The Economist/YouGov Poll

Sample   1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted   December 1-3, 2012
Margin of Error   ±4.3%

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

Generally headed in the right direction 33%
Off on the wrong track 51%
Not sure 16%

2. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	78%	19%	2%	2%
Immigration	40%	39%	15%	6%
The environment	40%	37%	14%	8%
Terrorism	49%	32%	13%	6%
Gay rights	20%	27%	21%	32%
Education	56%	35%	6%	3%
Health care	68%	26%	4%	2%
Social security	60%	30%	6%	4%
The budget deficit	60%	27%	9%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	33%	38%	20%	9%
Taxes	62%	30%	5%	2%
Medicare	55%	36%	8%	2%
Abortion	33%	30%	24%	13%

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

The economy 36%
Immigration 3%
The environment 5%
Terrorism 2%
Gay rights 2%
Education 6%
Health care 10%
Social security 9%
The budget deficit 12%
The war in Afghanistan 1%
Taxes 8%
Medicare 3%
Abortion 3%

4. Unless Congress acts before the end of the year, automatic tax increases and spending cuts will go into effect. How likely is it that Congress and the President will agree on a way to avoid the large spending cuts and tax increases now scheduled for January 1?

Very likely 10%
Somewhat likely 27%
Somewhat unlikely 29%
Very unlikely 20%
Not sure 15%

5. How badly do you think the economy will be hurt if Congress and the President do not reach a compromise on tax increases and spending cuts before the end of the year?

Hurt badly 49%
Hurt a little 33%
Not hurt at all 5%
Don't know 13%

6. Which of the following would you support as a way to control <u>Social Security</u> costs? (Check all that apply)

Raising the age at which people can receive full Social Security benefits   32%
Reducing guaranteed benefits for future retirees 14%
Reducing the benefits paid to people who retire early 36%
I don't support any of these measures 43%

7. Which of the following would you support as a way to control <u>Medicare</u> costs? (Check all that apply)

Reducing the amount that doctors and hospitals are paid for treating Medicare
patients 16%
Raising the age at which people are eligible to receive Medicare benefits   19%
Reducing Medicare benefits for wealthier seniors 49%
Turning Medicare into a program in which senior citizens get a specific amount
of money that they use to purchase private insurance 21%
I don't support any of these measures 28%

8. Do you favor or oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?

Strongly favor 32%
Somewhat favor 15%
Somewhat oppose 10%
Strongly oppose 36%
Not sure 8%

9. Should states be permitted to set their own policies when it comes to same-sex marriage, or is this something that should only be handled by the federal government?

States should be permitted 47%
Should only be handled by federal government 34%
Not sure 19%

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10. Do you think the use of marijuana should be legalized?

Yes 51%
No 36%
Not sure 13%

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

States should be permitted 53%
Should only be handled by federal government 30%
Not sure 17%

12. 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	35%	18%	8%	35%	3%
John Boehner	8%	20%	21%	22%	29%
Mitch McConnell	4%	18%	18%	20%	40%
Harry Reid	8%	16%	12%	31%	33%
Nancy Pelosi	10%	21%	12%	36%	20%
Susan Rice	10%	18%	12%	25%	36%
Hilary Clinton	33%	22%	18%	21%	6%
John Kerry	11%	24%	17%	26%	22%

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

Strongly Approve 24%
Somewhat Approve 25%
Somewhat Disapprove 12%
Strongly Disapprove 35%
Not Sure 4%

14. 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	19%	23%	10%	38%	10%
Immigration	17%	22%	14%	34%	14%
The environment	14%	28%	16%	25%	18%
Terrorism	24%	25%	11%	25%	14%
Gay rights	22%	22%	8%	31%	17%
Education	20%	28%	11%	25%	16%
Health care	23%	20%	11%	38%	8%
Social security	17%	23%	14%	31%	15%
The budget deficit	16%	23%	11%	39%	12%
The war in Afghanistan	18%	28%	14%	25%	15%
Taxes	21%	20%	13%	36%	11%
Medicare	18%	22%	15%	31%	15%
Abortion	19%	19%	9%	30%	22%

