

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 2000 General Population Respondents

Conducted December 4 - 9, 2015

Margin of Error $\pm 3\%$

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	47%
Some of the time	30%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	9%
Don't know	1%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	24%
Off on the wrong track	64%
Not sure	12%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Hillary Clinton	23%	21%	12%	38%	5%
Martin O'Malley	3%	18%	16%	18%	44%
Bernie Sanders	19%	25%	13%	23%	20%

4. How would you feel if (your first choice) was the 2016 Democratic presidential election nominee?

SPECIAL NOTE: Asked of all registered voters, regardless of party identification or primary participation, who selected a preferred Democratic nominee for President

Enthusiastic	44%
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	38%
Dissatisfied but not upset	9%
Upset	4%
Not sure	5%

5. How do you feel about the field of Democratic candidates running for president in 2016?

SPECIAL NOTE: Asked of all registered voters, regardless of party identification or primary participation

Would like to see someone else run for the Democratic nomination	51%
Satisfied with the choices	35%
Don't know	14%

6. Who do you think is the most likely candidate to become the Democratic nominee for president in 2016?

Hillary Clinton	62%
Martin O'Malley	2%
Bernie Sanders	15%
Not sure	20%

7. Regardless of who the Republicans select as their nominee, do you think the Democratic presidential candidates listed below could possibly win or could never win the general election in November if he or she was to become the Democratic nominee?

	Could possibly win	Could never win	Not sure
Hillary Clinton	72%	17%	11%
Martin O'Malley	15%	48%	37%
Bernie Sanders	45%	32%	23%

8. 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%	27%	23%	28%	15%
Ben Carson	14%	25%	16%	25%	19%
Chris Christie	9%	23%	22%	25%	21%
Ted Cruz	15%	19%	15%	26%	25%
Carly Fiorina	9%	24%	18%	20%	29%
Jim Gilmore	2%	8%	16%	13%	60%
Lindsey Graham	4%	16%	20%	22%	39%
Mike Huckabee	8%	21%	17%	27%	26%
John Kasich	5%	18%	20%	17%	41%
George Pataki	3%	14%	20%	18%	45%
Rand Paul	6%	23%	21%	24%	26%
Marco Rubio	17%	21%	15%	21%	25%
Rick Santorum	6%	17%	17%	29%	31%
Donald Trump	23%	16%	11%	44%	7%

9. How would you feel if (your first choice) was the 2016 Republican presidential election nominee?

SPECIAL NOTE: Asked of all registered voters, regardless of party identification or primary participation, who selected a preferred Republican nominee for President

Enthusiastic	56%
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	31%
Dissatisfied but not upset	6%
Upset	2%
Not sure	4%

10. How do you feel about the field of Republican candidates running for president in 2016?

SPECIAL NOTE: Asked of all registered voters, regardless of party identification or primary participation

Would like to see someone else run for the Republican nomination	32%
Satisfied with the choices	50%
Don't know	18%

11. Who do you think is the most likely candidate to become the Republican nominee for president in 2016?

Jeb Bush	8%
Ben Carson	6%
Chris Christie	2%
Ted Cruz	6%
Carly Fiorina	1%
Jim Gilmore	1%
Lindsey Graham	0%
Mike Huckabee	1%
John Kasich	1%
George Pataki	0%
Rand Paul	1%
Marco Rubio	11%
Rick Santorum	0%
Donald Trump	34%
Not sure	27%

12. Regardless of who the Democrats select as their nominee, do you think the Republican presidential candidates listed below could possibly win or could never win the general election in November if he or she was to become the Republican nominee?

	Could possibly win	Could never win	Not sure
Jeb Bush	41%	39%	20%
Ben Carson	42%	35%	23%
Chris Christie	29%	42%	28%
Ted Cruz	40%	31%	28%
Carly Fiorina	24%	45%	31%
Jim Gilmore	8%	52%	40%
Lindsey Graham	11%	54%	34%
Mike Huckabee	20%	50%	30%
John Kasich	20%	44%	36%
George Pataki	11%	53%	36%
Rand Paul	25%	44%	31%
Marco Rubio	48%	24%	27%
Rick Santorum	17%	53%	29%
Donald Trump	56%	31%	13%

