

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents

Conducted October 4-6, 2014

Margin of Error $\pm 4.4\%$

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	31%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	10%
Don't know	1%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	26%
Off on the wrong track	58%
Not sure	16%

3. How closely are you following the news about a man in Texas who contracted the Ebola virus?

Very closely	32%
Somewhat closely	42%
Not very closely	22%
Not following at all	5%

4. Do you support or oppose forcing the family of the man diagnosed with the Ebola virus into quarantine for the next 21 days?

Support strongly	63%
Support somewhat	23%
Oppose somewhat	5%
Oppose strongly	2%
Not sure	7%

5. Do you think reports about the number of people affected by the Ebola outbreak are too high, about right, or too low?

Too high	18%
About right	29%
Too low	25%
Not sure	29%

6. How concerned are you about an Ebola epidemic here in the United States?

Very concerned	33%
Somewhat concerned	39%
Not very concerned	22%
Not concerned at all	7%

7. Do you think the United States is doing enough, too much, or not enough to contain the Ebola outbreak?

Doing too much	2%
Doing enough	33%
Not doing enough	46%
Don't know	18%

8. Do you think the world would be doing more to cure Ebola if it more commonly affected countries in Europe or the United States instead of Africa?

Yes	62%
No	15%
Not sure	23%

9. Do you think there would already be a cure for Ebola if it more commonly affected countries in Europe or the United States instead of Africa?

Yes	42%
No	23%
Not sure	35%

10. Should the US government increase or decrease spending on Ebola research, or should it continue to spend the current amount?

Increase spending	43%
Spend the same	33%
Decrease spending	4%
Not sure	20%

11. Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama’s handling of the Ebola outbreak in western Africa?

Approve strongly	11%
Approve somewhat	27%
Disapprove somewhat	13%
Disapprove strongly	23%
Not sure	26%

12. 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	18%
Equally positive and negative	38%
Mostly negative	26%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	19%

13. 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	10%
Equally positive and negative	28%
Mostly negative	41%
Not discussed the economy at all	21%

14. 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%	1%
Between 5% and 6%	27%
Between 6% and 7%	22%
Between 7% and 8%	13%
Greater than 8%	21%
Not sure	15%

15. According to the figures just released by the federal government for September 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	16%
About the same	21%
Lower now	49%
Don't know	14%

16. 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	21%
Lower now	27%
Not sure	22%

17. 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	46%
No, it is beyond the President's control	33%
Don't know	21%

18. 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	58%
Federal government should not be directly involved	28%
Not sure	15%

19. 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	28%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	15%
Very good	3%
Good	17%
Poor	18%
Very poor	13%
Not sure	8%

20. 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	55%
Federal government should not be directly involved	27%
Not sure	18%

21. 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	27%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	18%
Very good	1%
Good	19%
Poor	19%
Very poor	10%
Not sure	6%

22. 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	6%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	23%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	33%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	16%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	8%
Not sure	14%

23. 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 <u>a lot lower</u> than they are today	7%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	25%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	24%
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	9%
Not sure	21%

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

Expanded	28%
Kept the same	16%
Repealed	43%
Not sure	13%

25. 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	23%
More of a failure than a success	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success	18%
More of a success than a failure	21%
A complete success	4%
Too early to tell	4%
Not sure	7%

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

Increased	46%
Remained the same	22%
Decreased	20%
Don't know	12%

27. 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	19%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	18%
Not sure	19%

28. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	73%	24%	2%	1%
Immigration	49%	35%	13%	4%
The environment	42%	34%	16%	8%
Terrorism	54%	33%	9%	4%
Gay rights	18%	29%	24%	30%
Education	55%	34%	8%	2%
Health care	65%	27%	7%	1%
Social security	59%	31%	8%	2%
The budget deficit	48%	34%	14%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	33%	43%	18%	6%
Taxes	53%	37%	8%	1%
Medicare	48%	37%	12%	2%
Abortion	34%	31%	22%	13%
Foreign policy	40%	42%	14%	4%

