

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted October 26-28, 2013
Margin of Error $\pm 4.3\%$

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	46%
Some of the time	31%
Only now and then	15%
Hardly at all	8%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	24%
Off on the wrong track	61%
Not sure	14%

3. How would you rate the following Presidents?

	Great	Near Great	Average	Below Average	Failure	Don't know
Barack Obama	14%	15%	21%	10%	37%	3%
George W. Bush	6%	11%	29%	19%	32%	3%
Bill Clinton	27%	22%	27%	14%	7%	4%
George H.W. Bush	6%	17%	43%	16%	12%	6%
Ronald Reagan	32%	20%	23%	11%	7%	7%
Jimmy Carter	6%	13%	32%	15%	22%	12%
Gerald Ford	3%	7%	45%	21%	7%	17%
Richard Nixon	3%	8%	25%	23%	30%	12%
Lyndon Johnson	5%	13%	34%	15%	13%	19%
John F. Kennedy	30%	30%	23%	4%	2%	10%
Dwight Eisenhower	14%	30%	30%	3%	1%	22%
Harry Truman	16%	21%	30%	5%	2%	26%
Franklin D. Roosevelt	31%	22%	18%	6%	4%	19%
Herbert Hoover	4%	10%	31%	12%	11%	32%
Calvin Coolidge	3%	7%	30%	12%	6%	42%
Warren G. Harding	2%	5%	30%	12%	7%	44%
Woodrow Wilson	5%	14%	29%	9%	6%	37%
William Taft	3%	6%	33%	12%	3%	43%
Theodore Roosevelt	23%	29%	18%	3%	2%	26%

4. Which man do you consider to be the greatest President since 1900?

Barack Obama	6%
George W Bush	2%
Bill Clinton	15%
George H.W. Bush	0%
Ronald Reagan	21%
Jimmy Carter	1%
Gerald Ford	0%
Richard Nixon	1%
Lyndon Johnson	0%
John F. Kennedy	17%
Dwight Eisenhower	2%
Harry Truman	1%
Franklin D. Roosevelt	23%
Herbert Hoover	0%
Calvin Coolidge	1%
Warren G. Harding	0%
Woodrow Wilson	0%
William Taft	0%
Theodore Roosevelt	4%
Not sure	6%

5. How would you describe the political views of the following Presidents?

	Very liberal	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Very conservative	Don't know
Barack Obama	41%	21%	20%	5%	2%	11%
George W. Bush	2%	6%	20%	38%	22%	12%
Bill Clinton	18%	40%	26%	3%	1%	12%
George H.W. Bush	3%	4%	22%	43%	16%	12%
Ronald Reagan	2%	5%	15%	35%	29%	14%
Jimmy Carter	24%	30%	19%	6%	1%	19%
Gerald Ford	1%	9%	37%	25%	3%	25%
Richard Nixon	2%	6%	25%	34%	11%	23%
Lyndon Johnson	10%	29%	25%	9%	2%	25%
John F. Kennedy	10%	32%	30%	7%	2%	20%
Dwight Eisenhower	2%	5%	36%	26%	6%	25%
Harry Truman	3%	15%	38%	13%	4%	28%
Franklin D. Roosevelt	19%	28%	18%	5%	3%	27%
Herbert Hoover	3%	9%	26%	19%	10%	34%
Calvin Coolidge	2%	6%	27%	21%	9%	36%
Warren G. Harding	1%	5%	30%	19%	8%	37%
Woodrow Wilson	9%	13%	31%	13%	3%	31%
William Taft	2%	6%	32%	19%	3%	38%
Theodore Roosevelt	2%	17%	29%	20%	4%	27%

6. Who was the first President that you were aware of when growing up?"

Barack Obama	0%
George W Bush	5%
Bill Clinton	15%
George H.W. Bush	4%
Ronald Reagan	13%
Jimmy Carter	7%
Gerald Ford	3%
Richard Nixon	6%
Lyndon Johnson	1%
John F. Kennedy	17%
Dwight Eisenhower	13%
Harry Truman	4%
Franklin D. Roosevelt	6%
Herbert Hoover	0%
Other	1%
Don't know	4%

7. What do you think is more important for a President?"

To inspire ordinary citizens	68%
To get Congress to pass his policies	32%

8. Should a President be judged more by his accomplishments in domestic or foreign policy?

Domestic policy	70%
Foreign policy	8%
Not sure	22%

9. Who do you think is more powerful today?

The President	28%
Congress	28%
Equally powerful	26%
Not sure	19%

10. Who do you think was more powerful 50 years ago, when John F. Kennedy was President?

The President	44%
Congress	11%
Equally powerful	23%
Not sure	22%

11. Do you think one man—Lee Harvey Oswald—was responsible for the assassination of President (John F.) Kennedy, or do you think there were others involved?