13. Do you think the following presidential candidates are honest and trustworthy, or not?

	Honest and trustworthy	Not honest and trustworthy	Not sure
Jeb Bush	34%	39%	27%
Ben Carson	36%	35%	30%
Hillary Clinton	31%	53%	15%
Ted Cruz	29%	35%	36%
Marco Rubio	33%	32%	35%
Bernie Sanders	41%	27%	32%
Donald Trump	33%	51%	16%

14. Do you think the following presidential candidates are ready to be Commander-in-Chief?

	Ready	Not ready	Not sure
Jeb Bush	36%	42%	22%
Ben Carson	22%	53%	25%
Hillary Clinton	49%	39%	12%
Ted Cruz	29%	40%	31%
Marco Rubio	30%	39%	30%
Bernie Sanders	31%	42%	27%
Donald Trump	33%	53%	14%

15. Are you confident or uneasy about the following presidential candidates' ability to deal wisely with an international crisis?

	Confident	Uneasy	Not sure
Jeb Bush	32%	45%	23%
Ben Carson	21%	52%	26%
Hillary Clinton	42%	45%	13%
Ted Cruz	26%	42%	31%
Marco Rubio	29%	39%	33%
Bernie Sanders	28%	44%	28%
Donald Trump	30%	57%	13%

16. Since September 11, 2001, the United States has fought against the threat of terrorism through military operations abroad and increased security and surveillance inside of the United States. Do you think these actions have been worth the cost?

Worth cost	48%
Not worth cost	30%
Not sure	22%

17. Are we safer from terrorist attacks now than we were in 2001?

Much more safe	6%
Somewhat more safe	18%
About the same	25%
Somewhat less safe	20%
Much less safe	24%
Not sure	8%

18. What do you think are the chances of a terrorist attack against the United States in the next 12 months?

Very likely (more than 50%)	44%
Somewhat likely (10% to 50%)	33%
Not very likely (1% to 10%)	10%
Very unlikely (less than 1%)	4%
Not sure	9%

19. Are you confident or uneasy about the following presidential candidates' ability to deal wisely with terrorism?

	Confident	Uneasy	Not sure
Jeb Bush	30%	46%	24%
Ben Carson	21%	51%	29%
Hillary Clinton	39%	46%	15%
Ted Cruz	27%	39%	34%
Marco Rubio	29%	38%	33%
Bernie Sanders	26%	44%	30%
Donald Trump	35%	51%	14%

20. Which party is closer to you on the issue of gun control?

The Democratic Party	31%
The Republican Party	34%
Both are the same	13%
Don't know	23%

21. What's more important?

The right of people to own guns	19%
Protecting people from gun violence	29%
Both are equally important	48%
Not sure	4%

22. In general, do you feel the laws covering the sale of handguns should be made more strict than they are now?

Make gun laws more strict	53%
No change	30%
Make gun laws less strict	9%
Not sure	8%

23. Do you think the second amendment of the U.S. Constitution does or does not allow states to regulate guns?

Does allow	35%
Does not allow	31%
Not sure	34%

24. Do you favor or oppose the following gun control measures?

	Favor	Oppose	Not sure
Preventing persons with a history of mental illness from owning guns	80%	8%	12%
Banning semi-automatic weapons	52%	33%	15%
Banning the sale of all handguns, except those that are issued to law enforcement officers	21%	64%	15%
Banning the sale of magazine clips for semi-automatic weapons that hold more than 10 rounds	56%	30%	14%
Requiring people who purchase handguns to wait five days before they receive that gun	71%	17%	11%
Requiring gun owners to register their guns with a national gun registry	65%	25%	10%
Limiting the number of handguns a person can own	45%	44%	11%
Preventing people from carrying a concealed gun in public	36%	49%	15%
Requiring people to obtain a police permit before buying a handgun	55%	31%	14%

25. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the National Rifle Association?

