

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
 Conducted April 17-20, 2010  
 Margin of Error ±3.5%

## 1. Forty years ago, the United States spent a great deal of time, effort, and money to land men on the moon. Looking back now, do you think that effort was worth it, or not?

Definitely worth it ..... 44%  
 Probably worth it ..... 33%  
 Probably not worth it ..... 16%  
 Definitely not worth it ..... 7%

## 2. How would you rate the job being done by NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), the United States space agency?

Excellent ..... 20%  
 Good ..... 52%  
 Fair ..... 24%  
 Poor ..... 4%

## 3. Given the costs and risks involved in space exploration, would you favor or oppose:

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Neither favor, nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose
The United States sending astronauts to explore Mars?	31%	26%	22%	12%	10%
The United States sending astronauts back to explore the moon?	24%	26%	27%	14%	9%
The United States continuing the space shuttle program?	31%	30%	23%	10%	7%

**4. Are we spending too much or too little on space exploration programs?**

Too much .....	28%
About the right amount .....	34%
Too little .....	19%
Not sure .....	18%

**5. How much have you heard or read about President Barack Obama’s plans for future American space exploration?**

A lot .....	16%
A little .....	50%
Nothing at all .....	34%

**6. Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama’s plans for space exploration?** (Asked of respondents who know at least a little about Barack Obama’s space plans)

Strongly approve .....	8%
Somewhat approve .....	23%
Neither approve, nor disapprove .....	27%
Somewhat disapprove .....	21%
Strongly disapprove .....	21%

**7. If you had a chance in your lifetime to travel to outer space and money were no object, would you do so or not?**

Definitely would .....	31%
Probably would .....	22%
Probably would not .....	22%
Definitely would not .....	25%

8. Do you personally believe that there is intelligent life somewhere in the universe outside of Earth?

Definitely .....	34%
Possibly .....	45%
Probably not .....	11%
Definitely not .....	10%

9. How satisfied are you with your health insurance coverage? (Asked of respondents with health insurance)

Very satisfied .....	41%
Somewhat satisfied .....	41%
Somewhat dissatisfied .....	11%
Very dissatisfied .....	6%

10. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following current or former religious leaders?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Not sure
Pope Benedict the Sixteenth	8%	19%	18%	21%	34%
The Dalai Lama	26%	29%	6%	7%	32%
Archbishop Desmond Tutu	17%	21%	10%	8%	43%
Pope John Paul the Second	22%	25%	10%	13%	30%
Billy Graham	24%	20%	14%	16%	25%

11. Do you think these groups or individuals have done a good job or a poor job handling charges of sexual abuse of children and teenagers by priests? *(Asked of Catholic respondents)*

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Not sure
Pope Benedict the Sixteenth and the Vatican	9%	12%	20%	40%	19%
United States leaders of the Catholic Church	6%	12%	22%	45%	16%
Your local Bishop	13%	17%	20%	24%	27%
Your parish priests	15%	24%	15%	20%	26%

12. Do you think Pope Benedict has done enough to address the problem of sexual abuse of children and teenagers by priests, or should he have done more? *(Asked of Catholic respondents)*

Has done too much	2%
Has done enough	20%
Should have done more	65%
Not sure	14%

13. Do you think the last Pope, Pope John Paul the Second, did enough to address the problem of sexual abuse of children and teenagers by priests, or should he have done more? *(Asked of Catholic respondents)*

Did too much	1%
Did enough	22%
Should have done more	58%
Not sure	18%

14. Do you think Pope Benedict has gone far enough in publicly apologizing to the victims of sexual abuse by priests, or hasn't he gone far enough? *(Asked of Catholic respondents)*

Too far	2%
Far enough	33%
Not far enough	46%
Not sure	18%

15. Before he became Pope, how much do you think Pope Benedict knew about the sexual abuse of children by priests? (Asked of Catholic respondents)

He knew about it and participated in letting priests who abused children continue to work with children .....	17%
He knew about it and knew that priests who abused children could continue to work with children .....	28%
He knew about it but had no responsibility for what happened to priests who abused children .....	40%
He wasn't aware of the problem. ....	15%

16. Do you favor or oppose allowing Catholic priests to marry? (Asked of Catholic respondents)

Strongly favor .....	29%
Somewhat favor .....	16%
Neither favor, nor oppose .....	34%
Somewhat oppose .....	6%
Strongly oppose .....	14%

17. Do you favor or oppose letting women be ordained as Catholic priests? (Asked of Catholic respondents)

Strongly favor .....	25%
Somewhat favor .....	18%
Neither favor, nor oppose .....	31%
Somewhat oppose .....	10%
Strongly oppose .....	17%

18. The Catholic Church requires priests to remain celibate and unmarried while they are priests. Do you think this requirement has increased or decreased the likelihood that priests will sexually abuse children or teenagers?

