The Economist/YouGov Poll

Sample   1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted   June 23-25, 2012
Margin of Error   ±4.2%

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1. How closely have you been following news about the 2012 presidential election campaign?

Very closely 32%
Somewhat closely 37%
Not too closely 21%
Not at all 11%

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

Generally headed in the right direction 23%
Off on the wrong track 62%
Not sure 15%

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3. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	80%	18%	2%	1%
Immigration	43%	35%	16%	6%
The environment	37%	37%	16%	10%
Terrorism	43%	37%	15%	5%
Gay rights	19%	24%	25%	32%
Education	55%	32%	9%	4%
Health care	65%	28%	5%	2%
Social security	61%	29%	8%	2%
The budget deficit	58%	30%	9%	2%
The war in Afghanistan	31%	41%	19%	9%
Taxes	58%	33%	7%	2%
Medicare	54%	33%	10%	3%
Abortion	30%	32%	21%	16%

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

The economy	41%
Immigration	3%
The environment	3%
Terrorism	2%
Gay rights	1%
Education	4%
Health care	11%
Social security	13%
The budget deficit	11%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	3%

5. Have you heard about the congressional investigation of the "Fast and Furious" operation?

Yes	56%
No	38%
Not sure	6%

6. Do you think the congressional investigation of the Fast and Furious operation is mostly about finding out what happened, or is it mostly about politics?
Asked of respondents who indicated they had heard about the Fast and Furious investigation

Mostly about finding out what happened	43%
Mostly about politics	49%
Not sure	7%

7. Do you currently have health insurance?

Yes	77%
No	21%
Not sure	2%

8. What kind of health care coverage do you currently have?

I have private insurance or belong to an HMO. 61%
I'm covered by a government plan, such as Medicare or Medicaid. 32%
Other 5%
Not sure 2%

9. How satisfied are you with your health insurance coverage?

Very satisfied 29%
Somewhat satisfied 38%
Somewhat dissatisfied 9%
Very dissatisfied 15%
Not sure 10%

10. Do you think it is the responsibility of the federal government to see to it that everyone has health care coverage?

Yes 41%
No 47%
Not sure 12%

11. Did you favor or oppose President Obama's health care reform, the Affordable Care Act (ACA)?

I favored the Act 34%
I opposed the Act 44%
Not sure 22%

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

Expanded 29%
Kept the same 11%
Repealed 37%
Not sure 22%

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13. Would you favor or oppose the following things?

	Favor	Oppose	Not sure
Require all Americans to have health insurance or pay a tax penalty	21%	62%	17%
Require companies to offer health insurance to their employees	60%	23%	17%
Allow children to stay on their parent's employer health plan up to age 26	59%	25%	16%
Prevent insurers from denying coverage because of a pre-existing condition	71%	14%	15%
Eliminate lifetime limits on health insurance benefits	51%	21%	27%
Require all health insurance policies to provide a minimum levels of benefits	65%	15%	20%
Provide a subsidy to families with incomes of between $29,000 and $88,000 per year to help pay for health insurance	47%	29%	24%
Increase the Medicare payroll tax on earnings for upper-income Americans	56%	25%	18%

14. Do you favor requiring police to check the immigration status of a person they have stopped or arrested if they suspect the person of being in the country illegally?

Approve 62%
Disapprove 25%
Not sure 14%

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

States should be permitted 43%
Should only be handled by federal government 43%
Not sure 14%

16. Overall, do you think illegal immigrants make a contribution to American society or are a drain?

Mostly make a contribution 26%
Neither 14%
Mostly a drain 49%
Not sure 11%

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

Favor 47%
Oppose 36%
Unsure 17%

18. Do you favor or oppose racial profiling, which allows police to use race as a factor in deciding who to stop and investigate for crimes?

Favor 20%
Oppose 64%
Not sure 15%

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19. 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%	19%	10%	37%	8%
Mitt Romney	11%	29%	16%	31%	13%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	20%	15%	12%	47%
Rob Portman	2%	11%	10%	9%	69%
Jeb Bush	11%	26%	20%	20%	24%
Joe Biden	17%	23%	15%	29%	15%

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

Strongly Approve 16%
Somewhat Approve 24%
Somewhat Disapprove 14%
Strongly Disapprove 39%
Not Sure 6%

21. 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%	21%	14%	41%	10%
Immigration	16%	20%	15%	37%	12%
The environment	13%	26%	16%	26%	20%
Terrorism	25%	25%	15%	22%	13%
Gay rights	19%	20%	12%	32%	18%
Education	15%	26%	17%	25%	18%
Health care	21%	19%	11%	39%	10%
Social security	14%	20%	17%	28%	20%
The budget deficit	12%	19%	15%	41%	13%
The war in Afghanistan	17%	26%	20%	23%	14%
Taxes	14%	23%	17%	33%	13%
Medicare	14%	22%	15%	30%	19%
Abortion	13%	18%	14%	28%	27%