Very favorable	22%
Somewhat favorable	21%
Somewhat unfavorable	11%
Very unfavorable	25%
Don't know	21%

26. Do you or does anyone in your household own a gun?

Personally own a gun	22%
Don't personally own a gun, but someone in the household owns a gun	15%
No one in the household owns a gun	56%
Not sure	6%

27. How worried are you that the government will pass laws that might take away your guns?

Asked of those who personally own a gun or someone in the household owns a gun

Very worried	20%
Somewhat worried	28%
Not very worried	25%
Not worried at all	26%

28. Do you think you would feel safer with a gun in your home?

Asked of people who live in households in which no one owns a gun

Yes	40%
No	60%

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

Expanded	31%
Kept the same	13%
Repealed	41%
Not sure	15%

30. 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	22%
More of a failure than a success	23%
Equal amount of both failure and success	18%
More of a success than a failure	19%
A complete success	4%
Too early to tell	5%
Not sure	10%

31. Do you think the number of people with health insurance has increased, remained the same, or decreased since 2013?

Increased	52%
Remained the same	17%
Decreased	16%
Don't know	15%

32. 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	49%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people	13%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	16%
Not sure	22%

33. Do you support or oppose the following laws?

	Support strongly	Support somewhat	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	Not sure
The federal government provides financial assistance for low-income Americans to buy private health care insurance	33%	30%	14%	12%	11%
Federal and state governments work together to provide government health care insurance for low-income Americans	41%	32%	10%	8%	9%
Federal and state governments work together to provide government health care insurance for children of low-income Americans	48%	31%	8%	6%	7%
The federal government requires people to have health care insurance or they must pay a fine	10%	15%	18%	49%	8%

34. The Senate recently passed a bill that would repeal Obamacare. President Obama has said he will veto the bill. There are not enough votes in Congress to override the President's veto. Which statement do you agree with more?

- Congress should keep trying to repeal Obamacare, even if there aren't enough votes to override the President's veto 28%
- Congress should work with the President and pass legislation that will change at least some parts of Obamacare 40%
- Congress should not try to change Obamacare until there is a President in the White House who wants to repeal Obamacare 17%
- Not sure 15%

35. Do you have health insurance?

- Yes 84%
- No 16%

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

- Yes 79%
- No 21%

37. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	68%	25%	4%	2%
Immigration	51%	32%	14%	3%
The environment	45%	33%	14%	8%
Terrorism	69%	21%	8%	3%
Gay rights	21%	22%	27%	31%
Education	58%	30%	9%	4%
Health care	63%	29%	6%	2%
Social security	66%	24%	7%	3%
The budget deficit	46%	37%	13%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	33%	45%	16%	6%
Taxes	54%	37%	7%	3%
Medicare	57%	29%	11%	4%
Abortion	36%	28%	22%	13%
Foreign policy	48%	37%	12%	3%
Gun control	52%	26%	14%	7%

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

The economy	13%
Immigration	7%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	17%
Gay rights	1%
Education	9%
Health care	9%
Social security	16%
The budget deficit	3%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	2%
Abortion	4%
Foreign policy	1%
Gun control	6%

39. 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%	22%	11%	37%	5%
Joe Biden	18%	27%	15%	23%	18%
Paul Ryan	9%	22%	16%	19%	34%
Mitch McConnell	2%	13%	20%	26%	40%
Nancy Pelosi	7%	16%	15%	34%	28%
Harry Reid	5%	15%	13%	30%	37%

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

Strongly Approve	17%
Somewhat Approve	25%
Somewhat Disapprove	16%
Strongly Disapprove	37%
Not Sure	5%

41. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	30%
Liberal	20%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	19%

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

Very strong	16%
Somewhat strong	29%
Somewhat weak	22%
Very weak	34%

43. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	42%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	46%
Not sure	13%

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

Like a lot	32%
Like somewhat	27%
Dislike	28%
Not sure	13%

45. 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
Abortion	13%	21%	13%	27%	27%
The war in Afghanistan	10%	23%	19%	32%	16%
The budget deficit	14%	20%	17%	33%	17%
The economy	17%	24%	16%	30%	13%
Education	15%	28%	14%	24%	19%
The environment	16%	26%	13%	26%	19%
Foreign policy	13%	22%	15%	35%	16%
Gay rights	22%	21%	10%	25%	22%
Gun control	13%	20%	16%	39%	13%
Health care	20%	21%	13%	38%	8%
Immigration	15%	20%	14%	40%	12%
Medicare	16%	22%	16%	28%	18%
Social security	13%	24%	16%	27%	20%
Taxes	11%	23%	17%	31%	19%
Terrorism	12%	22%	13%	38%	14%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	10%
Neither approve nor disapprove	20%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	33%
Not sure	12%

47. 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	6%
Somewhat approve	17%
Neither approve nor disapprove	22%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	21%
Not sure	20%

48. 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	35%
Less than usual	39%
Not sure	21%

49. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the political parties?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	11%	24%	19%	29%	18%
The Republican Party	9%	26%	20%	27%	17%

50. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following groups in Congress?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Democrats in Congress	11%	21%	21%	31%	16%
Republicans in Congress	6%	22%	19%	36%	16%

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

Asked of registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	38%
The Republican Party candidate	43%
Other	3%
Not sure	14%
I would not vote	3%

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

Getting better	22%
About the same	38%
Getting worse	33%
Not sure	7%

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

Higher	21%
About the same	30%
Lower	25%
Not sure	24%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	19%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	43%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	34%
Not sure	5%

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

More jobs	19%
The same amount of jobs	40%
Fewer jobs	26%
Not sure	15%

56. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	28%
Not very worried	60%

57. 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.	30%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	42%
Not very hard	21%
Not sure	6%

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

Very happy	24%
Happy	42%
Neither happy nor unhappy	24%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	4%

59. Are you male or female?

Male	48%
Female	52%

60. Age

18-29	22%
30-44	26%
45-64	35%
65+	17%

61. Race

White	67%
Black	12%
Hispanic	14%
Other	8%

62. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

HS or less	43%
Some college	31%
College grad	17%
Postgrad	9%

63. Region

Northeast	18%
Midwest	20%
South	39%
West	23%

64. How would you describe the place where you live?

City	32%
Suburb	32%
Town	15%
Rural area	20%
Other	1%

65. 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.

I am	1%
Family member	9%
I served previously	13%
Family served previously	33%
None	51%

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

Full-time employed	33%
Part-time employed	11%
Self-employed	-
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	12%
Retired	22%
Permanently disabled	10%
Homemaker	10%
Other	2%

67. Family Income

Under 50	53%
50-100	24%
100+	10%
Prefer not to say	13%

68. What is your marital status?

Married	45%
Separated	4%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	6%
Single	28%
Domestic partnership	6%

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

Yes	31%
No	69%

70. 3 Point Ideology

Liberal	21%
Moderate	44%
Conservative	35%

71. 5 Point Ideology

Very liberal	5%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	44%
Conservative	29%
Very conservative	6%

72. 3 Point Party ID

Democrat	32%
Independent	42%
Republican	26%

73. 5 Point Party ID

Democrat	32%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	26%
Lean Republican	8%
Republican	26%

74. 7 Point Party ID

Strong Democrat	20%
Not very strong Democrat	12%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	20%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	11%
Strong Republican	15%
Not sure	5%

75. Would you describe yourself as a libertarian?

Yes	15%
No	57%
Not sure	28%

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

Strongly support	9%
Somewhat support	17%
Neither support, nor oppose	26%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	22%
Not sure	18%

77. Do you think of yourself as a part of the Tea Party movement?

Yes	8%
No	70%
Not Sure	22%

78. Voter Registration

Registered	60%
Not registered	40%

79. How often would you say you vote in primary or caucus elections—that is, the elections in which a party selects their nominee to run in a general election. Would you say you vote in primary or caucus elections...?

Always	30%
Nearly always	17%
Part of the time	12%
Seldom	11%
Never	25%
Unsure	5%

80. In the 2016 primary election or caucus in your state, are you likely to vote?

Likely to vote in Democratic primary or attend Democratic caucus	31%
Likely to vote in Republican primary or attend Republican caucus	31%
Not likely to vote in a primary election or attend a caucus	38%

81. Do you have a good idea of which candidate you'll vote for in your party's presidential primary next year, or are you still making up your mind?

Asked of those who said they are likely to vote in their party's presidential primary or caucus next year

I have a good idea of who I'll vote for	63%
I'm still making up my mind	32%
I don't plan to vote in the primary election or caucus	3%
Not sure	2%

82. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes	30%
No	70%

83. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	39%
Somewhat important	29%
Not too important	13%
Not at all important	18%

84. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

More than once a week	7%
Once a week	17%
Once or twice a month	10%
A few times a year	18%
Seldom	21%
Never	24%
Don't know	3%

85. People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?

Several times a day	28%
Once a day	16%
A few times a week	13%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	8%
Seldom	15%
Never	15%
Don't know	2%

86. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	36%
Roman Catholic	20%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	21%
Something else	5%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	December 4 - 9, 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 6.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.92.
Number of respondents	2000
Margin of error	± 3% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	27 questions not reported.