

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted September 28-30, 2013
Margin of Error $\pm 4.5\%$

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	31%
Only now and then	15%
Hardly at all	7%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	24%
Off on the wrong track	63%
Not sure	13%

3. How much have you heard or read about the possibility of a shutdown of the federal government if Congress and the President cannot reach an agreement on federal spending?

A lot	50%
A little	40%
Nothing at all	10%

4. If you had to choose, would you rather have a member of Congress who...

Compromises to get things done.	69%
Sticks to their principles, no matter what.	31%

5. If you had to choose, would you rather have a President who...

Compromises to get things done.	70%
Sticks to his or her principles, no matter what.	30%

6. Do you have a favorable opinion of the following groups in Congress?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
House Democrats	13%	22%	17%	34%	14%
House Republicans	8%	18%	20%	40%	14%
Senate Democrats	13%	23%	15%	36%	14%
Senate Republicans	5%	16%	27%	37%	14%

7. Do you think that you would be personally affected by a shutdown of the federal government?

Definitely yes	15%
Probably yes	23%
Hard to say	36%
Probably no	17%
Definitely no	9%

8. If President Obama and Congress do not reach a budget agreement in time to avoid a shutdown of the federal government, who do you think will be to blame? (Select as many as you want.)

President Obama	44%
House Republicans	49%
House Democrats	25%
Senate Republicans	37%
Senate Democrats	31%
Not sure	18%

9. Do you think the Affordable Care Act (ACA, sometimes called "Obamacare") should be expanded, kept the same, or repealed?

Expanded	22%
Kept the same	16%
Repealed	42%
Not sure	20%

10. Which outcome is the most important to you?

Stopping Obamacare – but only if the federal government <u>isn't</u> shutdown temporarily	11%
Stopping Obamacare – even if that means shutting down the federal government temporarily	34%
Keeping Obamacare – even if that means shutting down the federal government temporarily	26%
Keeping Obamacare – but only if the federal government <u>isn't</u> shutdown temporarily	11%
Not sure	19%

11. Which of the following three statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the health care reform law?

On the whole, the health care reform law is the best law that could be passed by the Congress at the time.	19%
There are some good things in the health care reform law, but it could be significantly better.	42%
The health care reform law has so much wrong with it that it should be repealed.	39%

12. As a result of the health care reform law, do you think...

	Yes	No
there will be long-term savings in health care costs?	43%	57%
health care will be rationed?	53%	47%
there will be limits to medical care for the elderly and people with disabilities?	53%	47%
you will be able to keep your health care coverage even if you became seriously ill?	70%	30%
you will be able to keep your current doctors if you wished?	63%	37%
the law will give health care coverage to illegal immigrants?	56%	44%
there will be cuts in Medicare coverage?	57%	43%
the deficit will increase by billions of dollars?	58%	42%
you might lose your own health care coverage?	36%	64%
people will be able to get health insurance coverage for pre-existing conditions?	80%	20%
the elderly will be required to have consultations with doctors about end of life decisions?	50%	50%

13. How much have you heard about the terror attack that happened last week in a Kenyan shopping mall?

Heard a lot	40%
Heard a little	49%
Heard nothing at all	10%

14. 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%)	17%
Somewhat likely (10% to 50%)	40%
Not very likely (1% to 10%)	20%
Very unlikely (less than 1%)	6%
Not sure	17%

15. Which comes closer to your view?

In the long run, the United States will be safer from terrorism if it confronts the countries and groups that promote terrorism.	41%
In the long run, the United States will be safer from terrorism if it stays out of other countries' affairs.	59%

16. Do you consider Iran to be a friend or an enemy of the United States?

Ally of U.S.	1%
Friendly	6%
Unfriendly	36%
Enemy of the U.S.	36%
Not sure	22%

17. How much have you heard about the new Iranian President Hassan Rouhani?

Heard a lot	19%
Heard a little	50%
Heard nothing at all	31%

18. How much have you heard about the recent telephone conversation between President Obama and Iranian President Rouhani?

