

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted April 2-5, 2011
Margin of Error $\pm 4\%$

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	12%	28%	21%	26%	13%
The economy	10%	25%	15%	39%	10%
Immigration	7%	20%	18%	38%	17%
The environment	11%	30%	17%	25%	17%
Terrorism	14%	30%	12%	31%	13%
Gay rights	15%	23%	14%	25%	23%
Education	12%	28%	18%	26%	15%
Health care	17%	22%	11%	41%	9%
Social security	9%	22%	18%	33%	18%
The budget deficit	7%	23%	17%	42%	10%
The war in Afghanistan	9%	28%	24%	27%	13%
Taxes	8%	20%	22%	37%	13%

2. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	36%	45%	14%	6%
The economy	81%	17%	1%	2%
Immigration	45%	35%	15%	5%
The environment	45%	38%	12%	6%
Terrorism	53%	32%	10%	5%
Gay rights	24%	25%	24%	27%
Education	59%	31%	6%	3%
Health care	72%	24%	3%	1%
Social security	62%	29%	7%	1%
The budget deficit	59%	32%	6%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	36%	45%	13%	6%
Taxes	61%	31%	6%	2%

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

The war in Iraq	1%
The economy	37%
Immigration	5%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	3%
Education	9%
Health care	10%
Social security	13%
The budget deficit	11%
The war in Afghanistan	2%
Taxes	3%

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

Strongly Approve	17%
Somewhat Approve	26%
Somewhat Disapprove	16%
Strongly Disapprove	34%
Not Sure	8%

5. Do you feel you pay more than your fair share in federal income taxes, less than your fair share, or is the amount you pay about right?

More than fair share	35%
Less than fair share	4%
About right	46%
Don't file taxes	15%

6. Income taxes for 2010 are due on April 18th, 2011. Have you already filed your income taxes, will you get your taxes done in the next couple of weeks, did you apply for an extension, or are you just not thinking about it?

Already filed	53%
Will get them done	22%
Applied for extension	3%
Just not thinking about it	3%
Don't file/Don't earn enough	19%

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?

Strongly approve	13%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	29%
No opinion	15%

8. In general, do you think leaders of other countries around the world have respect for Barack Obama or not?

A great deal of respect	15%
A fair amount of respect	38%
Not much respect	29%
No respect	18%

9. How much have you heard or read about the violent conflict in Libya between rebels and forces loyal to Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi?

A lot	60%
A little	32%
Nothing at all	8%

10. Did you listen to the President's speech on military action in Libya last Monday?

Yes, listened to all of it	21%
Yes, listened to part of it	27%
No, did not listen to it	53%

11. In today's world, does the United States have a responsibility to intervene militarily in trouble spots around the globe, or is this not a responsibility of the United States?

Has responsibility to intervene, even when other foreign allies do not	8%
Has responsibility to intervene, but only as part of an international coalition	54%
Has no responsibility to intervene	26%
Not sure	12%

12. 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.	22%
Support a democratically elected government regardless of its attitude toward the U.S.	33%
Not sure	45%

13. In recent weeks there have been anti-government protests or uprisings in several countries in the Middle East and North Africa. How important are each of these countries to America's interests?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant	Not sure
Bahrain	20%	33%	14%	8%	24%
Egypt	39%	30%	6%	6%	19%
Libya	24%	35%	13%	8%	19%
Syria	26%	31%	14%	8%	22%
Tunisia	12%	31%	22%	9%	26%
Yemen	23%	33%	12%	8%	24%

14. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama has responded to the uprising in Libya? Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya

Strongly approve	14%
Somewhat approve	29%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	24%
No opinion	13%

15. How should the international community respond to events in Libya? Please check all options that you support. Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya

Enforce sanctions	52%
Send humanitarian aid	55%
Evacuate refugees	44%
Enforce no-fly zone over Libya	54%
Send ground troops into Libya	9%
Provide arms to rebels	13%
Target Colonel Gaddafi to remove him from power	43%
None of these	16%

16. Do you think the rebels in Libya will be successful in removing Colonel Gaddafi from power or not? Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya

Rebels will succeed in removing Gaddafi from power	34%
Gaddafi will remain in power	23%
Not sure	43%

17. Do you think Britain, France, the U.S. and other countries are right or wrong to take military action in Libya? Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya

Right	48%
Wrong	22%
Not sure	30%

18. Do you think the goals of the UN-backed military mission in Libya are clear or not? Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya

Very clear	7%
Somewhat clear	28%
Not very clear	30%
Not at all clear	19%
Not sure	16%

19. How long do you think the enforcement of a no-fly zone over Libya will last? Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya

Less than a month	3%
About a month	8%
Several months	37%
About a year	6%
Over a year	9%
Not sure	37%

20. From what you know, which of these statements do you think probably comes nearest the truth? Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya

- Most Libyans support Gaddafi and wish him to remain in power 2%
- Most Libyans wish to see Gaddafi removed from power and therefore welcome the coalition forces' military action 44%
- Most Libyans wish to see Gaddafi removed from power but nevertheless regard the coalition forces as enemies of the Libyan people 29%
- Not sure 25%

21. Did you listen to the President's speech on energy policy on Wednesday?

- Yes, listened to all of it 8%
- Yes, listened to part of it 17%
- No, did not listen to it 75%

22. In his speech on energy policy, President Obama called for a one-third cut in U.S. oil imports by 2025? How likely is it that the U.S. will achieve this goal?