Increased likelihood .....	51%
Not a factor .....	27%
Decreased likelihood .....	2%
Not sure .....	19%

19. How likely are you to vote for a REPUBLICAN candidate for the U.S. Congress who:

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neither likely, nor unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely
Supported health care reform	15%	18%	23%	11%	33%
Wants to raise taxes	5%	6%	22%	16%	51%
Is pro-choice	18%	16%	29%	12%	26%
Wants to cut Medicare spending	7%	9%	26%	16%	43%
Wants to cut Social Security spending	8%	9%	26%	14%	43%
Is pro-gay marriage	13%	14%	29%	10%	34%

20. How likely are you to vote for a DEMOCRATIC candidate for the U.S. Congress who:

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neither likely, nor unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely
Opposed health care reform	15%	13%	25%	13%	34%
Wants to lower taxes	31%	26%	24%	7%	12%
Is pro-life	19%	16%	33%	11%	22%
Wants to cut Medicare spending	8%	11%	27%	17%	38%
Wants to cut Social Security spending	8%	12%	27%	14%	40%
Is anti-gay marriage	13%	13%	31%	13%	30%

21. Do the following people represent the views of most Republicans?

	Yes	No	Not sure
John McCain	42%	30%	28%
Sarah Palin	43%	32%	25%
Mitt Romney	40%	21%	39%
Rush Limbaugh	38%	32%	30%

**22. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following groups?**

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Not sure
The Democratic Party	17%	23%	15%	31%	13%
The Republican Party	9%	25%	22%	28%	15%
The Tea Party movement	23%	13%	10%	28%	26%

**23. How much have you heard or read about the political movement known as the Tea Party?**

A great deal	30%
A fair amount	34%
Not much	22%
Nothing at all	14%

**24. Do you think of yourself as a part of the Tea Party movement?** (Asked if respondent is aware of Tea Party movement)

Yes	27%
No	73%

**25. Do you think that most Republicans consider themselves a part of the Tea Party movement?** (Asked if respondent is aware of Tea Party movement)

Yes	49%
No	51%

**26. In your opinion, do the Democrats in Congress...**

Mostly provide constructive policy alternatives	31%
Mostly just oppose the other party	44%
Not sure	26%

**27. In your opinion, do the Republicans in Congress...**

Mostly provide constructive policy alternatives .....24%  
 Mostly just oppose the other party ..... 52%  
 Not sure .....24%

**28. In dealing with President Obama, do you think the Republicans in Congress...**

Mostly provide constructive policy alternatives .....27%  
 Mostly just oppose the President .....50%  
 Not sure .....23%

**29. Below are some issues facing the country. For each one, indicate whether you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling that issue.**

	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	No Opinion
The war in Iraq	12%	31%	20%	23%	14%
The economy	15%	22%	10%	41%	11%
Immigration	8%	19%	14%	36%	24%
The environment	12%	29%	15%	23%	20%
Terrorism	18%	23%	13%	29%	17%
Gay rights	10%	25%	13%	23%	29%
Education	15%	27%	15%	24%	18%
Health care	24%	16%	9%	41%	9%
Social security	11%	19%	15%	34%	21%
The budget deficit	11%	19%	13%	43%	14%
The war in Afghanistan	11%	31%	20%	23%	15%
Taxes	16%	21%	13%	36%	15%



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

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	41%	42%	14%	3%
The economy	84%	14%	0%	1%
Immigration	48%	33%	14%	5%
The environment	46%	36%	12%	5%
Terrorism	58%	31%	8%	3%
Gay rights	21%	24%	25%	30%
Education	63%	27%	6%	3%
Health care	75%	19%	4%	2%
Social security	64%	28%	6%	2%
The budget deficit	63%	29%	6%	1%
The war in Afghanistan	42%	43%	12%	3%
Taxes	63%	30%	5%	1%

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

The war in Iraq	0%
The economy	38%
Immigration	4%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	3%
Education	7%
Health care	14%
Social security	10%
The budget deficit	9%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%

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

Strongly approve .....	22%
Somewhat approve .....	24%
Somewhat disapprove .....	15%
Strongly disapprove .....	33%
Not sure .....	6%

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

Strongly approve .....	2%
Somewhat approve .....	13%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	15%
Somewhat disapprove .....	23%
Strongly disapprove .....	38%
Not sure .....	10%

**34. If the 2010 elections for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?**

	Republican	Lean Republican	Lean Democrat	Democrat	Not Sure
Registered Voters (n = 695)	38%	4%	6%	40%	11%
All Respondents	33%	5%	6%	38%	18%

**35. Would you say things in this country today are...**

Generally headed in the right direction .....	31%
Off on the wrong track .....	56%
Not sure .....	13%

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

Getting better .....	26%
About the same .....	33%
Getting worse .....	35%
Not sure .....	7%

**37. 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 .....	41%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	41%
Not sure .....	4%

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

Higher .....	32%
About the same .....	27%
Lower .....	21%
Not sure .....	21%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Honest	36%	31%	33%
Intelligent	64%	26%	10%
Religious	16%	55%	30%
Inspiring	41%	37%	22%
Patriotic	31%	41%	28%
Strong	38%	44%	18%
Bold	45%	41%	13%
Experienced	18%	37%	45%
Sincere	35%	36%	29%
Partisan	26%	53%	22%
Effective	26%	46%	28%
Unifying	17%	46%	37%
In Touch	28%	41%	30%
Realistic	32%	37%	31%
Decisive	29%	50%	21%

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

Very liberal .....	33%
Liberal .....	20%
Moderate .....	24%
Conservative .....	4%
Very conservative .....	1%
Not sure .....	17%

**41. Do you think Barack Obama...**

Says what he believes .....	50%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	50%

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

Like a lot .....	35%
Like somewhat .....	30%
Dislike .....	22%
Not sure .....	13%