Heard a lot	16%
Heard a little	48%
Heard nothing at all	36%

19. Should President Obama personally negotiate with the leaders of Iran to limit their nuclear program?

Yes	64%
No	36%

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

Threaten Iran with of the possible use of military force	19%
Threaten Iran with harsher economic sanctions	25%
Reward Iran with easing of economic sanctions	28%
Reward Iran with a guarantee of no use of military force	13%
Reward Iran with resumption of diplomatic relations	24%
Something else	6%
Not sure	30%

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

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	13%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	37%
A minor threat to the U.S.	28%
Not a threat to the U.S.	7%
Not sure	16%

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

Strongly approve	13%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	20%
No opinion	26%

23. Do you support or oppose the use of military force against Syria?

Strongly support	5%
Somewhat support	13%
Somewhat oppose	25%
Strongly oppose	37%
Not sure	20%

24. How much have you heard about the UN Security Council resolution to eliminate Syria's chemical weapons?

Heard a lot	26%
Heard a little	48%
Heard nothing at all	26%

25. Do you believe passage of the UN Security Council resolution ends the Syrian chemical weapons crisis?

Yes	9%
No	54%
Not sure	37%

26. Will President Obama order military action against Syria if the government violates the UN Security Council resolution?

Yes	25%
No	24%
Not sure	51%

27. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama is handling the situation in Syria?

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	23%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	26%
No opinion	20%

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama is handling foreign policy?

Strongly approve	11%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	18%
Strongly disapprove	28%
No opinion	19%

29. Have you ever participated in a fantasy football league?

Yes	14%
No	83%
Not sure	3%

30. Has a close family member ever participated in a fantasy football league?

Yes	21%
No	67%
Not sure	12%

31. Does participating in a fantasy football league make you enjoy professional football more, about the same, or less?

Asked of those who have participated in a fantasy football league

Enjoy more	37%
Enjoy about the same	48%
Enjoy less	13%
Not sure	2%

32. How much time do you spend on managing your fantasy football team? (Not counting the time spent watching the games.)

Asked of those who have participated in a fantasy football league

Less than an hour a week	49%
A couple of hours a week	30%
An hour or so every day	10%
A couple of hours a day or more	4%
Not sure	7%

33. Does your household subscribe to a premium sports package, for example NFL Sunday Ticket or NFL Redzone?

Yes	9%
No	87%
Not sure	3%

34. What is your favorite food to eat while watching football?

Hot dogs	5%
Hamburgers	6%
Nachos	12%
Chicken wings	21%
Pizza	37%
Something else	19%

35. Have you ever participated in a fantasy baseball league?

Yes	8%
No	91%
Not sure	1%

36. Has a close family member ever participated in a fantasy baseball league?

Yes	10%
No	80%
Not sure	10%

37. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	75%	20%	4%	1%
Immigration	41%	38%	14%	7%
The environment	40%	37%	15%	8%
Terrorism	48%	35%	11%	7%
Gay rights	20%	22%	20%	38%
Education	54%	32%	8%	6%
Health care	71%	22%	5%	2%
Social security	57%	31%	10%	2%
The budget deficit	53%	32%	9%	6%
The war in Afghanistan	26%	42%	22%	10%
Taxes	58%	30%	9%	2%
Medicare	52%	32%	10%	5%
Abortion	30%	30%	25%	15%

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

The economy	32%
Immigration	4%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	2%
Education	8%
Health care	14%
Social security	13%
The budget deficit	9%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	3%

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

The economy	32%
Immigration	0%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	2%
Gay rights	10%
Education	12%
Health care	20%
Social security	9%
The budget deficit	4%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	5%
Medicare	0%
Abortion	2%

40. 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	26%	21%	9%	37%	7%
John Boehner	3%	19%	19%	34%	24%
Mitch McConnell	2%	13%	19%	31%	35%
Harry Reid	6%	18%	13%	35%	28%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	21%	10%	41%	18%
Joe Biden	20%	23%	11%	32%	15%
Hillary Clinton	29%	22%	11%	30%	8%

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

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	28%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	8%

