

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted August 24-26, 2013  
Margin of Error  $\pm 4.6\%$

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	45%
Some of the time	30%
Only now and then	16%
Hardly at all	9%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	26%
Off on the wrong track	60%
Not sure	14%

3. Question treatment

Control	51%
President Carter	49%

4. Was the US right or wrong to boycott the 1980 Summer Olympic games in Moscow to protest the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan?

The US was right	28%
The US was wrong	27%
Not sure	45%

5. Was President Jimmy Carter right or wrong for ordering the US boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympic games in Moscow to protest the Soviet Union’s invasion of Afghanistan?

President Carter was right .....	34%
President Carter was wrong .....	27%
Not sure .....	39%

6. This week marks the 50th anniversary of the civil rights march on Washington where Martin Luther King spoke. How much do you, personally, know or remember about that march?

A great deal .....	11%
A fair amount .....	29%
Only a little .....	40%
Nothing at all .....	21%

7. Do you think the ‘I Have a Dream Speech’ (given by Martin Luther King in 1963) is still relevant today to people of your generation, or don’t you think it matters much to people of your generation today?

It is still relevant .....	69%
It doesn’t matter .....	31%

8. How much of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s dream of racial equality has been realized today?

A great deal of it .....	25%
Quite a bit .....	33%
Only some .....	26%
Very little .....	6%
Not much at all .....	4%
Not sure .....	6%

9. Do you feel the protest marches led by Martin Luther King in the 1960's speeded up civil rights legislation, slowed it down, or didn't make much difference one way or the other?

Speeded up civil rights legislation .....	75%
Slowed down civil rights legislation .....	6%
Didn't make much of a difference one way or the other .....	19%

10. How much have you heard about the King family lawsuits against unlicensed usage of footage of the 'I Have a Dream Speech'?

Heard a lot .....	4%
Heard a little .....	25%
Heard nothing at all .....	71%

11. Which of the following statements do you agree with the most?

The King family has a right to protect the image and legacy of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. ....	39%
Journalists and documentary makers should be able to rebroadcast the speech without having to pay licensing fees. ....	61%

12. Do you think race relations in the United States are generally...

Good .....	56%
Bad .....	44%

13. How big a problem is racism in our society today?

A big problem .....	25%
Somewhat of a problem .....	42%
A small problem .....	26%
Not a problem .....	7%

14. Since the 1960's, do you think race relations in the United States have gotten...

Better .....67%  
 Stayed about the same ..... 22%  
 Worse ..... 11%

15. Since Barack Obama has been president, do you think race relations in the United States have gotten...

Better .....12%  
 Stayed about the same ..... 46%  
 Worse ..... 41%

16. How much discrimination do the following groups face in America today?

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	None at all
Arab Americans	34%	37%	25%	4%
Asian Americans	6%	29%	52%	14%
African Americans	19%	34%	38%	9%
Mexican Americans	20%	39%	34%	8%
Women	11%	34%	43%	13%
Lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender people	29%	38%	25%	8%
Christians	17%	25%	36%	22%
Jewish people	10%	29%	49%	13%
Muslim people	38%	37%	20%	5%

17. Over the past few years, Blacks have gotten less than they deserve.

Strongly Agree .....7%  
 Agree .....13%  
 Don't Know ..... 19%  
 Disagree .....28%  
 Strongly Disagree .....32%

18. Irish, Italian, Jewish, and many other minorities overcame prejudice and worked their way up. Blacks should do the same without any special favors.

Strongly Agree .....	31%
Agree .....	32%
Don't Know .....	18%
Disagree .....	13%
Strongly Disagree .....	6%

19. It's really a matter of some people not trying hard enough; if Blacks would only try harder they could be just as well off as Whites.

Strongly Agree .....	19%
Agree .....	33%
Don't Know .....	19%
Disagree .....	18%
Strongly Disagree .....	11%

20. Generations of slavery and discrimination have created conditions that make it difficult for Blacks to work their way out of the lower class.

Strongly Agree .....	10%
Agree .....	20%
Don't Know .....	14%
Disagree .....	27%
Strongly Disagree .....	29%

21. How much have you heard about the use of chemical weapons in the fighting between government forces and rebels in Syria?

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

22. Should the U.S. help Syrian rebels fighting against the Syrian government or should it stay out of the conflict?

Help .....	15%
Stay out .....	59%
Not sure .....	26%

23. In today's world, does the United States have a responsibility to intervene militarily in trouble spots around the globe, or is this not a responsibility of the United States?

