

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted April 4-6, 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	45%
Some of the time	31%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	9%
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	59%
Not sure	12%

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	17%
Equally positive and negative	44%
Mostly negative	27%
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	14%
Equally positive and negative	28%
Mostly negative	41%
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%	2%
Between 5% and 6%	40%
Between 6% and 7%	20%
Between 7% and 8%	12%
Greater than 8%	17%
Not sure	9%

6. According to the figures just released by the federal government for March 2015, 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	16%
About the same	19%
Lower now	53%
Don't know	12%

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

Very serious	39%
Somewhat serious	47%
A minor problem	12%
Not a problem	0%
Not sure	2%

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

Very serious	24%
Somewhat serious	43%
A minor problem	21%
Not a problem	5%
Not sure	6%

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	37%
The same	18%
Lower now	28%
Not sure	17%

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	54%
No, it is beyond the President's control	33%
Don't know	13%

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	65%
Federal government should not be directly involved	25%
Not sure	11%

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	25%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	11%
Very good	4%
Good	25%
Poor	18%
Very poor	11%
Not sure	6%

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	63%
Federal government should not be directly involved	25%
Not sure	12%

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	25%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	12%
Very good	4%
Good	25%
Poor	19%
Very poor	9%
Not sure	6%

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	4%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	22%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	41%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	17%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	6%
Not sure	10%

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 7%
 Unemployment rates will be somewhat lower than they are today 20%
 Unemployment rates will be about the same as they are today 28%
 Unemployment rates will be somewhat higher than they are today 20%
 Unemployment rates will be a lot higher than they are today 7%
 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	11%	22%	43%	17%	7%
Republicans in Congress	6%	18%	43%	23%	11%
American consumers	7%	35%	44%	5%	8%
American businesses	11%	37%	41%	3%	8%
Wall St	6%	17%	45%	18%	13%

18. 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
Turkey	9%	38%	20%	6%	26%
Syria	1%	9%	40%	30%	21%
Iran	2%	6%	35%	44%	13%
Israel	47%	23%	12%	6%	12%

19. Within your lifetime do you think the US will consider Iran to be a friendly country?

Yes	17%
No	54%
Not sure	29%

20. How serious a threat do you think Iran poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	26%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	36%
A minor threat to the U.S.	23%
Not a threat to the U.S.	7%
Not sure	7%

21. How serious a threat do you think Iran's NUCLEAR program poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	33%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	35%
A minor threat to the U.S.	18%
Not a threat to the U.S.	7%
Not sure	6%

22. What strategy should the US employ to get Iran to limit its nuclear program?

Threaten Iran with of the possible use of military force	20%
Threaten Iran with harsher economic sanctions	34%
Reward Iran with easing of economic sanctions	24%
Reward Iran with a guarantee of no use of military force	7%
Reward Iran with resumption of diplomatic relations	14%
Something else	8%
Not sure	22%

23. In your opinion, which is more important?

Preventing Iran from developing nuclear weapons, even if it means taking military actions	60%
Avoiding military conflict with Iran, even if it means they develop nuclear weapons	24%
Not sure	17%

24. Do you think the United States should or should not engage in negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program?

Should	61%
Should not	25%
Not sure	14%

25. How closely have you been following the news on the current round of negotiations to limit Iran's nuclear capabilities?

Very closely	18%
Somewhat closely	43%
Not very closely	26%
Not closely at all	14%

26. From what you know about it now, do you support or oppose of the terms of the international agreement to limit Iran's nuclear program?

Support	35%
Oppose	30%
Not sure	36%

27. International negotiators established a framework from which Iran, the United States, and other countries will negotiate a final agreement to limit the scope of Iran’s nuclear program. How likely do you think it is that the current framework will lead to a full agreement?

Very likely	6%
Somewhat likely	32%
Somewhat unlikely	28%
Very unlikely	18%
Not sure	16%

28. The deadline for the final agreement is June 30. Do you expect negotiators to complete a final agreement by the deadline?

Yes, there will be a final agreement by June 30	25%
No, there will not be a final agreement by June 30	49%
Not sure	26%

29. From what you know about it now, do you think the terms of the international agreement to limit Iran’s nuclear program makes the United States safer or less safe?

Safer	34%
Less safe	36%
Not sure	30%

30. From what you know about it now, do you think the terms of the international agreement to limit Iran’s nuclear program makes Israel safer or less safe?

Safer	28%
Less safe	45%
Not sure	28%

31. How much do you trust the government of Iran to adhere to any agreement which limits that country's ability to produce a nuclear weapon?