One man, Oswald	19%
Others involved	54%
Don't know	27%

12. Do you approve or disapprove of way the following men handled their jobs as President?

	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Not Sure
Barack Obama	16%	25%	11%	41%	7%
George W. Bush	10%	27%	19%	36%	8%
Bill Clinton	31%	29%	20%	11%	8%
George H.W. Bush	13%	35%	23%	15%	13%
Ronald Reagan	37%	25%	10%	14%	14%
Jimmy Carter	9%	31%	16%	22%	23%
Gerald Ford	5%	34%	20%	6%	35%
Richard Nixon	4%	21%	24%	31%	20%
Lyndon Johnson	8%	28%	19%	15%	31%
John F. Kennedy	34%	37%	5%	3%	21%
Dwight Eisenhower	19%	36%	7%	2%	38%
Harry Truman	16%	31%	7%	3%	44%
Franklin D. Roosevelt	29%	25%	7%	7%	33%
Herbert Hoover	3%	15%	13%	11%	57%
Calvin Coolidge	3%	13%	10%	6%	68%
Warren G. Harding	2%	12%	9%	7%	70%
Woodrow Wilson	3%	21%	8%	7%	60%
William Taft	1%	15%	9%	3%	72%
Theodore Roosevelt	19%	30%	6%	2%	44%
William McKinley	2%	13%	7%	2%	76%

13. Which of these words would you use to describe John F Kennedy?

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	9%	54%	37%
Bold	40%	58%	2%
Effective	42%	56%	3%
Exciting	32%	66%	3%
Experienced	22%	66%	12%
Honest	31%	55%	13%
Hypocritical	7%	61%	32%
Inspiring	65%	33%	2%
Intelligent	64%	35%	1%
Partisan	7%	82%	12%
Patriotic	54%	45%	1%
Religious	31%	59%	9%
Sincere	36%	58%	6%
Steady	26%	70%	5%
Strong	46%	52%	2%

14. On a scale from 0 to 100, where 0 means you feel very unfavorable toward them and 100 means you feel very favorable toward them, rate the Democratic Party

Mean39

15. On a scale from 0 to 100, where 0 means you feel very unfavorable toward them and 100 means you feel very favorable toward them, rate the Republican Party

Mean31

16. On a scale from 0 to 100, where 0 means you feel very unfavorable toward him and 100 means you feel very favorable toward him, rate Barack Obama

Mean37

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

The Democratic Party candidate	35%
The Republican Party candidate	24%
Other	8%
Not sure	22%
I would not vote	11%

18. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following potential Republican candidates for President?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Ted Cruz	14%	11%	7%	32%	35%
Chris Christie	9%	25%	20%	19%	27%
Rand Paul	13%	19%	12%	26%	31%
Scott Walker	8%	13%	8%	24%	47%
Marco Rubio	11%	17%	14%	22%	36%
Jeb Bush	6%	20%	20%	25%	28%
Paul Ryan	11%	18%	13%	30%	28%

19. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following potential Democratic candidates for President?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Joe Biden	14%	22%	14%	34%	16%
Hillary Clinton	30%	18%	10%	32%	10%
Martin O'Malley	3%	8%	8%	13%	69%
Brian Schweitzer	4%	8%	7%	11%	70%

20. If you had to choose one, which of these individuals would you want to be the Republican nominee for president in 2016?

Ted Cruz	12%
Chris Christie	20%
Rand Paul	7%
Scott Walker	5%
Marco Rubio	4%
Jeb Bush	4%
Paul Ryan	7%
Other	7%
No preference	35%

21. If you had to choose one, which of these individuals would you want to be the Democratic nominee for president in 2016?

Joe Biden	10%
Hillary Clinton	44%
Martin O'Malley	3%
Brian Schweitzer	4%
Other	7%
No preference	32%

22. If the 2016 presidential election were being held today, and the candidates were Ted Cruz, the Republican, and Joe Biden, the Democrat, would you vote for Ted Cruz or Joe Biden?

Ted Cruz	35%
Joe Biden	40%
Not sure	25%

23. If the 2016 presidential election were being held today, and the candidates were Ted Cruz, the Republican, and Hillary Clinton, the Democrat, would you vote for Ted Cruz or Hillary Clinton?

