

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted June 22-24, 2013
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	51%
Some of the time	29%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	7%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	31%
Off on the wrong track	56%
Not sure	13%

3. Have you ever heard of Bitcoin?

Yes	30%
No	70%

4. What do you think Bitcoin is? Check all that apply.

Asked of respondents who had heard of Bitcoin

A virtual currency	82%
An online payment system	35%
A way to transfer money anonymously	25%
Something you use in a slot machine	0%
A small coin	3%
A payment system for hackers	8%
Other	0%
Not sure	9%

5. Have you ever used Bitcoin?

Asked of respondents who had heard of Bitcoin

Yes	2%
No	98%

6. Do you plan on using Bitcoin in the future?

Asked of respondents who had heard of Bitcoin

Yes	10%
No	51%
Not sure	39%

7. Would you support or oppose negotiations with members of the Taliban to achieve a peace deal to end the Afghan war?

Strongly support	14%
Somewhat support	22%
Neither support, nor oppose	16%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	25%
Not sure	12%

8. If U.S. troops were removed from Afghanistan, do you think the Taliban would return to power?

Yes	56%
No	8%
Not sure	36%

9. Is the resurgence of the Taliban in Afghanistan a threat to the United States?

Yes	52%
No	19%
Not sure	29%

10. Do you favor or oppose providing a way for illegal immigrants already in the United States to become U.S. citizens?

Favor	47%
Oppose	38%
Not sure	15%

11. Do you support building more border fences?

Favor	60%
Oppose	25%
Not sure	14%

12. Do you think the use of marijuana should be legalized?

Yes	54%
No	33%
Not sure	13%

13. Should states be permitted to set their own policies when it comes to marijuana legalization, or is this something that should only be handled by the federal government?

States should be permitted	56%
Should only be handled by federal government	30%
Not sure	14%

14. If "data" is the content of an email, "metadata" is information about the data: for example, the identity of the recipient and sender and the time, date, duration and location of a communication. Do you feel like you have a reasonable amount of control over who can access and use your personal data/metadata?

I feel like I have no control over my data/metadata	30%
I feel like I have very little control over my data/metadata	36%
I feel I have some control of my data/metadata	18%
I feel that I have control of my personal data/metadata	6%
Not sure	10%

15. Edward Snowden, a former CIA employee, made the news recently for leaking information of government surveillance on Americans, including monitoring internet usage and telephone records, to the press. What is your opinion on Snowden, if any?

Very favorable	16%
Somewhat favorable	26%
Somewhat unfavorable	15%
Very unfavorable	26%
Not sure	17%

16. Would you support or oppose the prosecution of Edward Snowden for leaking the information? An extradition order has not yet been issued for Snowden, who was last seen in Hong Kong.

I would support prosecution	34%
I neither support nor oppose	21%
I would oppose his prosecution	31%
Not sure	14%

17. Do you think collecting and analyzing Americans' phone records is justified as a way to combat terrorism, or is it an unnecessary intrusion into Americans' lives?

Justified as a way to combat terrorism	28%
Unnecessary intrusion into Americans' lives	55%
Not sure	17%

18. How much have you heard or read about the National Security Agency collecting information about telephone records including the length of phone calls and the numbers called?

A great deal	27%
A fair amount	43%
Not much	21%
Nothing at all	10%

19. The National Security Agency has been collecting information about telephone records – length of calls and the numbers called – in order to reduce the threat of terrorism. Do you approve or disapprove of their doing this?

Approve strongly	10%
Approve somewhat	25%
Disapprove somewhat	23%
Disapprove strongly	30%
Not sure	12%

20. The phone records information has been collected since 2007. How likely do you think it is that this information has prevented a terrorist attack?

Very likely	14%
Somewhat likely	26%
Somewhat unlikely	22%
Very unlikely	22%
Not sure	17%

21. The NSA says that it is not listening in to phone conversations, just looking at the "metadata" of call duration, etc. Do you think the NSA is telling the truth about this, or do you think it is listening in to phone conversations on a regular basis?

Telling the truth	19%
Is listening in on phone conversations on a regular basis	57%
Not sure	24%

22. In general, how well do you think Barack Obama has handled the task of balancing Americans' civil liberties with protecting the country against terrorism?

He has erred too much in the direction of defending against terrorism ...	33%
He has erred too much in the direction of protecting civil liberties	15%
He has struck about the right balance	25%
Not sure	26%

23. Based on *your* understanding of the Constitution, what do you believe the police, FBI, IRS, U.S. Customs, or other authority needs in order to...

