	2%
Immigration	40%	35%	17%	8%
The environment	41%	31%	17%	10%
Terrorism	57%	28%	10%	5%
Gay rights	20%	25%	23%	31%
Education	59%	28%	8%	6%
Health care	60%	29%	8%	3%
Social security	58%	30%	9%	4%
The budget deficit	54%	32%	9%	6%
The war in Afghanistan	25%	38%	26%	10%
Taxes	60%	31%	6%	4%
Medicare	47%	35%	15%	3%
Abortion	35%	28%	22%	15%

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

The economy	32%
Immigration	4%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	4%
Gay rights	3%
Education	9%
Health care	11%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	6%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	3%

50. 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	24%	24%	13%	35%	3%
Joe Biden	18%	27%	13%	31%	12%
John Boehner	4%	19%	21%	30%	25%
Mitch McConnell	5%	16%	17%	26%	36%
Harry Reid	6%	17%	13%	33%	31%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	18%	10%	38%	22%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Ted Cruz	16%	16%	11%	24%	33%
Scott Walker	14%	14%	12%	17%	44%
Rand Paul	18%	18%	12%	22%	30%
Jeb Bush	10%	23%	15%	24%	27%
Marco Rubio	11%	23%	12%	21%	33%
Chris Christie	8%	25%	22%	21%	24%

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

Strongly approve	14%
Somewhat approve	30%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Not sure	4%

53. 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	14%	26%	15%	35%	9%
Immigration	12%	22%	18%	33%	15%
The environment	12%	27%	16%	25%	18%
Terrorism	19%	27%	15%	25%	14%
Gay rights	18%	23%	14%	29%	15%
Education	14%	27%	19%	24%	15%
Health care	21%	19%	11%	40%	10%
Social security	13%	25%	17%	26%	18%
The war in Afghanistan	14%	25%	19%	25%	16%
The budget deficit	11%	24%	14%	38%	13%
Taxes	11%	27%	17%	31%	14%
Medicare	15%	24%	17%	26%	18%
Abortion	13%	23%	12%	26%	26%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	8%
Neither approve nor disapprove	19%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	43%
Not sure	5%

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

Very liberal .....	6%
Liberal .....	17%
Moderate .....	37%
Conservative .....	29%
Very conservative .....	9%
Not sure .....	2%

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

Very liberal .....	38%
Liberal .....	21%
Moderate .....	24%
Conservative .....	6%
Very conservative .....	3%
Not sure .....	9%

**57. Do you think Barack Obama...**

Says what he believes .....	40%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	50%
Not sure .....	11%

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

Like a lot .....	32%
Like somewhat .....	27%
Dislike .....	33%
Not sure .....	8%



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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	38%	34%	29%
Bold	31%	51%	18%
Effective	21%	48%	31%
Exciting	13%	62%	25%
Experienced	20%	52%	28%
Honest	25%	40%	35%
Hypocritical	35%	39%	26%
Inspiring	28%	49%	24%
Intelligent	51%	33%	16%
Partisan	23%	64%	13%
Patriotic	28%	46%	27%
Religious	11%	62%	27%
Sincere	29%	44%	27%
Steady	26%	56%	18%
Strong	28%	46%	26%

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

Getting better	21%
About the same	38%
Getting worse	37%
Not sure	4%

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

Yes	71%
No	23%
Don't know	6%

**62. Gender**

Male	49%
Female	51%

**63. Education**

No high school .....	10%
High school graduate .....	33%
Some college .....	24%
2-year college .....	10%
4-year college .....	15%
Post-graduate .....	8%

**64. Age**

18-29 .....	26%
30-44 .....	27%
45-64 .....	33%
65+ .....	14%

**65. Race**

White .....	67%
Black .....	14%
Hispanic .....	12%
Other .....	7%

**66. Region**

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

**67. Party Identification**

Democratic .....	40%
Independent .....	32%
Republican .....	28%

## ***The Economist/YouGov Poll***



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	March 22-24, 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 0.2 to 4, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.8.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 4% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	21 questions not reported.