

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted June 25-28, 2011  
Margin of Error  $\pm 3.8\%$

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	13%	31%	18%	26%	12%
The economy	9%	26%	14%	40%	10%
Immigration	7%	25%	18%	35%	15%
The environment	9%	32%	17%	25%	17%
Terrorism	21%	28%	14%	24%	13%
Gay rights	11%	26%	13%	26%	24%
Education	12%	31%	17%	25%	15%
Health care	16%	22%	11%	41%	9%
Social security	12%	21%	19%	34%	14%
The budget deficit	8%	23%	16%	42%	11%
The war in Afghanistan	13%	28%	20%	28%	12%
Taxes	9%	24%	18%	36%	13%
Medicare	13%	21%	15%	36%	14%

2. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	36%	43%	16%	5%
The economy	78%	18%	2%	2%
Immigration	44%	35%	15%	5%
The environment	42%	37%	15%	6%
Terrorism	50%	34%	13%	4%
Gay rights	23%	23%	26%	29%
Education	56%	31%	10%	3%
Health care	70%	23%	6%	2%
Social security	65%	27%	6%	2%
The budget deficit	58%	30%	8%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	38%	41%	16%	5%
Taxes	59%	33%	6%	2%
Medicare	59%	27%	9%	4%

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

The war in Iraq	1%
The economy	39%
Immigration	5%
The environment	4%
Terrorism	2%
Gay rights	2%
Education	8%
Health care	9%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	10%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	2%

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

Strongly Approve .....	15%
Somewhat Approve .....	28%
Somewhat Disapprove .....	15%
Strongly Disapprove .....	34%
Not Sure .....	8%

**5. How closely have you been following news about the 2012 presidential election campaign?**

Very closely .....	29%
Somewhat closely .....	33%
Not too closely .....	25%
Not at all .....	13%

**6. If you had to choose one, which of these individuals would you want to be the Republican nominee for president in 2012?**

Sarah Palin .....	8%
Mitt Romney .....	10%
Newt Gingrich .....	2%
Tim Pawlenty .....	2%
Michele Bachmann .....	7%
Jon Huntsman .....	5%
Ron Paul .....	7%
Rudy Giuliani .....	6%
Herman Cain .....	3%
Rick Santorum .....	1%
Rick Perry .....	5%
Other .....	9%
No preference .....	35%

7. In the 2012 presidential election, would you prefer that Barack Obama or someone else run as the Democratic nominee for president?

Barack Obama .....	44%
Someone else .....	24%
Not sure .....	32%

8. If an election for president was going to be held now, would you vote for...  
*Asked of registered voters*

The Democratic Party candidate .....	43%
The Republican Party candidate .....	36%
Some other candidate .....	4%
Not sure .....	17%

9. If the 2012 presidential election were being held today, and the candidates were Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Jon Huntsman, the Republican, would you vote for Barack Obama or Jon Huntsman?  
*Asked of registered voters*

Barack Obama .....	44%
Lean Barack Obama .....	2%
Lean Jon Huntsman .....	6%
Jon Huntsman .....	30%
Other .....	7%
Not sure .....	15%
I would not vote .....	8%

10. If the 2012 presidential election were being held today, and the candidates were Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Mitt Romney, the Republican, would you vote for Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

*Asked of registered voters*

Barack Obama .....	45%
Lean Barack Obama .....	1%
Lean Mitt Romney .....	3%
Mitt Romney .....	40%
Other .....	3%
Not sure .....	10%
I would not vote .....	4%

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

A great deal .....	30%
A fair amount .....	37%
Not much .....	22%
Nothing at all .....	11%

12. Do you think of yourself as a part of the Tea Party movement?

*Asked if respondent is aware of Tea Party movement*

Yes .....	17%
No .....	83%

13. 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 .....	17%
Somewhat support .....	16%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	19%
Somewhat oppose .....	12%
Strongly oppose .....	25%
Not sure .....	11%

**14. Did you listen to the President's speech about the war in Afghanistan on Wednesday?**

Yes, listened to all of it .....	17%
Yes, listened to part of it .....	26%
No, did not listen to it .....	56%

