

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted November 27-30, 2010
Margin of Error $\pm 3.6\%$

1. 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	15%	31%	19%	24%	12%
The economy	14%	24%	15%	40%	7%
Immigration	9%	23%	15%	40%	13%
The environment	13%	30%	18%	23%	17%
Terrorism	15%	28%	16%	30%	11%
Gay rights	10%	24%	16%	25%	24%
Education	15%	28%	18%	22%	16%
Health care	20%	19%	12%	43%	6%
Social security	14%	20%	17%	35%	13%
The budget deficit	11%	21%	14%	43%	11%
The war in Afghanistan	11%	30%	22%	25%	12%
Taxes	15%	22%	15%	38%	10%

2. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	38%	42%	13%	7%
The economy	81%	14%	2%	2%
Immigration	48%	32%	15%	5%
The environment	44%	34%	16%	6%
Terrorism	57%	28%	9%	5%
Gay rights	22%	26%	26%	26%
Education	59%	28%	9%	4%
Health care	75%	18%	4%	3%
Social security	66%	24%	7%	3%
The budget deficit	60%	28%	8%	5%
The war in Afghanistan	42%	40%	12%	6%
Taxes	67%	24%	6%	3%

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

The war in Iraq	1%
The economy	38%
Immigration	6%
The environment	2%
Terrorism	4%
Gay rights	2%
Education	5%
Health care	15%
Social security	16%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%

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

Strongly Approve	16%
Somewhat Approve	26%
Somewhat Disapprove	15%
Strongly Disapprove	36%
Not Sure	7%

5. Which of the following countries do you consider to be an ally or an enemy of the United States?

	Ally of U.S.	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy of the U.S.	Not sure
Pakistan	6%	18%	38%	17%	22%
South Korea	47%	23%	8%	5%	16%
Russia	5%	35%	29%	11%	20%
North Korea	1%	4%	18%	63%	14%
Iran	1%	5%	26%	53%	15%
China	6%	29%	32%	13%	20%
Israel	49%	21%	9%	5%	17%
Egypt	10%	40%	17%	5%	28%
Mexico	18%	39%	19%	7%	16%
Cuba	1%	9%	45%	26%	18%

6. How serious a threat do you think the following countries pose to the United States?

	An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	A minor threat to the U.S.	Not a threat to the U.S.	Not sure
North Korea	41%	30%	15%	3%	11%
Iran	35%	33%	17%	4%	11%
China	18%	32%	25%	12%	13%

7. How much have you heard or read about North Korea firing artillery shells at a South Korean island in recent days?

A lot	42%
A little	43%
Nothing at all	15%

8. Do you favor or oppose the U.S. taking military action against North Korea if North Korea continues to attack South Korea?

Strongly favor	22%
Somewhat favor	22%
Neither favor, nor oppose	17%
Somewhat oppose	16%
Strongly oppose	12%
Not sure	11%

9. Congress is considering some of the following policies. Which do you support?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Neither support, nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure
Ratification of the START treaty to reduce American and Russian nuclear stockpiles	31%	19%	17%	9%	10%	14%
The DREAM Act, to allow immigrant students who arrived illegally as minors to apply for temporary legal status if enrolled in college or the military	18%	17%	12%	11%	34%	7%
Extending unemployment benefits for the long-term unemployed	28%	21%	15%	13%	16%	6%
A national sales tax	8%	13%	17%	15%	31%	16%
“Cap and trade” legislation to lower pollution	19%	19%	18%	6%	25%	14%
A ban on Members of Congress directing spending projects to their own states or districts, known as “earmarks”	42%	16%	16%	8%	7%	11%
Repeal of President Obama’s health care reform law passed earlier this year by Congress	36%	8%	11%	7%	28%	9%
Repeal of “Don’t ask, don’t tell” to allow openly gay men and women to serve in the military	32%	11%	18%	8%	22%	10%
The Paycheck Fairness Act which makes it illegal for employers to pay unequal wages to men and women performing equal work	50%	15%	14%	6%	8%	7%

10. The tax cuts enacted in 2001 under President George W. Bush will expire at the end of this year unless Congress makes changes. Which of the following best describes what Congress should do about the tax cuts?

