

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted April 27-29, 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	43%
Some of the time	34%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	11%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	27%
Off on the wrong track	59%
Not sure	14%

3. Do you consider yourself to be a feminist, or not?

Yes, I consider myself a feminist	28%
No, I do not	72%

4. Do you consider calling someone a feminist to be a compliment, an insult, or a neutral description?

Compliment	12%
Insult	23%
Neutral description	64%

5. One dictionary definition of a feminist is someone who believes in the social, political and economic equality of the sexes. As you think about that definition, do you think of yourself as a feminist or not?

Yes, I think of myself as a feminist .....57%  
No, I do not .....43%

6. Compared to when you were a child, do you think being a mother today is harder, easier, or about the same?

Harder .....59%  
Easier .....13%  
About the same .....28%

7. Do you think children are better off if their mother is home and doesn't hold a job, or are the children just as well off if the mother works?

Children are better off if their mother is at home .....64%  
Children are just as well off if their mother works .....36%

8. Do you approve of a married woman holding a job in business or industry if her husband is able to support her?

Approve .....86%  
Disapprove .....14%

9. How closely have you been following the news covering the Boston Marathon bombings?

Very closely .....38%  
Somewhat closely .....43%  
Not very closely .....17%  
Not at all .....3%

10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way law enforcement agencies have been handling the attacks at the Boston Marathon?

Strongly approve	38%
Somewhat approve	28%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	6%
Not sure	15%

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama has been handling the attacks at the Boston Marathon?

Strongly approve	28%
Somewhat approve	16%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	22%
Not sure	22%

12. Do you agree with the decision to read Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, the Boston Marathon bomber, his Miranda rights or do you think he should not have been read his Miranda rights?

I agree that he should be read his Miranda rights	64%
I do not think he should have been read his Miranda rights	36%

13. Do you think that Dzhokhar Tsarnaev should be tried in a criminal court or a military court?

Criminal court	69%
Military court	31%

14. If Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is found guilty for his role in the Boston Marathon bombing, what do you think the appropriate punishment for him should be?

The death penalty	54%
Life imprisonment without the possibility of parole	29%
Long-term imprisonment with the eventual possibility of parole	6%
Not sure	11%

15. Would you be willing to give up some of your personal freedom in order to reduce the threat of terrorism?

Yes ..... 40%  
No ..... 60%

16. Would you say you personally are very concerned about a terrorist attack in the area where you live, or not?

Very concerned ..... 12%  
Somewhat concerned ..... 28%  
Not very concerned ..... 54%  
Not sure ..... 6%

17. Overall, would you say you agree with the following statement, or not? Please choose the option which comes closer to your view. Americans will always have to live with the risk of terrorism.

Yes, I agree ..... 81%  
No, I do not agree ..... 9%  
Not sure ..... 10%

18. Some people think installing video surveillance cameras in public places is a good idea because they may help to reduce the threat of terrorism. Other people think this is a bad idea because surveillance cameras may infringe on people's privacy rights. Which comes closer to your view? Would you say it is more of a good idea or a bad idea to install surveillance cameras in public places?

Good idea ..... 61%  
Bad idea ..... 20%  
Not sure ..... 19%

19. For each of the following, do you think the federal government has done all it could reasonably be expected to do to improve security in these area since September 11, 2001, or could it have done more?

	Done all it could	Could have done more	Not sure
Trains and mass transit systems	29%	48%	23%
Airport security	43%	37%	21%
Security at large public events	32%	47%	21%

20. How serious a threat do you think Al Qaeda poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	31%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	36%
A minor threat to the U.S.	17%
Not a threat to the U.S.	6%
Not sure	11%

21. Are we safer from terrorist attacks now than we were in 2001?

Much more safe	9%
Somewhat more safe	30%
About the same	30%
Somewhat less safe	10%
Much less safe	12%
Not sure	10%

22. Which comes closer to your view?

In the long run, the U.S. will be safer from terrorism if it confronts the countries and groups that promote terrorism	49%
In the long run, the U.S. will be safer from terrorism if it stays out of other countries' affairs	51%

23. Compared with other American citizens, do you think Muslim Americans are...

More patriotic .....	5%
About as patriotic .....	52%
Less patriotic .....	43%

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

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	None at all
Muslim Americans	39%	30%	21%	10%
Christian Americans	21%	20%	32%	27%
Jewish Americans	15%	32%	37%	16%
Americans who don't believe in God	12%	24%	39%	25%

25. Which party do you think would do a better job in preventing terrorist attacks in the future?

Democrats .....	22%
Republicans .....	27%
About the same .....	51%

26. Do you think the policies of the Bush Administration made the United States more or less safe from terrorism?

More safe .....	35%
No effect .....	31%
Less safe .....	33%

27. Do you think the policies of the Obama Administration have made the United States more or less safe from terrorism?

More safe .....	27%
No effect .....	39%
Less safe .....	33%

28. Would you that you feel generally safe from terrorist attacks, that you feel somewhat uneasy, or that you feel in danger?