A great deal	3%
Some	22%
Not much	29%
Not at all	37%
Not sure	9%

32. Do you think inspectors will be able to verify if Iran is adhering to any agreement to limit its nuclear program?

Yes	27%
No	50%
Not sure	23%

33. Would you support or oppose the use of military force against Iran if it fails to abide by the terms of an international agreement to limit its nuclear program?

Support	47%
Oppose	28%
Not sure	25%

34. Who do you trust more when it comes to negotiating treaties with other countries?

The President	30%
The US Senate	17%
Both equally	20%
Neither	25%
Not sure	9%

35. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of John Kerry?

Very favorable	11%
Somewhat favorable	26%
Somewhat unfavorable	19%
Very unfavorable	27%
Don't know	17%

36. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling Iran?

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	30%
No opinion	14%

37. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Benjamin Netanyahu?

Very favorable	16%
Somewhat favorable	23%
Somewhat unfavorable	20%
Very unfavorable	15%
Don't know	26%

38. Do you think President Obama's actions have damaged the relationship between the U.S. and Israel?

Yes	43%
No	32%
Not sure	25%

39. Do you think Benjamin Netanyahu’s actions have damaged the relationship between the U.S. and Israel?

Yes	35%
No	34%
Not sure	32%

40. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the nation’s policy toward Israel?

Strongly Approve	14%
Somewhat Approve	24%
Somewhat Disapprove	14%
Strongly Disapprove	30%
Not Sure	18%

41. How closely have you been following the news about religious freedom laws recently enacted or under consideration in several states?

Very closely	23%
Somewhat closely	44%
Not very closely	18%
Not closely at all	14%

42. Do you think a business owner should or should not be able to refuse service to anyone, regardless of the reason?

Should	49%
Should <u>NOT</u>	39%
Not sure	11%

43. Do you think owners of commercial businesses who have sincerely held religious beliefs should or should not be able to do the following things?

	Should	Should <u>NOT</u>	Not sure
Refuse to include contraceptives coverage in employer sponsored health insurance coverage	38%	48%	14%
Refuse to hire employees of a different religious background	18%	73%	8%
Refuse to hire employees who are members of a hate group like the KKK	59%	29%	11%
Refuse to hire or fire employees who are gay or lesbian	26%	66%	8%
Refuse to serve customers who are members of a hate group like the KKK	49%	38%	13%
Refuse to serve customers who are a different race	11%	84%	5%
Refuse to serve customers who are gay or lesbian	24%	66%	10%
Require employees to attend religious services	7%	88%	5%

44. Which one is more important to you?

Protecting religious liberty	38%
Eliminating discrimination	53%
Not sure	9%

45. What do you think is the real purpose of the recent religious freedom laws passed or under consideration in several states?

Protect sincerely held religious beliefs	45%
Enable businesses to discriminate	35%
Not sure	20%

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

Expanded	32%
Kept the same	14%
Repealed	42%
Not sure	12%

47. 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	18%
More of a failure than a success	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success	18%
More of a success than a failure	24%
A complete success	5%
Too early to tell	6%
Not sure	7%

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

Increased	55%
Remained the same	18%
Decreased	16%
Don't know	11%

49. 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	51%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people	15%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	17%
Not sure	16%

50. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	88%
No	12%

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

Yes	82%
No	18%

52. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	65%	32%	3%	1%
Immigration	47%	36%	13%	4%
The environment	45%	37%	10%	8%
Terrorism	57%	28%	10%	4%
Gay rights	24%	25%	25%	26%
Education	59%	31%	8%	2%
Health care	59%	31%	8%	2%
Social security	60%	28%	10%	2%
The budget deficit	50%	35%	12%	2%
The war in Afghanistan	29%	47%	19%	5%
Taxes	53%	36%	9%	2%
Medicare	49%	36%	12%	3%
Abortion	36%	31%	20%	12%
Foreign policy	44%	40%	12%	4%

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

The economy	19%
Immigration	8%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	12%
Gay rights	3%
Education	11%
Health care	9%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	4%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	2%
Abortion	6%
Foreign policy	2%

54. 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%	9%	38%	5%
John Boehner	4%	17%	22%	32%	25%
Mitch McConnell	6%	16%	18%	27%	33%
Harry Reid	8%	14%	13%	34%	33%
Nancy Pelosi	8%	20%	13%	37%	21%

