

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents

Conducted February 7-9, 2015

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	43%
Some of the time	32%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	9%
Don't know	2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	30%
Off on the wrong track	56%
Not sure	14%

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	18%
Equally positive and negative	48%
Mostly negative	27%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	7%

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	15%
Equally positive and negative	30%
Mostly negative	41%
Not discussed the economy at all	15%

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%	3%
Between 5% and 6%	28%
Between 6% and 7%	20%
Between 7% and 8%	19%
Greater than 8%	16%
Not sure	13%

6. According to the figures just released by the federal government for January 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	18%
About the same	18%
Lower now	55%
Don't know	9%

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

Very serious	44%
Somewhat serious	42%
A minor problem	11%
Not a problem	1%
Not sure	2%

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

Very serious	28%
Somewhat serious	43%
A minor problem	21%
Not a problem	4%
Not sure	5%

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	35%
The same	19%
Lower now	29%
Not sure	16%

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	59%
No, it is beyond the President's control	30%
Don't know	12%

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	27%
Not sure	9%

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	27%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	9%
Very good	4%
Good	22%
Poor	21%
Very poor	11%
Not sure	7%

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	62%
Federal government should not be directly involved	27%
Not sure	11%

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	27%
Not sure if federal government should be involved	11%
Very good	3%
Good	23%
Poor	22%
Very poor	9%
Not sure	5%

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	5%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	24%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	38%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	18%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	6%
Not sure	8%

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 27%
- Unemployment rates will be about the same as they are today 26%
- Unemployment rates will be somewhat higher than they are today 20%
- Unemployment rates will be a lot higher than they are today 5%
- Not sure 15%

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	10%	27%	42%	13%	8%
Republicans in Congress	8%	20%	44%	17%	10%
American consumers	11%	29%	46%	8%	7%
American businesses	12%	37%	40%	4%	6%
Wall St	7%	19%	46%	15%	13%

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

- Expanded 31%
- Kept the same 19%
- Repealed 40%
- Not sure 10%

19. 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	17%
More of a failure than a success	24%
Equal amount of both failure and success	23%
More of a success than a failure	22%
A complete success	4%
Too early to tell	5%
Not sure	4%

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

Increased	56%
Remained the same	20%
Decreased	14%
Don't know	10%

21. 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	18%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	17%
Not sure	16%

22. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	85%
No	15%

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

Yes 76%
 No 24%

24. Excluding yourself, do you personally know anyone who is Muslim?

Yes 33%
 No 63%
 Not sure 4%

25. Which statement comes closer to your own views even if neither is exactly right?

The Islamic religion is more likely than others to encourage violence among its believers 52%
 The Islamic religion does not encourage violence more than others 48%

26. In the war against terrorism, do you think most Muslims around the world are more sympathetic to the United States or the terrorists?

United States 51%
 Terrorists 49%

27. In general, would you say that most Muslims in the United States are patriotic Americans who believe in American values, or not?

Yes 46%
 No 22%
 Not sure 32%

28. Compared with other American citizens, do you think Muslim Americans are...

More patriotic 4%
 About as patriotic 53%
 Less patriotic 43%

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

	Agree	Disagree	Not sure
During the Crusades and the Inquisition, people committed terrible deeds in the name of Christ.	66%	15%	18%
Slavery and Jim Crow all too often (were) justified in the name of Christ.	28%	39%	33%

30. Do you think the following statements are insulting to Christianity?

	Insulting	Not insulting	Not sure
During the Crusades and the Inquisition, people committed terrible deeds in the name of Christ.	36%	42%	23%
Slavery and Jim Crow all too often (were) justified in the name of Christ.	44%	26%	30%

31. Do you think it is appropriate or inappropriate to compare violent acts carried out in the name of Christianity in the past to violent acts carried out in the name of Islam today?

Appropriate	32%
Inappropriate	50%
Not sure	17%

32. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you think Barack Obama attends religious services?

More than once a week	2%
Once a week	17%
Once or twice a month	14%
A few times a year	10%
Seldom	16%
Never	9%
Don't know	33%

33. How important do you think is religion in Barack Obama's life?

Very important	15%
Somewhat important	37%
Not too important	30%
Not at all important	18%

34. Have you heard or read any news about President Obama's remarks at the National Prayer Breakfast last week?

Yes	38%
No	50%
Don't remember	12%

35. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	72%	24%	3%	1%
Immigration	51%	32%	14%	3%
The environment	46%	35%	13%	6%
Terrorism	61%	27%	9%	4%
Gay rights	24%	25%	24%	28%
Education	64%	27%	7%	2%
Health care	63%	28%	6%	2%
Social security	60%	30%	9%	2%
The budget deficit	52%	34%	12%	2%
The war in Afghanistan	36%	39%	19%	6%
Taxes	55%	33%	11%	1%
Medicare	53%	32%	11%	3%
Abortion	42%	27%	20%	10%
Foreign policy	42%	42%	13%	4%

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

The economy	22%
Immigration	6%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	10%
Gay rights	4%
Education	11%
Health care	9%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	4%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	5%
Foreign policy	2%

37. 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%	15%	34%	3%
Joe Biden	14%	26%	21%	26%	14%
John Boehner	4%	19%	20%	29%	27%
Mitch McConnell	5%	18%	19%	23%	36%
Harry Reid	4%	15%	17%	28%	36%
Nancy Pelosi	8%	21%	16%	34%	23%