Has responsibility to intervene .....	18%
Has no responsibility to intervene .....	54%
Not sure .....	27%

24. How should the international community respond to events in Syria? Please check all options that you support.

Enforce sanctions .....	44%
Send humanitarian aid .....	48%
Evacuate refugees .....	39%
Send in ground forces .....	10%
Impose a "no-fly zone" over Syria .....	37%
Conduct airstrikes against Syrian government targets .....	17%
None of these .....	26%

25. From what you know, do you think either side has used chemical weapons?

	Definitely <u>has</u> used chemical weapons	Probably <u>has</u> used chemical weapons	Probably <u>has not</u> used chemical weapons	Definitely <u>has not</u> used chemical weapons	Not sure
The Syrian government	23%	32%	6%	2%	38%
Rebels fighting the government	5%	16%	23%	10%	46%

26. Which source would you trust the most to investigate and accurately report on chemical weapons use in Syria?

The UN .....	26%
The US government .....	12%
The Syrian government .....	1%
The news media .....	10%
The Russian government .....	1%
Other .....	14%
Not sure .....	36%

27. Many countries have called for the United Nations to conduct an independent investigation of the allegations of chemical weapons use in Syria. Do you trust the UN to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation?

Yes .....	36%
No .....	36%
Not sure .....	28%

28. Would you trust the results of an independent United Nations investigation of the allegations of chemical weapons use in Syria?

Yes .....	37%
No .....	29%
Not sure .....	34%

29. Do you think the United Nations is doing a good job or a poor job in trying to solve the problems it has had to face?

Good job .....	18%
Poor job .....	49%
Not sure .....	33%

30. 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	9%
Approve somewhat	21%
Disapprove somewhat	17%
Disapprove strongly	28%
Not sure	25%

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

Strongly approve	5%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	30%
No opinion	25%

32. How often do you watch the cable sports network, ESPN?

Almost every day	12%
Once or twice a week	14%
At least once or twice a month	8%
At least once or twice every couple of months	10%
At least once or twice a year	4%
Very rarely if ever	53%



33. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following professional sports leagues?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Not sure
Major League Baseball (MLB)	19%	32%	16%	14%	18%
National Football League (NFL)	28%	28%	14%	13%	17%
National Basketball Association (NBA)	17%	29%	19%	16%	19%
National Hockey League (NHL)	14%	30%	18%	15%	24%

34. How would you rate the NFL's efforts to increase player safety during professional football games?

Very good	16%
Somewhat good	37%
Somewhat poor	10%
Very poor	7%
Not sure	30%

35. Do you think repetitive head injuries in football are a major problem or not?

Major problem	57%
Minor problem	23%
Not a problem at all	3%
Not sure	16%

36. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the league has handled repetitive head injuries in the NFL?

Strongly approve	5%
Somewhat approve	29%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	9%
Not sure	40%

37. Have you heard much about ESPN's decision to remove its logo and credit from a documentary critical of the NFL's handling of repetitive head injuries?

Heard a lot	3%
Heard a little	17%
Heard nothing at all	80%

38. Do you believe ESPN's statement that the network's relationship with the major sports leagues does not impact decisions about its journalism?

Yes	20%
No	80%

39. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	77%	18%	3%	1%
Immigration	42%	35%	16%	7%
The environment	40%	31%	17%	12%
Terrorism	49%	32%	13%	7%
Gay rights	18%	23%	22%	38%
Education	56%	29%	9%	6%
Health care	69%	23%	4%	4%
Social security	61%	28%	9%	1%
The budget deficit	59%	26%	9%	6%
The war in Afghanistan	23%	41%	25%	11%
Taxes	60%	31%	5%	3%
Medicare	53%	33%	11%	4%
Abortion	35%	31%	18%	16%

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

The economy	33%
Immigration	4%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	2%
Gay rights	2%
Education	7%
Health care	16%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	6%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	5%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	3%

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

The economy .....	15%
Immigration .....	3%
The environment .....	16%
Terrorism .....	6%
Gay rights .....	6%
Education .....	4%
Health care .....	9%
Social security .....	4%
The budget deficit .....	12%
The war in Afghanistan .....	0%
Taxes .....	10%
Medicare .....	1%
Abortion .....	13%

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%	6%	40%	7%
John Boehner	4%	18%	21%	31%	27%
Mitch McConnell	3%	18%	15%	26%	38%
Harry Reid	4%	16%	11%	38%	32%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	19%	8%	41%	22%
Joe Biden	18%	25%	10%	34%	13%
Hillary Clinton	26%	24%	10%	32%	8%

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

Strongly approve .....	13%
Somewhat approve .....	29%
Somewhat disapprove .....	9%
Strongly disapprove .....	42%
Not sure .....	7%