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

The economy	25%
Immigration	7%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	9%
Gay rights	1%
Education	9%
Health care	11%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	6%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	5%
Foreign policy	1%

30. 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	22%	23%	14%	36%	4%
Joe Biden	15%	27%	16%	30%	12%
John Boehner	4%	17%	21%	33%	25%
Mitch McConnell	3%	15%	20%	28%	34%
Harry Reid	8%	16%	14%	33%	30%
Nancy Pelosi	10%	19%	14%	37%	21%

31. 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	10%	24%	16%	21%	29%
Chris Christie	8%	22%	25%	22%	23%
Paul Ryan	11%	22%	15%	25%	26%
Jeb Bush	9%	25%	19%	24%	22%
Mike Huckabee	14%	20%	17%	21%	29%
Marco Rubio	9%	22%	14%	20%	35%
Hillary Clinton	27%	25%	12%	30%	6%
Elizabeth Warren	15%	14%	13%	18%	41%
Ted Cruz	13%	17%	8%	27%	34%
Scott Walker	10%	17%	9%	20%	43%
Brian Schweitzer	2%	10%	11%	9%	67%
Rick Perry	13%	18%	15%	28%	26%

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

Strongly approve	13%
Somewhat approve	30%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Not sure	6%

33. 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%	24%	16%	35%	11%
Immigration	10%	23%	16%	37%	13%
The environment	14%	30%	13%	29%	14%
Terrorism	18%	24%	17%	29%	12%
Gay rights	17%	23%	13%	27%	21%
Education	13%	29%	15%	26%	16%
Health care	20%	22%	10%	39%	8%
Social security	11%	24%	18%	27%	20%
The war in Afghanistan	12%	24%	23%	29%	13%
The budget deficit	13%	22%	14%	37%	14%
Taxes	11%	26%	18%	31%	14%
Medicare	14%	24%	18%	25%	18%
Abortion	14%	19%	11%	26%	30%
Foreign policy	13%	24%	16%	33%	14%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	6%
Neither approve nor disapprove	18%
Somewhat disapprove	25%
Strongly disapprove	41%
Not sure	9%

35. 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	7%
Somewhat approve	17%
Neither approve nor disapprove	20%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	20%
Not sure	15%

36. 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%

37. Would you say your Representative in Congress is...

Very liberal	8%
Liberal	14%
Moderate	22%
Conservative	18%
Very Conservative	8%
Not sure	29%

38. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	34%
Liberal	23%
Moderate	25%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	10%

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

Very strong	15%
Somewhat strong	30%
Somewhat weak	24%
Very weak	32%

40. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	37%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	49%
Not sure	14%

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

Like a lot	30%
Like somewhat	33%
Dislike	26%
Not sure	11%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	38%	34%	28%
Bold	22%	59%	18%
Effective	18%	51%	31%
Exciting	10%	66%	24%
Experienced	20%	51%	29%
Honest	27%	38%	35%
Hypocritical	33%	45%	22%
Inspiring	25%	50%	24%
Intelligent	49%	35%	15%
Partisan	21%	65%	13%
Patriotic	27%	44%	29%
Religious	12%	61%	26%
Sincere	26%	45%	28%
Steady	23%	59%	18%
Strong	23%	49%	28%

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

Getting better	25%
About the same	37%
Getting worse	31%
Not sure	6%

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

More jobs	22%
The same amount of jobs	40%
Fewer jobs	24%
Not sure	15%

45. 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	13%
Military Household - Family served previously	36%
Military Household - None	49%

46. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

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

Strongly support	14%
Somewhat support	17%
Neither support, nor oppose	21%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	23%
Not sure	16%

48. Education

No high school	9%
High school graduate	32%
Some college	25%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	9%

49. Age

18-29	23%
30-44	27%
45-64	34%
65+	16%

50. Race

White	66%
Black	14%
Hispanic	13%
Other	8%

51. Region

Northeast	20%
Midwest	22%
South	38%
West	20%

52. Party Identification

Democratic	38%
Independent	36%
Republican	27%

53. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	28%
Don't know	3%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	October 4-6, 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 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.99.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.4% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.