38. 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	9%	26%	21%	24%	20%
Ben Carson	15%	12%	9%	10%	53%
Chris Christie	6%	25%	23%	19%	27%
Ted Cruz	10%	21%	12%	20%	37%
Carly Fiorina	6%	10%	12%	8%	65%
Lindsey Graham	6%	13%	16%	17%	48%
Mike Huckabee	12%	22%	15%	21%	29%
Bobby Jindal	12%	14%	12%	12%	50%
John Kasich	6%	14%	9%	7%	64%
Rand Paul	10%	25%	18%	15%	32%
Rick Perry	10%	21%	14%	22%	34%
Marco Rubio	13%	20%	14%	16%	38%
Rick Santorum	9%	18%	13%	23%	37%
Scott Walker	16%	11%	10%	16%	48%
Hillary Clinton	24%	26%	15%	31%	5%
Martin O'Malley	3%	10%	10%	9%	67%
Bernie Sanders	10%	10%	10%	12%	59%
Brian Schweitzer	4%	8%	9%	7%	72%
Jim Webb	3%	9%	9%	9%	70%

39. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Very favorable	13%
Somewhat favorable	28%
Somewhat unfavorable	23%
Very unfavorable	25%
Don't know	12%

40. Last week, Mitt Romney announced that he would not run for President in 2016. Do you wish he had decided to run for President in 2016?

Yes	19%
No	62%
Not sure	19%

41. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Paul Ryan?

Very favorable	9%
Somewhat favorable	24%
Somewhat unfavorable	15%
Very unfavorable	18%
Don't know	34%

42. Earlier, Paul Ryan announced that he would not run for President in 2016. Do you wish he had decided to run for President in 2016?

Yes	12%
No	54%
Not sure	34%

43. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Elizabeth Warren?

Very favorable	12%
Somewhat favorable	14%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	17%
Don't know	47%

44. Earlier, Elizabeth Warren announced that she would not run for President in 2016. Do you wish she had decided to run for President in 2016?

Yes	19%
No	40%
Not sure	41%

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

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Not sure	4%

46. 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	16%	31%	16%	31%	6%
Immigration	14%	23%	14%	40%	9%
The environment	16%	26%	17%	24%	17%
Terrorism	16%	25%	15%	33%	11%
Gay rights	17%	24%	9%	27%	24%
Education	19%	27%	19%	24%	11%
Health care	22%	23%	13%	35%	6%
Social security	15%	23%	19%	24%	20%
The war in Afghanistan	13%	28%	19%	29%	11%
The budget deficit	13%	25%	18%	33%	10%
Taxes	15%	25%	18%	30%	12%
Medicare	18%	25%	16%	25%	16%
Abortion	13%	22%	13%	25%	27%
Foreign policy	12%	25%	16%	32%	15%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	12%
Neither approve nor disapprove	21%
Somewhat disapprove	26%
Strongly disapprove	29%
Not sure	9%

48. In 2015, do you think the Congress will accomplish more or less than Congress usually does in a year?

More than usual	16%
About the same	43%
Less than usual	29%
Not sure	12%

49. In 2015, do you think the Congress will accomplish more or less than what they accomplished in 2014?

More than 2014	23%
About the same as 2014	41%
Less than 2014	23%
Not sure	13%

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

Better off now	27%
About the same	35%
Worse off now	31%
Not sure	7%

51. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	33%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	15%

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

Very strong	16%
Somewhat strong	31%
Somewhat weak	25%
Very weak	28%

53. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	39%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	48%
Not sure	13%

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

Like a lot	30%
Like somewhat	29%
Dislike	28%
Not sure	13%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	39%	31%	29%
Bold	24%	58%	18%
Effective	21%	48%	31%
Exciting	12%	63%	25%
Experienced	17%	57%	26%
Honest	27%	39%	34%
Hypocritical	33%	39%	27%
Inspiring	30%	42%	28%
Intelligent	52%	34%	15%
Partisan	21%	63%	16%
Patriotic	24%	47%	29%
Religious	10%	63%	27%
Sincere	27%	45%	27%
Steady	28%	56%	16%
Strong	24%	50%	25%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	37%
Conservative	28%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	2%

57. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	66%
No	30%
Don't know	3%

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

Asked only of registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	39%
The Republican Party candidate	41%
Other	2%
Not sure	16%
I would not vote	2%

59. 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	27%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	13%
Not sure	21%

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

Getting better	31%
About the same	39%
Getting worse	27%
Not sure	3%

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

Owned by you or your family	56%
Rented from someone else	42%
Other	2%

62. 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	28%
Stayed about the same	40%
Decreased	25%
Not sure	7%

63. 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	45%
Stayed about the same	35%
Decreased	7%
Not sure	12%

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

Will increase a lot	8%
Will increase a little	37%
Will stay about the same	27%
Will decrease a little	11%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	14%

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

Asked of those who own their own homes

Very worried	10%
Somewhat worried	23%
Not worried	35%
Don't have mortgage payments	31%

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

Will definitely buy a home	4%
Am considering buying a home	15%
Not looking for a home now	81%

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

More jobs	20%
The same amount of jobs	48%
Fewer jobs	20%
Not sure	13%

68. 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	9%
Military Household - I served previously	9%
Military Household - Family served previously	33%
Military Household - None	52%

69. Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

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

Strongly support	12%
Somewhat support	15%
Neither support, nor oppose	19%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	25%
Not sure	22%

71. Education

No high school	11%
High school graduate	30%
Some college	25%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	8%

72. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	26%
45-64	34%
65+	15%

73. Race

White	67%
Black	15%
Hispanic	11%
Other	8%

74. Region

Northeast	17%
Midwest	26%
South	36%
West	21%

75. Party Identification

Democratic	38%
Independent	34%
Republican	28%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	February 7-9, 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 1.03.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.4% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.