	A warrant issued by a judge	A subpoena	A national security letter (NSL)	Permission of a supervisor	No special permission
Listen in on your phone conversations	64%	10%	14%	2%	9%
Read your emails	59%	16%	12%	3%	9%
Examine the contents of your laptop, phone, or computer	70%	14%	8%	2%	5%
Enter your home (without your permission or probable cause)	82%	7%	7%	1%	4%
Track <i>who</i> you communicate with (not <i>what</i> is said)	46%	13%	17%	5%	19%
Access your private social network data	55%	16%	10%	5%	13%
Access your public social network data	39%	12%	10%	5%	34%
See what books you've checked out of a library or what movies you've rented	41%	16%	11%	6%	26%
Track your movements (ex: by attaching a GPS tracker to your car)	68%	11%	10%	2%	9%
Search you on the street (aka <i>stop & frisk</i> without probable cause)	52%	9%	7%	9%	23%
Compelling you to identify yourself	25%	9%	8%	3%	55%
Ask you to provide identification (not at a border or during a traffic stop)	24%	7%	7%	5%	57%
Look inside your car or home through a window	41%	7%	7%	5%	39%

24. Which statement comes closer to your view?

It should be harder for the government to access my private information and communications.	64%
The government needs easier access to everyone's information and communications in order to make us more safe.	8%
The current level of government access to information and communications fairly balances people's 4th Amendment rights with the government's security requirements.	25%
Other	2%

25. Which comes closer to your view of the Patriot Act?

It is a necessary tool that helps the government find terrorists	37%
It goes too far and poses a threat to civil liberties	44%
I don't know	19%

26. Which part of the government do you trust MOST to do what's right?

Congress	5%
The Supreme Court	30%
The President	18%
Political parties	2%
Not sure	45%

27. Which part of the government do you trust LEAST to do what's right?

Congress	29%
The Supreme Court	3%
The President	31%
Political parties	24%
Not sure	15%

28. Do you think the next generation of Americans will have a higher or lower standard of living than people today?

Higher	21%
Lower	57%
Not sure	23%

29. Do you think the foreign policy of the Obama Administration has made the United States more or less safe?

More safe	30%
Less safe	41%
Not sure	30%

30. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?

Approve	35%
Disapprove	44%
Not sure	21%

31. As you may know, the Voting Rights Act was passed in the 1960's to prevent state and local governments from using rules and procedures which prevented many blacks from voting. Do you think the Voting Rights Act is necessary today to make sure that blacks are allowed to vote, or do you think the Voting Rights Act is no longer necessary?

The Voting Rights Act is still necessary	47%
The Voting Rights Act is no longer necessary	39%
Not sure	14%

32. Are you in favor of affirmative action?

Asked of half of respondents

Favor	32%
Oppose	41%
Not sure	27%

33. Are you in favor of affirmative action programs for racial and ethnic minorities?

Asked of half of respondents

Favor	36%
Oppose	41%
Not sure	23%

34. Do you favor or oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?

Strongly favor	33%
Somewhat favor	13%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	31%
Not sure	10%

35. Should states be permitted to set their own policies when it comes to same-sex marriage, or is this something that should only be handled by the federal government?

States should be permitted	48%
Should only be handled by federal government	35%
Not sure	17%

36. In 1996, the federal government passed a law that says the government will only recognize marriages between a man and a woman. It was called the Defense of Marriage Act, or DOMA. This law means that married same-sex couples could not receive federal benefits when it comes to taxes or entitlements like Social Security and Medicare. The Supreme Court is now hearing arguments on whether this law is constitutional. Several lower courts have said it is not. Do you think the Supreme Court should uphold DOMA and only recognize heterosexual marriages, or should it overturn the law and let the federal government recognize same-sex marriages, too?

This law should be upheld.	40%
This law should be overturned.	45%
Not sure	15%

37. What would be the impact of legalizing same sex marriages on the institution of traditional male-female marriages?

Benefit 10%
 Have no impact 55%
 Threaten 35%

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

Yes 70%
 No 30%

39. How much do you know about each of the following figures of the Republican Party?

	Know a lot	Know a little	Have not heard of this person
Chris Christie	38%	40%	22%
Rand Paul	35%	43%	22%
Mitch Daniels	11%	38%	51%
Marco Rubio	33%	39%	28%
Michael Steele	19%	35%	46%
Fred Thompson	23%	43%	33%
Rick Perry	35%	44%	21%
Herman Cain	30%	41%	30%
Michelle Bachmann	36%	45%	19%
Jeb Bush	32%	53%	15%

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

Asked of respondents who indicated they had heard of each of the following people

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable
Chris Christie	17%	45%	26%	12%
Rand Paul	23%	31%	21%	25%
Mitch Daniels	13%	40%	29%	17%
Marco Rubio	16%	31%	30%	23%
Michael Steele	10%	43%	29%	18%
Fred Thompson	16%	43%	23%	18%
Rick Perry	15%	31%	23%	31%
Herman Cain	21%	25%	23%	31%
Michelle Bachmann	15%	25%	18%	41%
Jeb Bush	17%	32%	25%	25%

41. Who do you think should be the Republican nominee for President in 2016?

Rand Paul	9%
Chris Christie	20%
Marco Rubio	5%
Jeb Bush	6%
Condoleezza Rice	8%
Paul Ryan	4%
Bobby Jindal	2%
Rick Santorum	3%
Other	5%
Not sure	38%

42. Do you think the Republican Presidential nominee in 2016 should be more conservative or less conservative than Mitt Romney?