Ted Cruz	33%
Hillary Clinton	51%
Not sure	17%

24. If the 2016 presidential election were being held today, and the candidates were Chris Christie, the Republican, and Joe Biden, the Democrat, would you vote for Chris Christie or Joe Biden?

Chris Christie	38%
Joe Biden	35%
Not sure	27%

25. If the 2016 presidential election were being held today, and the candidates were Chris Christie, the Republican, and Hillary Clinton, the Democrat, would you vote for Chris Christie or Hillary Clinton?

Chris Christie	33%
Hillary Clinton	46%
Not sure	21%

26. 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	28%
Other	5%
Not sure	18%
I would not vote	12%

27. Please indicate if you know personally... (Check all that apply)

	Yes, and that person is me	Yes, I know someone like this	No, don't know anyone like this
Someone who has a child in college	8%	57%	33%
Someone who has been denied coverage due to a preexisting condition	8%	30%	61%
Someone who is on Medicare	18%	59%	25%
Someone who is on Medicaid	9%	50%	38%

28. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	77%
No	23%

29. Why do you not have health insurance at the moment? Check all that apply.

Asked if respondent does not have health insurance

Too expensive	64%
Healthy and did not need it	19%
Refused by an insurance company	5%
Lost my job	15%
Other	14%
Prefer not to say	11%

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	29%
More of a failure than a success	18%
Equal amount of both failure and success	12%
More of a success than a failure	13%
A complete success	2%
Too early to tell	18%
Not sure	9%

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

Expanded	26%
Kept the same	10%
Repealed	42%
Not sure	22%

32. Have you tried to visit a federal or state-run health care insurance exchange website?

Yes	18%
No	79%
Not sure	3%

33. How concerned are you about the health care costs you will face in the future?

Very concerned	55%
Somewhat concerned	31%
Not very concerned	9%
Not at all concerned	6%

34. Do you think that you will receive better or worse care under the new health care system?

A lot better	6%
A little better	9%
About the same	24%
A little worse	13%
A lot worse	30%
Not sure	20%

35. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the federal government?

Very favorable	4%
Somewhat favorable	15%
Somewhat unfavorable	31%
Very unfavorable	36%
Don't know	14%

36. Do you think the federal government or private insurance companies are better at controlling health care costs?

Federal government	21%
Private insurance companies	24%
They both control costs about the same	11%
Neither one controls costs	25%
Don't know	19%

37. Who do you think provides better health care coverage, the federal government or private insurance companies?

Federal government	15%
Private insurance companies	40%
They both provide good coverage	10%
Neither one provides good coverage	14%
Don't know	21%

38. Would you prefer to buy health insurance directly from the federal government, directly from a health insurance company, through where you work, or not buy any health insurance coverage?

Directly from the government	17%
Directly from a health insurance company	21%
Through where you work	32%
Not buy health insurance	8%
Not sure	22%

39. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	78%	18%	3%	1%
Immigration	35%	39%	16%	9%
The environment	41%	33%	16%	9%
Terrorism	42%	33%	18%	6%
Gay rights	20%	21%	22%	36%
Education	56%	32%	8%	4%
Health care	59%	31%	8%	2%
Social security	57%	30%	10%	3%
The budget deficit	55%	29%	12%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	23%	41%	25%	12%
Taxes	55%	35%	7%	3%
Medicare	46%	36%	15%	3%
Abortion	29%	32%	22%	17%

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

The economy	33%
Immigration	6%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	4%
Gay rights	2%
Education	10%
Health care	8%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	9%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	2%
Abortion	3%

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

The economy	41%
Immigration	13%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	1%
Gay rights	1%
Education	9%
Health care	7%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	5%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	1%
Abortion	1%

42. 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%	22%	9%	40%	5%
John Boehner	5%	16%	19%	36%	24%
Mitch McConnell	4%	12%	18%	26%	40%
Harry Reid	9%	16%	11%	31%	34%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	18%	12%	39%	20%

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

Strongly approve	13%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Not sure	5%

44. 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%	24%	15%	39%	9%
Immigration	12%	23%	15%	35%	16%
The environment	9%	26%	16%	26%	23%
Terrorism	16%	27%	15%	28%	14%
Gay rights	18%	20%	11%	27%	24%
Education	13%	25%	18%	27%	18%
Health care	18%	21%	11%	41%	10%
Social security	11%	23%	18%	30%	18%
The war in Afghanistan	11%	27%	19%	28%	15%
The budget deficit	12%	20%	18%	39%	11%
Taxes	10%	23%	17%	36%	13%
Medicare	13%	21%	18%	31%	18%
Abortion	13%	19%	13%	27%	28%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	6%
Neither approve nor disapprove	13%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	50%
Not sure	9%