Keep all tax cuts in place	31%
Keep tax cuts only for those earning under \$250,000	48%
Let all tax cuts expire	7%
Not sure	13%

11. Do you think it's more important for the Federal Government to maintain stable prices or control unemployment?

Maintain stable prices	14%
Control unemployment	18%
Both equally important	54%
Not sure	15%

12. Would you describe yourself as...

A frequent air traveler	7%
An occasional air traveler	70%
Never flown	23%

13. How often did you fly in the past 12 months, for business or leisure travel? Asked of respondents who have flown at least once

Once	15%
Twice	15%
3 times	6%
4 times	5%
5 times	2%
6 times	2%
7 times	1%
8 times	2%
9 times	1%
10 times	1%
11 times	0%
12 times	1%
More than 12 times	3%
I have not flown in the past 12 months	47%

14. Were your plane trips in the past year always for business, always for leisure, or a mix of both? Asked of respondents who have flown in the last year

Always for business	11%
Always for leisure	61%
Mix of both	28%

15. Have you flown since November 1, 2010? Asked of respondents who have flown in the last year

Yes	20%
No	80%

16. Do your Thanksgiving plans include travel by airplane?

Yes	2%
No	98%

17. Do you think the passenger screening procedures that you saw the last time you flew were too tight or not tight enough? Asked of respondents who have flown at least once

Too tight	21%
About right	63%
Not tight enough	16%

18. Last time you flew, were the airport security lines longer or shorter than usual? Asked of respondents who have flown at least once

Much longer	7%
Somewhat longer	15%
About the same	53%
Somewhat shorter	8%
Much shorter	7%
Not sure	10%

19. During your most recent experience going through airport security, did you personally receive, or did you see others receive a full body pat down? Asked of respondents who have flown since November 1, 2010

I personally received a pat down	24%
I saw others receive a pat down	35%
No, I did not see anyone receive a pat down	41%

20. During your most recent experience going through airport security, did you personally go through, or did you see others go through a full body scanning machine? Asked of respondents who have flown since November 1, 2010

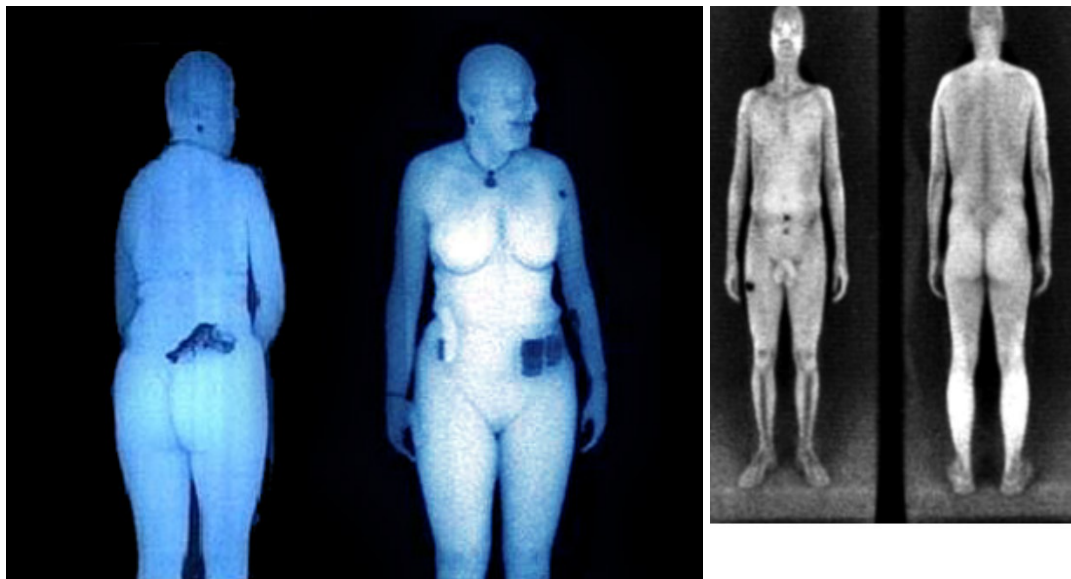
I personally went through a full body scanning machine	29%
I saw others go through a full body scanning machine	25%
No, I did not see anyone go through a full body scanning machine	46%

