

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted August 17-19, 2013
Margin of Error ±5%

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	51%
Some of the time	32%
Only now and then	12%
Hardly at all	5%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	29%
Off on the wrong track	60%
Not sure	11%

3. How much have you heard or read about the violent clashes between Egyptian security forces and supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood and ousted President Mohamed Morsi?

A lot	40%
A little	46%
Nothing at all	14%

4. How concerned are you that the violence in Egypt might spread to other countries in the Middle East?

Very concerned	20%
Somewhat concerned	31%
Slightly concerned	28%
Not concerned at all	13%
Not sure	7%

5. Have U.S. policies in recent years given too much or too little support to Egypt?

Too much support	35%
About the right amount of support	28%
Too little support	6%
Not sure	31%

6. How much responsibility do you think President Barack Obama has for the current situation in Egypt today?

Most	14%
Some	24%
Only a little	17%
None	32%
Not sure	13%

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama has responded to the protests in Egypt?

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	23%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	24%
No opinion	28%

8. Do you think President Obama has a clear plan for U.S. strategy in Egypt?

Yes	12%
No	56%
Not sure	32%

9. Which of these do you think is most likely to happen in Egypt?

Egypt will become a stable democracy in the next year or two.	5%
Egypt will become a stable democracy, but it will take longer than a year or two.	36%
Egypt will probably never become a stable democracy.	37%
Not sure	22%

10. In its relations toward foreign countries, is it better for the U.S. government to...?

Support a non-democratic government that is a steady ally of the U.S. ...	37%
Support a democratically elected government regardless of its attitude toward the U.S.	25%
Not sure	38%

11. In the last year would you say crime in the country has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

Increased a lot	20%
Increased a little	24%
Stayed about the same	26%
Decreased a little	19%
Decreased a lot	3%
Not sure	7%

12. What about your local community—in the last year would you say crime has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

Increased a lot	12%
Increased a little	27%
Stayed about the same	39%
Decreased a little	12%
Decreased a lot	2%
Not sure	8%

13. How much have heard or read about the New York City Police Department's stop-and-frisk policy?

Heard a lot	25%
Heard a little	39%
Heard nothing at all	36%

14. As you may know, it is the policy of the New York City Police Department for their officers to stop, question and frisk people they consider suspicious. Do you approve or disapprove of the stop-and-frisk policy?

Approve	38%
Disapprove	43%
Not sure	19%

15. Do you think the stop-and-frisk policy has led to a decrease in crime?

Yes	30%
No	37%
Not sure	33%

16. Do you think the stop-and-frisk policy leads to racial profiling?

Yes	53%
No	29%
Not sure	18%

17. Do you think the stop-and-frisk policy violates the constitutional amendment against unreasonable search and seizure?

Yes	50%
No	30%
Not sure	19%

18. How much have you heard or read about the National Security Agency collecting information about telephone records including the length of phone calls and the numbers called?

Heard a lot	47%
Heard a little	44%
Nothing at all	9%

19. The National Security Agency has been collecting information about telephone records – length of calls and the numbers called – in order to reduce the threat of terrorism. Do you approve or disapprove of their doing this?

Approve strongly	11%
Approve somewhat	29%
Disapprove somewhat	22%
Disapprove strongly	28%
Not sure	10%

20. Do you think collecting and analyzing Americans’ phone records is justified as a way to combat terrorism, or is it an unnecessary intrusion into Americans’ lives?

Justified as a way to combat terrorism	34%
Unnecessary intrusion into Americans’ lives	48%
Not sure	18%

21. How concerned are you that the NSA or some other intelligence agency is collecting private information about you?

Very concerned	25%
Somewhat concerned	20%
Slightly concerned	22%
Not concerned at all	28%
Not sure	6%

22. How much have you heard about the 2014 Winter Olympics which will be held in Sochi, Russia?

Heard a lot	18%
Heard a little	51%
Heard nothing at all	31%

23. How much have you heard about the new Russian law which imposes heavy fines on anyone the Russians charge with "promoting homosexuality"?

Heard a lot	22%
Heard a little	46%
Heard nothing at all	32%

24. Do you think it would be good or bad policy if athletes at the Olympic games are subject to arrest if they engage in what the Russians say is "homosexual propaganda"?

Good policy	15%
Bad policy	63%
Not sure	22%

25. Do you think the United States should participate in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, or should it boycott the games?

Participate	58%
Boycott	17%
Not sure	25%

26. 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?

Carter was right	34%
Carter was wrong	28%
Not sure	38%

27. Do you approve or disapprove when a country boycotts the Olympic games for political reasons?

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	26%
Strongly disapprove	19%
Not sure	21%

28. Which of these statements comes closer to your opinion:

Homosexuality is a way of life that should be accepted by society	62%
Homosexuality is a way of life that should be discouraged by society	38%

29. Do you think being homosexual is something a person chooses to be, or do you think it is something a person cannot change?