55. 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%	26%	22%	27%	17%
Ben Carson	12%	14%	10%	16%	47%
Chris Christie	7%	26%	22%	23%	21%
Ted Cruz	13%	23%	11%	29%	25%
Carly Fiorina	5%	13%	14%	13%	55%
Lindsey Graham	4%	17%	14%	22%	43%
Mike Huckabee	12%	22%	14%	22%	30%
Bobby Jindal	10%	19%	9%	18%	44%
John Kasich	7%	11%	10%	10%	63%
Rand Paul	12%	25%	16%	20%	27%
Rick Perry	11%	21%	13%	26%	29%
Marco Rubio	13%	22%	14%	19%	32%
Rick Santorum	8%	18%	16%	25%	34%
Scott Walker	18%	12%	8%	23%	39%

56. 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	17%	24%	14%	33%	12%
Hillary Clinton	23%	21%	11%	41%	4%
Martin O'Malley	4%	10%	11%	12%	63%
Bernie Sanders	10%	10%	11%	16%	54%
Brian Schweitzer	2%	8%	10%	9%	70%
Jim Webb	3%	13%	10%	10%	64%

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

Strongly approve	21%
Somewhat approve	28%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	3%

58. 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%	27%	15%	30%	8%
Immigration	19%	20%	13%	36%	12%
The environment	16%	24%	17%	26%	18%
Terrorism	17%	25%	16%	31%	11%
Gay rights	18%	23%	13%	26%	20%
Education	17%	30%	17%	22%	14%
Health care	24%	22%	11%	36%	8%
Social security	15%	23%	15%	24%	22%
The war in Afghanistan	14%	25%	21%	26%	14%
The budget deficit	16%	20%	16%	35%	13%
Taxes	15%	24%	16%	31%	14%
Medicare	18%	23%	16%	23%	19%
Abortion	16%	20%	10%	27%	27%
Foreign policy	16%	24%	14%	33%	12%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	11%
Neither approve nor disapprove	18%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	9%

60. 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	8%
Somewhat approve	18%
Neither approve nor disapprove	19%
Somewhat disapprove	18%
Strongly disapprove	20%
Not sure	17%

61. 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	5%
About the same	31%
Less than usual	47%
Not sure	16%

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

Better off now	27%
About the same	29%
Worse off now	36%
Not sure	8%

63. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	35%
Liberal	25%
Moderate	24%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	8%

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

Very strong	18%
Somewhat strong	34%
Somewhat weak	17%
Very weak	32%

65. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	39%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	51%
Not sure	10%

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

Like a lot	34%
Like somewhat	23%
Dislike	31%
Not sure	11%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	38%	31%	31%
Bold	26%	56%	18%
Effective	27%	43%	30%
Exciting	17%	58%	25%
Experienced	22%	50%	28%
Honest	28%	34%	38%
Hypocritical	35%	36%	30%
Inspiring	30%	43%	27%
Intelligent	53%	31%	16%
Partisan	24%	60%	16%
Patriotic	27%	40%	33%
Religious	11%	56%	33%
Sincere	30%	37%	32%
Steady	25%	55%	20%
Strong	27%	44%	29%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	34%
Conservative	32%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	1%

69. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	70%
No	26%
Don't know	4%

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

Asked only of registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	36%
The Republican Party candidate	36%
Other	3%
Not sure	23%
I would not vote	2%

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

Getting better	30%
About the same	33%
Getting worse	31%
Not sure	6%

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

Owned by you or your family	60%
Rented from someone else	38%
Other	2%

73. 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	31%
Stayed about the same	41%
Decreased	19%
Not sure	9%

74. 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	48%
Stayed about the same	27%
Decreased	11%
Not sure	14%

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

Will increase a lot	7%
Will increase a little	42%
Will stay about the same	28%
Will decrease a little	9%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	11%

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

Asked of those who own their own homes

Very worried	5%
Somewhat worried	23%
Not worried	38%
Don't have mortgage payments	33%

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

Will definitely buy a home	2%
Am considering buying a home	16%
Not looking for a home now	82%

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

More jobs	24%
The same amount of jobs	48%
Fewer jobs	19%
Not sure	9%

79. 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	8%
Military Household - I served previously	14%
Military Household - Family served previously	36%
Military Household - None	49%

80. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

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

Strongly support	12%
Somewhat support	19%
Neither support, nor oppose	20%
Somewhat oppose	6%
Strongly oppose	27%
Not sure	16%

82. Education

No high school	8%
High school graduate	33%
Some college	25%
2-year college	8%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	8%

83. Age

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

84. Race

White	66%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Other	9%

85. Region

Northeast	19%
Midwest	26%
South	34%
West	21%

86. Party Identification

Democratic	38%
Independent	34%
Republican	28%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	April 4-6, 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 0.1 to 7.2, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.17.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.8% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.