Generally safe .....51%  
 Somewhat uneasy .....40%  
 In danger .....9%

29. 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%) .....27%  
 Somewhat likely (10% to 50%) .....35%  
 Not very likely (1% to 10%) .....19%  
 Very unlikely (less than 1%) .....4%  
 Not sure .....14%

30. Do you think gun control laws should be made more or less strict than they are now?

More strict .....48%  
 No change .....26%  
 Less strict .....16%  
 Not sure .....10%

31. Do you favor or oppose the following gun control measure?

	Favor	Oppose	Not sure
Requiring criminal and mental background checks for all those buying guns, including at gun shows and private sales	71%	18%	11%

**32. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the NRA?**

Very favorable .....	22%
Somewhat favorable .....	20%
Somewhat unfavorable .....	14%
Very unfavorable .....	25%
Not sure .....	19%

**33. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling gun control?**

Strongly Approve .....	14%
Somewhat Approve .....	25%
Somewhat Disapprove .....	12%
Strongly Disapprove .....	33%
Not Sure .....	15%

**34. How important are the following issues to you?**

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	73%	21%	4%	2%
Immigration	47%	31%	15%	7%
The environment	43%	30%	16%	11%
Terrorism	54%	28%	12%	7%
Gay rights	23%	21%	19%	37%
Education	56%	29%	10%	5%
Health care	65%	25%	6%	4%
Social security	61%	29%	8%	2%
The budget deficit	54%	31%	11%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	26%	41%	22%	12%
Taxes	56%	28%	11%	5%
Medicare	56%	31%	9%	4%
Abortion	36%	28%	19%	17%



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

The economy	28%
Immigration	7%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	4%
Gay rights	3%
Education	8%
Health care	11%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	8%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	5%

36. 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	27%	21%	9%	38%	5%
John Boehner	5%	17%	21%	30%	27%
Mitch McConnell	4%	15%	18%	21%	41%
Harry Reid	6%	15%	15%	31%	33%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	19%	14%	39%	20%
Joe Biden	23%	22%	12%	32%	12%
Hillary Clinton	32%	21%	13%	25%	9%
John Kerry	13%	25%	18%	24%	21%
Wayne LaPierre	9%	10%	8%	19%	54%

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

Strongly approve	20%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	5%

**38. 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	13%	25%	13%	38%	10%
Immigration	12%	22%	13%	37%	15%
The environment	11%	27%	16%	26%	20%
Terrorism	18%	26%	14%	29%	13%
Gay rights	18%	16%	12%	31%	23%
Education	17%	24%	15%	28%	17%
Health care	19%	19%	11%	42%	9%
Social security	10%	21%	17%	36%	16%
The war in Afghanistan	15%	26%	20%	25%	15%
The budget deficit	12%	22%	13%	40%	14%
Taxes	13%	22%	16%	35%	13%
Medicare	12%	21%	17%	35%	15%
Abortion	14%	20%	10%	31%	24%

**39. 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	13%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	46%
Not sure	10%

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

Very liberal .....	8%
Liberal .....	18%
Moderate .....	31%
Conservative .....	25%
Very conservative .....	10%
Not sure .....	8%

**41. Would you say Barack Obama is...**

Very liberal .....	35%
Liberal .....	21%
Moderate .....	22%
Conservative .....	4%
Very conservative .....	1%
Not sure .....	16%

**42. Do you think Barack Obama...**

Says what he believes .....	42%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	46%
Not sure .....	12%

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

Like a lot .....	32%
Like somewhat .....	27%
Dislike .....	30%
Not sure .....	12%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	35%	37%	29%
Bold	29%	56%	15%
Effective	21%	50%	29%
Exciting	16%	62%	22%
Experienced	24%	47%	30%
Honest	30%	36%	34%
Hypocritical	34%	37%	29%
Inspiring	30%	46%	24%
Intelligent	52%	34%	14%
Partisan	24%	62%	14%
Patriotic	30%	42%	28%
Religious	15%	57%	29%
Sincere	33%	36%	31%
Steady	28%	54%	18%
Strong	31%	49%	20%

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

Getting better	24%
About the same	34%
Getting worse	35%
Not sure	7%

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

Higher	22%
About the same	33%
Lower	19%
Not sure	27%

**47. 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 .....	47%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	34%
Not sure .....	5%

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

Yes .....	22%
No .....	78%

**49. Gender**

Male .....	49%
Female .....	51%

**50. Education**

No high school .....	12%
High school graduate .....	30%
Some college .....	25%
2-year college .....	9%
4-year college .....	16%
Post-graduate .....	8%

**51. Age**

18-29 .....	25%
30-44 .....	24%
45-64 .....	35%
65+ .....	16%

**52. Race**

White .....	66%
Black .....	14%
Hispanic .....	12%
Other .....	8%

**53. Region**

Northeast .....	17%
Midwest .....	20%
South .....	37%
West .....	26%

**54. Party Identification**

Democrat .....	36%
Lean Democrat .....	9%
Independent .....	24%
Lean Republican .....	10%
Republican .....	21%

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<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	April 27-29, 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, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.09.
<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>	17 questions not reported.