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

Strongly approve 2%
Somewhat approve 9%
Neither approve nor disapprove 17%
Somewhat disapprove 28%
Strongly disapprove 33%
Not sure 10%

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

Very liberal 7%
Liberal 17%
Moderate 32%
Conservative 31%
Very Conservative 8%
Not sure 5%

17. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal 36%
Liberal 26%
Moderate 19%
Conservative 5%
Very conservative 2%
Not sure 11%

18. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes 44%
Says what he thinks people want to hear 46%
Not sure 10%

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

Like a lot 37%
Like somewhat 24%
Dislike 29%
Not sure 10%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	37%	33%	30%
Bold	31%	53%	16%
Effective	26%	42%	32%
Exciting	21%	57%	23%
Experienced	25%	43%	31%
Honest	31%	35%	34%
Hypocritical	35%	36%	29%
Inspiring	38%	38%	24%
Intelligent	59%	28%	13%
Partisan	26%	59%	16%
Patriotic	30%	43%	28%
Religious	11%	59%	30%
Sincere	34%	37%	29%
Steady	29%	53%	18%
Strong	34%	48%	19%

21. Who did you vote for in the 2012 Presidential election?

Barack Obama	37%
Mitt Romney	36%
Other	3%
Did not vote	24%

22. Generally speaking, how concerned are you about the privacy of your personal information?

Extremely concerned	35%
Very concerned	26%
Somewhat concerned	27%
A little concerned	7%
Not at all concerned	5%

The Economist/**YouGov Poll**

23. How would you describe the amount of time and effort, if any, that you devote to protecting the privacy of your...

	A lot	A moderate amount	A little	None
Online Social Media Interactions	28%	36%	22%	14%
Financial Transactions	51%	28%	13%	8%
Medical Care	30%	32%	19%	20%
Political Views	13%	22%	27%	38%

24. How enthusiastic were you in voting for [Obama/Romney]?

Extremely enthusiastic 37%
Very enthusiastic 27%
Moderately enthusiastic 23%
Slightly enthusiastic 9%
Not at all enthusiastic 4%

25. How important to your presidential vote were each of the following issues?

	Extremely Important	Very Important	Moderately Important	Slightly Important	Not at all Important
The economy	67%	22%	9%	2%	0%
National Debt	56%	19%	17%	6%	2%
Social Security/Medicare	49%	27%	17%	6%	2%
Income Inequality	31%	19%	18%	10%	22%
Future Supreme Court Appointments	47%	18%	17%	9%	9%
Abortion Policy	32%	20%	24%	10%	15%
The environment	27%	24%	19%	16%	14%
Health Care Policy	59%	24%	11%	3%	2%
Foreign Policy	38%	32%	21%	6%	3%
immigration	38%	28%	23%	7%	4%
National Security	52%	22%	17%	6%	2%

26. Thinking of the recent election, did anyone call you or talk to you in person on behalf of a political party or candidate?

Yes, for the Democratic party or candidate 14%
Yes, for the Republican party or candidate 13%
Yes, for both the Republican and Democratic parties or candidates 25%
No, I was not contacted 47%

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

Getting better 27%
About the same 33%
Getting worse 34%
Not sure 7%

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

Higher 20%
About the same 33%
Lower 26%
Not sure 22%

29. 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 45%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago 37%
Not sure 4%

30. Gender

Male 47%
Female 53%

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31. Education

No high school 7%
High school graduate 31%
Some college 25%
2-year college 10%
4-year college 14%
Post-graduate 12%

32. Age

18-29 .... 25%
30-44 .... 26%
45-64 .... 35%
65+ 15%

33. Race

White 69%
Black 13%
Hispanic 10%
Other 8%

34. Region

Northeast 17%
Midwest 22%
South 37%
West 24%

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35. Party Identification

Democrat 38%
Lean Democrat 11%
Independent 12%
Lean Republican 10%
Republican 30%

Sponsorship	*The Economist*
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	December 1-3, 2012
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 to 8, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.97.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	$\pm$ 4.3% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	12 questions not reported.