More conservative	23%
About the same	23%
Less conservative	36%
Not sure	18%

43. Do you think the United States has a responsibility to do something about the fighting in Syria between government forces and anti-government rebels, or doesn't the United States have this responsibility?

Has responsibility	19%
Does not have responsibility	60%
Not sure	21%

44. President Obama is sending weapons to the rebels in Syria, saying that there is evidence that the Syrian government used chemical weapons against the rebels. Do you approve or disapprove of this decision?

Approve strongly	7%
Approve somewhat	21%
Disapprove somewhat	23%
Disapprove strongly	31%
Not sure	19%

45. Which comes closest to your opinion on the current situation in Syria?

The President should have taken action in support of the rebels sooner ..	16%
The President did the right thing in helping the rebels now	14%
The President should have waited longer to send support	5%
The President should not support the rebels in Syria at all	35%
Not sure	30%

46. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	77%	17%	4%	2%
Immigration	45%	36%	14%	6%
The environment	45%	31%	14%	10%
Terrorism	50%	30%	14%	6%
Gay rights	22%	23%	22%	33%
Education	61%	29%	8%	3%
Health care	69%	24%	4%	3%
Social security	61%	29%	8%	2%
The budget deficit	55%	27%	13%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	29%	38%	23%	10%
Taxes	59%	30%	7%	4%
Medicare	55%	31%	10%	4%
Abortion	34%	30%	21%	14%

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

The economy	31%
Immigration	5%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	3%
Education	8%
Health care	10%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	5%
Abortion	4%

48. 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	30%	18%	8%	39%	5%
John Boehner	6%	20%	20%	29%	26%
Mitch McConnell	5%	19%	15%	26%	36%
Harry Reid	5%	20%	12%	33%	30%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	20%	12%	40%	17%
Joe Biden	23%	20%	15%	30%	12%
Hillary Clinton	33%	21%	12%	28%	7%
John Kerry	15%	27%	15%	28%	15%
Eric Holder	7%	14%	12%	33%	34%
John Roberts	5%	22%	20%	15%	39%
Susan Rice	9%	21%	8%	27%	35%
Bill Clinton	33%	25%	15%	19%	8%

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

Strongly approve	18%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Not sure	6%

50. 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%	25%	13%	37%	8%
Immigration	16%	27%	9%	36%	11%
The environment	14%	28%	17%	26%	15%
Terrorism	18%	24%	17%	31%	10%
Gay rights	18%	20%	11%	32%	18%
Education	15%	28%	17%	27%	13%
Health care	21%	21%	10%	41%	7%
Social security	14%	22%	17%	33%	14%
The war in Afghanistan	13%	28%	18%	30%	11%
The budget deficit	14%	22%	14%	38%	11%
Taxes	13%	26%	14%	37%	10%
Medicare	15%	23%	16%	33%	12%
Abortion	16%	20%	11%	32%	21%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	10%
Neither approve nor disapprove	14%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	43%
Not sure	11%

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

Very liberal	8%
Liberal	19%
Moderate	30%
Conservative	30%
Very conservative	8%
Not sure	5%

53. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	37%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	2%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	12%

54. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	52%
Not sure	11%

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

Like a lot	35%
Like somewhat	23%
Dislike	31%
Not sure	11%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	39%	34%	27%
Bold	30%	54%	16%
Effective	25%	45%	30%
Exciting	17%	60%	23%
Experienced	23%	46%	32%
Honest	28%	37%	35%
Hypocritical	36%	39%	25%
Inspiring	36%	40%	24%
Intelligent	53%	33%	14%
Partisan	27%	58%	15%
Patriotic	27%	41%	32%
Religious	15%	55%	30%
Sincere	31%	38%	31%
Steady	27%	54%	19%
Strong	30%	49%	22%

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

Getting better	28%
About the same	36%
Getting worse	31%
Not sure	6%

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

Higher	23%
About the same	32%
Lower	23%
Not sure	23%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	18%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	49%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	30%
Not sure	4%

60. Do you think home prices in your area have increased or decreased in the last year?

Increased	32%
Stayed about the same	37%
Decreased	10%
Not sure	22%

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

Yes	26%
No	74%

62. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

63. Education

No high school	7%
High school graduate	31%
Some college	25%
2-year college	13%
4-year college	15%
Post-graduate	8%

64. Age

18-29	24%
30-44	31%
45-64	29%
65+	16%

65. Race

White	64%
Black	16%
Hispanic	12%
Other	8%

66. Region

Northeast	19%
Midwest	19%
South	35%
West	27%

67. Party Identification

Democrat	37%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	18%
Lean Republican	8%
Republican	28%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	June 22-24, 2013
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 7.1, 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.