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%	25%	10%	41%	12%
Immigration	12%	24%	14%	35%	16%
The environment	13%	24%	15%	29%	20%
Terrorism	17%	25%	14%	30%	14%
Gay rights	16%	22%	9%	33%	20%
Education	15%	24%	16%	29%	17%
Health care	18%	21%	8%	42%	11%
Social security	11%	21%	16%	32%	19%
The war in Afghanistan	13%	26%	18%	27%	16%
The budget deficit	11%	22%	12%	41%	14%
Taxes	13%	21%	14%	36%	16%
Medicare	12%	22%	14%	34%	17%
Abortion	13%	21%	9%	32%	25%

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

Strongly approve	1%
Somewhat approve	8%
Neither approve nor disapprove	13%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	45%
Not sure	11%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	33%
Conservative	26%
Very conservative	10%
Not sure	8%

47. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	41%
Liberal	19%
Moderate	21%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	13%

48. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	52%
Not sure	10%

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

Like a lot	32%
Like somewhat	28%
Dislike	30%
Not sure	10%

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

Getting better .....	18%
About the same .....	43%
Getting worse .....	32%
Not sure .....	6%

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

Higher .....	17%
About the same .....	36%
Lower .....	18%
Not sure .....	29%

**52. Would you say that you and your family are...**

Better off financially than you were a year ago .....	14%
About the same financially as you were a year ago .....	52%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	29%
Not sure .....	5%

**53. Is the place where you live owned or rented?**

Owned by you or your family .....	66%
Rented from someone else .....	32%
Other .....	2%

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

Increased .....	24%
Stayed about the same .....	42%
Decreased .....	23%
Not sure .....	11%

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

Increased .....	40%
Stayed about the same .....	37%
Decreased .....	4%
Not sure .....	19%

**56. 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 .....	29%
Will stay about the same .....	35%
Will decrease a little .....	9%
Will decrease a lot .....	2%
Not sure .....	20%

**57. How worried are you about making your mortgage payments?**

Very worried .....	7%
Somewhat worried .....	24%
Not worried .....	30%
Don't have mortgage payments .....	39%

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

Will definitely buy a home .....	2%
Am considering buying a home .....	12%
Not looking for a home now .....	85%

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

Yes .....	24%
No .....	76%



60. Are you registered to vote?

Yes .....	67%
No .....	27%
Don't know .....	6%

61. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student .....	1%
Part-time student .....	0%
Not a student .....	99%

62. Do you have a job outside of school?

Full-time job .....	27%
Part-time job .....	73%
No job outside of school .....	0%

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

Full-time employed .....	38%
Part-time employed .....	16%
Self-employed .....	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff .....	12%
Retired .....	16%
Permanently disabled .....	6%
Homemaker .....	10%
Other .....	1%

64. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes .....	16%
No .....	84%

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

Mean ..... 18

66. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried ..... 10%  
 Somewhat worried ..... 32%  
 Not very worried ..... 58%

67. 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. .... 37%  
 Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.  
 ..... 34%  
 Not very hard ..... 22%  
 Not sure ..... 7%

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

More jobs ..... 15%  
 The same amount of jobs ..... 43%  
 Fewer jobs ..... 28%  
 Not sure ..... 14%

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

Very happy ..... 21%  
 Happy ..... 34%  
 Neither happy nor unhappy ..... 30%  
 Unhappy ..... 8%  
 Very unhappy ..... 7%

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

Higher .....	17%
Same .....	67%
Lower .....	16%

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

I don't have any savings .....	31%
I could last a few weeks on my savings .....	16%
I could last a few months on my savings .....	32%
I could last a year on my savings .....	8%
I could last more than a year on my savings .....	13%

**72. Gender**

Male .....	48%
Female .....	52%

**73. Education**

No high school .....	12%
High school graduate .....	29%
Some college .....	24%
2-year college .....	10%
4-year college .....	15%
Post-graduate .....	9%

**74. Age**

18-29 .....	23%
30-44 .....	28%
45-64 .....	34%
65+ .....	15%

**75. Race**

White .....	65%
Black .....	15%
Hispanic .....	12%
Other .....	8%

**76. Region**

Northeast .....	19%
Midwest .....	20%
South .....	37%
West .....	24%

**77. Party Identification**

Democrat .....	38%
Lean Democrat .....	12%
Independent .....	17%
Lean Republican .....	10%
Republican .....	23%

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	August 24-26, 2013
<b>Target population</b>	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
<b>Sampling method</b>	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.
<b>Weighting</b>	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 7.3, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.11.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 4.6% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	21 questions not reported.