46. 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	12%	21%	20%	33%	15%
House Republicans	7%	18%	19%	43%	14%
Senate Democrats	14%	20%	17%	35%	15%
Senate Republicans	5%	16%	28%	37%	14%

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

Very liberal	7%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	29%
Conservative	29%
Very conservative	8%
Not sure	11%

48. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	53%
Not sure	9%

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

Like a lot	30%
Like somewhat	26%
Dislike	34%
Not sure	10%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	39%	35%	27%
Bold	29%	56%	15%
Effective	18%	46%	36%
Exciting	14%	65%	22%
Experienced	17%	48%	35%
Honest	24%	39%	38%
Hypocritical	34%	43%	23%
Inspiring	30%	44%	26%
Intelligent	50%	33%	18%
Partisan	26%	59%	16%
Patriotic	26%	44%	30%
Religious	11%	61%	28%
Sincere	28%	37%	34%
Steady	23%	56%	22%
Strong	26%	49%	25%

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

Getting better	18%
About the same	36%
Getting worse	39%
Not sure	7%

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

Higher	21%
About the same	36%
Lower	18%
Not sure	25%

53. 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	48%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	30%
Not sure	6%

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

Owned by you or your family	60%
Rented from someone else	38%
Other	2%

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

Increased	26%
Stayed about the same	42%
Decreased	23%
Not sure	9%

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

Increased	34%
Stayed about the same	35%
Decreased	8%
Not sure	24%

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

Will increase a lot	7%
Will increase a little	29%
Will stay about the same	33%
Will decrease a little	9%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	19%

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

Very worried	8%
Somewhat worried	20%
Not worried	35%
Don't have mortgage payments	38%

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

Will definitely buy a home	3%
Am considering buying a home	10%
Not looking for a home now	88%

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

Yes	26%
No	74%

61. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	66%
No	31%
Don't know	2%

62. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student	10%
Part-time student	2%
Not a student	88%

63. Do you have a job outside of school?

Full-time job	8%
Part-time job	42%
No job outside of school	50%

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

Full-time employed	43%
Part-time employed	11%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	11%
Retired	16%
Permanently disabled	8%
Homemaker	10%
Other	1%

65. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	16%
No	84%

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

Mean	20
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67. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	10%
Somewhat worried	33%
Not very worried	57%

68. 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.	36%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	36%
Not very hard	16%
Not sure	12%

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

More jobs	19%
The same amount of jobs	41%
Fewer jobs	28%
Not sure	13%

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

Very happy	19%
Happy	39%
Neither happy nor unhappy	30%
Unhappy	8%
Very unhappy	4%

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

Higher	16%
Same	70%
Lower	14%

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

I don't have any savings	36%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	19%
I could last a few months on my savings	24%
I could last a year on my savings	12%
I could last more than a year on my savings	8%

73. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

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

Democrat	34%
Republican	22%
Independent	32%
Other	2%
Not sure	11%

75. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	66%
Black	15%
Hispanic	12%
Asian	3%
Native American	1%
Middle Eastern	1%
Mixed	2%
Other	1%

76. Education

No high school	12%
High school graduate	29%
Some college	24%
2-year college	9%
4-year college	18%
Post-graduate	9%

77. What is your marital status?

Married	46%
Separated	1%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	4%
Single	32%
Domestic partnership	6%

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

Yes	31%
No	69%

79. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	40%
Somewhat important	29%
Not too important	12%
Not at all important	19%

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

More than once a week	8%
Once a week	16%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	14%
Seldom	23%
Never	27%
Don't know	3%

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

Several times a day	30%
Once a day	14%
A few times a week	13%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	16%
Never	16%
Don't know	2%

82. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	38%
Roman Catholic	20%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	0%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	4%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	21%
Something else	6%

83. Age

18-29	26%
30-44	28%
45-64	32%
65+	14%

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

Democrat	33%
Republican	25%
Independent	29%
Other	3%
Not sure	10%

85. Race

White	66%
Black	15%
Hispanic	12%
Other	8%

86. Region

Northeast	16%
Midwest	23%
South	37%
West	23%

87. Party Identification

Democrat	34%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	26%
Lean Republican	10%
Republican	22%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	October 26-28, 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, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.95.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.3% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.