Homosexuality is a choice	42%
Homosexuality is not a choice	58%

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

Favor	47%
Oppose	41%
Not sure	11%

31. Do you personally know anybody who is gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender?

Yes	77%
No	23%

32. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	78%	18%	2%	2%
Immigration	42%	38%	15%	5%
The environment	43%	34%	14%	9%
Terrorism	48%	35%	13%	5%
Gay rights	23%	25%	24%	28%
Education	56%	32%	8%	4%
Health care	69%	22%	6%	2%
Social security	62%	26%	9%	3%
The budget deficit	53%	31%	11%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	26%	42%	22%	9%
Taxes	57%	34%	6%	3%
Medicare	56%	28%	12%	4%
Abortion	35%	31%	19%	15%

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

The economy	37%
Immigration	7%
The environment	4%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	1%
Education	8%
Health care	11%
Social security	9%
The budget deficit	8%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	6%

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

The economy	45%
Immigration	0%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	0%
Gay rights	2%
Education	25%
Health care	5%
Social security	3%
The budget deficit	0%
The war in Afghanistan	0%
Taxes	11%
Medicare	0%
Abortion	2%

35. 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%	13%	37%	5%
John Boehner	5%	18%	18%	36%	23%
Mitch McConnell	3%	14%	19%	31%	33%
Harry Reid	8%	18%	15%	30%	29%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	19%	12%	41%	18%
Joe Biden	23%	21%	13%	34%	8%
Hillary Clinton	31%	23%	14%	26%	6%

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

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	5%

37. 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	16%	23%	15%	38%	7%
Immigration	15%	21%	16%	35%	12%
The environment	14%	29%	13%	31%	14%
Terrorism	19%	29%	16%	25%	10%
Gay rights	21%	19%	13%	32%	15%
Education	17%	28%	14%	25%	16%
Health care	21%	21%	11%	40%	8%
Social security	15%	24%	16%	31%	14%
The war in Afghanistan	15%	27%	22%	25%	12%
The budget deficit	16%	19%	14%	40%	11%
Taxes	13%	26%	15%	36%	10%
Medicare	15%	25%	14%	33%	13%
Abortion	16%	22%	9%	32%	21%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	8%
Neither approve nor disapprove	14%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	49%
Not sure	6%

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

Very liberal	5%
Liberal	20%
Moderate	32%
Conservative	28%
Very conservative	8%
Not sure	5%

40. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	39%
Liberal	23%
Moderate	24%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	9%

41. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	41%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	52%
Not sure	7%

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

Like a lot	32%
Like somewhat	27%
Dislike	33%
Not sure	8%

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

Getting better	31%
About the same	33%
Getting worse	31%
Not sure	5%

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

Higher	25%
About the same	37%
Lower	16%
Not sure	22%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	20%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	47%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	29%
Not sure	4%

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

Owned by you or your family	57%
Rented from someone else	41%
Other	2%

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

Increased	25%
Stayed about the same	47%
Decreased	24%
Not sure	5%

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

Increased	38%
Stayed about the same	39%
Decreased	10%
Not sure	13%

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

Will increase a lot	6%
Will increase a little	37%
Will stay about the same	33%
Will decrease a little	9%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	12%

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

Very worried	6%
Somewhat worried	24%
Not worried	32%
Don't have mortgage payments	38%

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

Will definitely buy a home	2%
Am considering buying a home	13%
Not looking for a home now	85%

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

Yes	26%
No	74%

53. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	73%
No	23%
Don't know	4%

54. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student	1%
Part-time student	3%
Not a student	96%

55. Do you have a job outside of school?

Full-time job	50%
Part-time job	20%
No job outside of school	30%

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

Full-time employed	44%
Part-time employed	11%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	12%
Retired	17%
Permanently disabled	6%
Homemaker	7%
Other	2%

57. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	14%
No	86%

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

Mean 19

59. How worried are you about losing your job?

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

60. 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. 38%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.
..... 41%
Not very hard 15%
Not sure 6%

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

More jobs 20%
The same amount of jobs 46%
Fewer jobs 25%
Not sure 9%

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

Very happy 19%
Happy 37%
Neither happy nor unhappy 30%
Unhappy 8%
Very unhappy 6%

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

Higher	18%
Same	68%
Lower	13%

64. 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	24%
I could last a few months on my savings	26%
I could last a year on my savings	9%
I could last more than a year on my savings	9%

65. Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

66. Education

No high school	6%
High school graduate	32%
Some college	25%
2-year college	11%
4-year college	18%
Post-graduate	8%

67. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	28%
45-64	33%
65+	14%

68. Race

White	67%
Black	14%
Hispanic	12%
Other	7%

69. Region

Northeast	17%
Midwest	23%
South	36%
West	24%

70. Party Identification

Democrat	38%
Lean Democrat	12%
Independent	15%
Lean Republican	10%
Republican	25%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	August 17-19, 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 0.1 to 8.2, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.27.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 5% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.