21. How much have you heard or read about changes in airport security that went into effect around November 1, 2010?

A lot	57%
A little	31%
Nothing at all	11%

22. Some airports are now using full body scanner machines that send a naked image of you to be looked at by a TSA agent before you can proceed past the security checkpoint. Have you seen the images produced from these machines?

Yes	58%
No	36%
Not sure	7%



23. The above picture was produced from a full body scanning machine. Having seen this image, do you feel comfortable receiving a full body scan at an airport security checkpoint?
One of the above pictures was randomly selected to show the respondent

Very uncomfortable	39%
Somewhat uncomfortable	21%
Not too uncomfortable	16%
Not uncomfortable at all	21%
Not sure	4%

24. Are you concerned about the radiation from full body scanning machines?

Yes	46%
No	38%
Not sure	15%

25. Full body scans produce detailed pictures of travelers and items that are hidden on their bodies. It might have detected the explosives that were meant to be ignited on the Northwest flight from Amsterdam to Detroit last Christmas. But many privacy advocates have objected to them. The scanners would not detect items within a person’s body. What is your opinion of the use of full body scanners at airports?

They should be used for all passengers	27%
They should be used, but only on people who screeners think may pose a threat	41%
They should not be used	20%
Not sure	12%

26. While some are concerned about the radiation or invasion of privacy from full body scanning machines, others say the risk of terrorism justifies these costs. What do you think?

Full body scans are not justified	35%
Full body scans are justified to keep us safe	43%
Not sure	21%

27. Overall, do you think the recent changes in air travel security measures will make flying safer or not?

Won’t make much difference	49%
Will make flying safer	35%
Not sure	16%

28. Will you travel by air less frequently in the future in order to avoid being subjected to the new procedures, or not?

Yes	39%
No	61%

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%)	21%
Somewhat likely (10% to 50%)	35%
Not very likely (1% to 10%)	20%
Very unlikely (less than 1%)	8%
Not sure	15%

30. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	33%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	24%
Conservative	2%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	22%

31. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	47%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	53%

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

Like a lot	35%
Like somewhat	28%
Dislike	27%
Not sure	10%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Honest	33%	34%	33%
Intelligent	59%	28%	12%
Religious	19%	52%	29%
Inspiring	35%	40%	25%
Patriotic	30%	39%	31%
Strong	30%	46%	24%
Bold	31%	51%	18%
Experienced	13%	40%	47%
Sincere	35%	34%	31%
Partisan	27%	52%	21%
Effective	18%	48%	33%
Unifying	13%	51%	37%
In Touch	24%	41%	35%
Realistic	26%	41%	33%
Decisive	22%	51%	27%

34. 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	12%
Somewhat disapprove	25%
Strongly disapprove	43%
Not sure	10%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	29%
Off on the wrong track	59%
Not sure	13%

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

Getting better	22%
About the same	38%
Getting worse	33%
Not sure	7%

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

Higher	26%
About the same	33%
Lower	19%
Not sure	22%

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

Better off financially	11%
About the same as now	42%
Worse off financially	40%
Not sure	6%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	November 27-30, 2010
Target population	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's PollingPoint panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by age, gender, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2005–2007 American Community Study. Voter registration, turnout, religion, news interest, minor party identification, and non-placement on an ideology scale, were imputed from the 2008 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement and the Pew Religion in American Life Survey. Matching respondents were selected from the PollingPoint panel, an opt-in Internet panel.
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 0.6 to 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.58.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 3.6% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	34 questions not reported.