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

Strongly approve ……………………………………………………… 1%
Somewhat approve ……………………………………………………… 7%
Neither approve nor disapprove ……………………………………… 14%
Somewhat disapprove ………………………………………………… 24%
Strongly disapprove …………………………………………………… 43%
Not sure ………………………………………………………………… 10%

23. If the 2012 presidential election were being held today, who would you vote for?
Asked of registered voters. Respondents who initially answered 'not sure' but indicated they were leaning toward Obama or Romney in a follow-up question are counted as Obama or Romney supporters

Barack Obama ………………………………………………………… 45%
Mitt Romney …………………………………………………………… 44%
Other …………………………………………………………………… 4%
Not sure ………………………………………………………………… 7%

24. Regardless of which candidate you support, who do you think is most likely to win the Presidential election in November?
Asked of registered voters

Obama will definitely win 15%
Obama will probably win 27%
Obama and Romney are equally likely to win 16%
Romney will probably win 20%
Romney will definitely win 8%
Don't know 14%

25. If an election for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

The Democratic Party candidate 37%
The Republican Party candidate 32%
Other 2%
Not sure 17%
I would not vote 12%

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

Yes 14%
No 71%
Not sure 16%

27. Thinking about politics these days, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Very liberal 4%
Liberal 13%
Moderate 35%
Conservative 24%
Very Conservative 7%
Not sure 16%

28. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal 32%
Liberal 22%
Moderate 24%
Conservative 5%
Very conservative 1%
Not sure 17%

29. Would you say Mitt Romney is...

Very liberal 3%
Liberal 6%
Moderate 21%
Conservative 29%
Very conservative 18%
Not sure 24%

30. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes 39%
Says what he thinks people want to hear 51%
Not sure 10%

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

Like a lot 32%
Like somewhat 26%
Dislike 31%
Not sure 12%

32. Do you think Mitt Romney...

Says what he believes 21%
Says what he thinks people want to hear 61%
Not sure 18%

33. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like Mitt Romney as a person?

Like a lot 9%
Like somewhat 31%
Dislike 36%
Not sure 24%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	40%	34%	26%
Bold	31%	53%	16%
Effective	22%	44%	34%
Exciting	18%	62%	21%
Experienced	18%	47%	35%
Honest	30%	35%	35%
Hypocritical	35%	41%	24%
Inspiring	32%	47%	21%
Intelligent	57%	31%	12%
Partisan	24%	60%	16%
Patriotic	28%	43%	29%
Religious	15%	56%	29%
Sincere	31%	40%	29%
Steady	26%	58%	16%
Strong	29%	51%	20%

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35. Which of these words would you use to describe Mitt Romney?

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	34%	46%	20%
Bold	16%	68%	17%
Effective	21%	60%	19%
Exciting	6%	58%	35%
Experienced	34%	53%	13%
Honest	19%	52%	30%
Hypocritical	33%	49%	19%
Inspiring	9%	62%	28%
Intelligent	42%	48%	10%
Partisan	26%	64%	10%
Patriotic	34%	58%	8%
Religious	42%	51%	6%
Sincere	19%	52%	29%
Steady	22%	63%	14%
Strong	18%	67%	14%

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

Getting better ……………………………………………………………18%
About the same ……………………………………………………………37%
Getting worse ……………………………………………………………38%
Not sure ……………………………………………………………… 7%

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

Higher ………………………………………………………………20%
About the same ……………………………………………………………33%
Lower ……………………………………………………………… 21%
Not sure ……………………………………………………………26%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago 16%
About the same financially as you were a year ago 46%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago 34%
Not sure 4%

39. Gender

Male 49%
Female 51%

40. Education

No high school 14%
High school graduate 29%
Some college 24%
2-year college 7%
4-year college 17%
Post-graduate 9%

41. Age

18-29 .... 21%
30-44 .... 26%
45-64 .... 35%
65+ 18%

42. Race

White 72%
Black 12%
Hispanic 9%
Other 8%

43. Region

Northeast 18%
Midwest 21%
South 38%
West 23%

44. Party Identification

Democrat 32%
Lean Democrat 12%
Independent 21%
Lean Republican 11%
Republican 25%

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Sponsorship	*The Economist*
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	June 23-25, 2012
Target population	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's PollingPoint panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by age, gender, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2005–2007 American Community Study. Voter registration, turnout, religion, news interest, minor party identification, and non-placement on an ideology scale, were imputed from the 2008 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement and the Pew Religion in American Life Survey. Matching respondents were selected from the PollingPoint panel, an opt-in Internet panel.
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 0.2 to 7, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.9.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	$\pm$ 4.2% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	36 questions not reported.