42. 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	12%	26%	12%	37%	13%
Immigration	12%	23%	15%	34%	15%
The environment	12%	28%	16%	23%	21%
Terrorism	18%	24%	17%	27%	14%
Gay rights	20%	23%	10%	26%	21%
Education	14%	26%	16%	25%	19%
Health care	20%	19%	11%	39%	12%
Social security	14%	24%	18%	26%	19%
The war in Afghanistan	16%	28%	18%	22%	16%
The budget deficit	13%	21%	13%	37%	15%
Taxes	12%	25%	15%	34%	14%
Medicare	13%	23%	19%	28%	18%
Abortion	13%	22%	10%	28%	28%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	7%
Neither approve nor disapprove	16%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	45%
Not sure	11%

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

Very liberal	5%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	31%
Conservative	28%
Very conservative	8%
Not sure	11%

45. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	33%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	12%

46. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	41%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	49%
Not sure	10%

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

Like a lot	33%
Like somewhat	24%
Dislike	31%
Not sure	11%

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

Getting better	21%
About the same	36%
Getting worse	34%
Not sure	8%

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

Higher	20%
About the same	32%
Lower	23%
Not sure	24%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	17%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	45%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	32%
Not sure	6%

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

Owned by you or your family	65%
Rented from someone else	33%
Other	2%

52. Do you think the value of your home has increased or decreased in the last year?

Increased	25%
Stayed about the same	43%
Decreased	23%
Not sure	8%

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

Increased	34%
Stayed about the same	36%
Decreased	9%
Not sure	20%

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

Will increase a lot	5%
Will increase a little	34%
Will stay about the same	31%
Will decrease a little	8%
Will decrease a lot	4%
Not sure	18%

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

Very worried	6%
Somewhat worried	23%
Not worried	33%
Don't have mortgage payments	37%

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

Will definitely buy a home	3%
Am considering buying a home	11%
Not looking for a home now	86%

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

Yes	27%
No	73%

58. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	72%
No	24%
Don't know	4%

59. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student	0%
Part-time student	6%
Not a student	94%

60. Do you have a job outside of school?

Full-time job	51%
Part-time job	41%
No job outside of school	7%

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

Full-time employed	39%
Part-time employed	12%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	12%
Retired	18%
Permanently disabled	8%
Homemaker	9%
Other	1%

62. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	16%
No	84%

63. In a typical week, about how many hours do you work for pay?

Mean 18

64. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried 12%
 Somewhat worried 30%
 Not very worried 58%

65. 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. 41%
 Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.
 36%
 Not very hard 17%
 Not sure 6%

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

More jobs 16%
 The same amount of jobs 42%
 Fewer jobs 29%
 Not sure 13%

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

Very happy 21%
 Happy 35%
 Neither happy nor unhappy 27%
 Unhappy 8%
 Very unhappy 9%

68. How would you guess your total family income to be six months from now?

Higher	18%
Same	65%
Lower	17%

69. If you lost your job, how long would it be before you exhausted your savings?

I don't have any savings	27%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	22%
I could last a few months on my savings	26%
I could last a year on my savings	11%
I could last more than a year on my savings	13%

70. Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

71. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat	35%
Republican	24%
Independent	32%
Other	2%
Not sure	7%

72. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	67%
Black	14%
Hispanic	12%
Asian	3%
Native American	0%
Middle Eastern	0%
Mixed	2%
Other	1%

73. Education

No high school	10%
High school graduate	29%
Some college	24%
2-year college	12%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	8%

74. What is your marital status?

Married	47%
Separated	1%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	4%
Single	32%
Domestic partnership	5%

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

Yes	28%
No	72%

76. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	37%
Somewhat important	27%
Not too important	14%
Not at all important	22%

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

More than once a week	9%
Once a week	15%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	13%
Seldom	22%
Never	32%
Don't know	2%

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

Several times a day	26%
Once a day	13%
A few times a week	14%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	7%
Seldom	15%
Never	18%
Don't know	3%

79. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	36%
Roman Catholic	17%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	4%
Muslim	2%
Buddhist	0%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	4%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	27%
Something else	4%

80. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	28%
45-64	33%
65+	14%

81. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat	35%
Republican	23%
Independent	31%
Other	4%
Not sure	7%

82. Race

White	67%
Black	14%
Hispanic	12%
Other	7%

83. Region

Northeast	20%
Midwest	23%
South	35%
West	22%

84. Party Identification

Democrat	35%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	24%
Lean Republican	9%
Republican	24%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	September 28-30, 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 0.3 to 7.2, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.05.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.5% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.