- Very likely 4%
- Somewhat likely 19%
- Somewhat unlikely 25%
- Very unlikely 34%
- Not sure 18%

23. Generally speaking, do you think the following types of energy extraction or power production methods are safe or not safe?

	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Not too safe	Not at all safe	Not sure
Nuclear power production	20%	30%	20%	20%	10%
Offshore oil and natural gas drilling	21%	33%	24%	13%	9%
Coal mining	14%	30%	31%	16%	9%

24. Should the U.S. increase or decrease domestic energy production from the following sources?

	Increase	Keep the same	Decrease	Not sure
Nuclear power	35%	28%	24%	14%
Coal	22%	33%	30%	14%
Natural gas	51%	28%	8%	13%
Oil	31%	20%	37%	11%
Biofuels	48%	21%	13%	19%
Wind	72%	11%	6%	11%
Solar	75%	11%	4%	10%

25. How do you feel about increased drilling for oil and natural gas offshore in U.S. waters?

Strongly favor	32%
Mildly favor	23%
Mildly oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	17%
Not sure	13%

26. Do you currently live within 100 miles of a nuclear power plant?

Yes	36%
No	42%
Not sure	22%

27. What percent of the United States' electricity would you guess comes from nuclear energy?

Categories recoded from open-ended responses

0-10%	4%
11-25%	27%
26-50%	17%
51-75%	5%
76-100%	3%
Don't know	45%

28. Would you approve or disapprove of building more nuclear power plants to generate electricity?

Strongly approve	21%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	22%
Not sure	14%

29. Would you approve or disapprove if a nuclear power plant to generate electricity were built in your community ?

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Not sure	15%

30. How much do you trust government agencies responsible for ensuring the safety of U.S. nuclear power plants to do their jobs?

A great deal	16%
Some	34%
Only a little	22%
Not at all	19%
Not sure	9%

31. How concerned are you personally that your health will be affected by radiation released from the accident at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant?

Very concerned	8%
Somewhat concerned	21%
Not very concerned	30%
Not at all concerned	34%
Not sure	8%

32. The first Earth Day was celebrated more than 40 years ago. How much progress do you think has been made toward solving environmental problems since then - a lot, some, not much or none?

A lot	11%
Some	44%
Not much	37%
None	8%

33. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	30%
Liberal	21%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	17%

34. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	45%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	55%

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

Like a lot	32%
Like somewhat	31%
Dislike	26%
Not sure	11%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Bold	31%	49%	20%
Decisive	21%	51%	28%
Effective	21%	47%	33%
Experienced	13%	44%	44%
Honest	30%	39%	31%
In touch	25%	44%	31%
Inspiring	35%	42%	22%
Intelligent	59%	29%	12%
Partisan	25%	57%	18%
Patriotic	29%	45%	26%
Realistic	28%	43%	29%
Religious	14%	56%	30%
Sincere	34%	39%	27%
Strong	29%	48%	23%
Unifying	16%	51%	34%

37. Do you think the current Congress has accomplished more or less than Congress usually does during its first three months?

More than usual	7%
About the same	33%
Less than usual	42%
Not sure	18%

38. 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	16%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	12%

39. How much have you heard or read about the possibility of a shutdown of the federal government if Congress and the president can't reach an agreement on federal spending?

A lot	37%
A little	41%
Nothing at all	22%

40. How likely is it that a budget agreement will not be reached, resulting in a shutdown of the federal government? Asked if respondent is aware of possibility of government shutdown

Very likely	12%
Somewhat likely	41%
Not too likely	31%
Not at all likely	7%
Not sure	10%

41. Do you think that you would be personally affected by a shutdown of the federal government?

Definitely yes	18%
Probably yes	22%
Hard to say	31%
Probably no	22%
Definitely no	7%

42. How much confidence do you have in the leaders of...

	A great deal	Quite a bit	Only some	Very little	None at all	No opinion
The Republicans in Congress	4%	11%	23%	21%	33%	8%
The Democrats in Congress	6%	11%	24%	20%	31%	8%

43. In your opinion, do the Democrats in Congress...

Mostly provide constructive policy alternatives	32%
Mostly just oppose the other party	48%
Not sure	21%

44. In your opinion, do the Republicans in Congress...

Mostly provide constructive policy alternatives	24%
Mostly just oppose the other party	56%
Not sure	20%

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

Mostly provide constructive policy alternatives	25%
Mostly just oppose the President	54%
Not sure	21%

46. If you had to choose, would you rather have a congressperson who...

Compromises to get things done.	58%
Sticks to his or her principles, no matter what.	42%

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

A great deal	38%
A fair amount	35%
Not much	19%
Nothing at all	8%

48. Do you think of yourself as a part of the Tea Party movement? Asked if respondent is aware of Tea Party movement

Yes	16%
No	84%

49. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the goals of the Tea Party movement? Asked if respondent is aware of Tea Party movement

Strongly support	18%
Somewhat support	17%
Neither support, nor oppose	16%
Somewhat oppose	6%
Strongly oppose	31%
Not sure	11%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	26%
Off on the wrong track	60%
Not sure	14%

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

Getting better	24%
About the same	38%
Getting worse	32%
Not sure	6%

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

Higher	27%
About the same	33%
Lower	21%
Not sure	19%

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

Better off financially	16%
About the same as now	39%
Worse off financially	39%
Not sure	5%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	April 2-5, 2011
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 0.4 to 7.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.79.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	24 questions not reported.