**15. Barack Obama said that he will remove 10,000 U.S. troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2011, and 23,000 more by the end of 2012. Do you support or oppose his plan for withdrawing U.S. troops from Afghanistan?**

Strongly support .....	35%
Somewhat support .....	27%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	13%
Somewhat oppose .....	8%
Strongly oppose .....	8%
Not sure .....	9%

**16. There are currently 99,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan. Barack Obama plans to withdraw 33,000 U.S. troops by the end of 2012. Would you say that this pace of withdrawal is too fast, too slow, about right, or do you oppose the troop withdrawal altogether?**

Too fast .....	15%
About right .....	46%
Too slow .....	34%
Oppose any troop withdrawal .....	5%

**17. How likely is it that Barack Obama will be able to withdraw 33,000 troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2012?**

Very likely .....	20%
Somewhat likely .....	30%
Somewhat unlikely .....	20%
Very unlikely .....	13%
Not sure .....	16%

**18. Do you think the United States made a mistake sending troops to fight in Afghanistan?**

Yes .....	33%
No .....	46%
Not sure .....	21%

**19. What do you think will eventually happen in Afghanistan?**

The United States will win the war in Afghanistan. ....	24%
The United States will withdraw from Afghanistan without winning. ....	76%

**20. Do you think the United States has achieved its goals in the war in Afghanistan?**

Yes .....	22%
No .....	45%
Not sure .....	33%

**21. Do you think the United States will eventually achieve its goals in the war in Afghanistan?**

*Asked if respondent believes the U.S. has not achieved its goals in Afghanistan or is unsure*

Yes .....	11%
No .....	47%
Not sure .....	42%

**22. Does Afghanistan currently pose a terrorist threat to the United States?**

Definitely yes .....	17%
Probably yes .....	35%
Probably no .....	27%
Definitely no .....	5%
Not sure .....	17%

23. Would you support or oppose negotiations with members of the Taliban to achieve a peace deal to end the Afghan war?

Strongly support	8%
Somewhat support	21%
Neither support, nor oppose	19%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	23%
Not sure	20%

24. 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	42%
A little	41%
Nothing at all	17%

25. 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	15%
Somewhat approve	30%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	25%
No opinion	15%

26. 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	49%
Wrong	25%
Not sure	26%



**27. Should Congress authorize the continued U.S. involvement in the NATO-led military mission in Libya?**

*Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya*

Should authorize .....	39%
Should not authorize .....	34%
Not sure .....	27%

**28. Some members of Congress would like to end U.S. military involvement in Libya by withholding funding for the mission. Do you support or oppose withholding funding for the Libya mission?**

*Asked if respondent is aware of unrest in Libya*

Support .....	32%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	22%
Oppose .....	30%
Not sure .....	16%

**29. 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 .....	57%
Should only be handled by federal government .....	22%
Not sure .....	21%

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

Favor allowing same-sex marriage .....	38%
Oppose allowing same-sex marriage, but favor allowing civil unions instead .....	22%
Oppose legal recognition of same-sex relationships .....	27%
Not sure .....	13%

**31. Do you think same sex marriages are moral or immoral?**

Moral .....	44%
Immoral .....	56%

32. What would be the impact of legalizing same sex marriages on the institution of traditional male-female marriages?

Benefit .....	8%
Have no impact .....	60%
Threaten .....	32%

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

Homosexuality is a way of life that should be accepted by society. ....	59%
Homosexuality is a way of life that should be discouraged by society ....	41%

34. 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 .....	43%
Homosexuality is not a choice .....	57%

35. Do you think that including warning labels on cigarette packages about the health risks of smoking is an effective way of discouraging smoking?

Effective .....	19%
Neither effective, nor ineffective .....	35%
Ineffective .....	38%
Not sure .....	7%

36. Do you support or oppose requiring cigarette companies to print warnings about the health risks of smoking on cigarette packages?

Support .....	57%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	30%
Oppose .....	9%
Not sure .....	4%

**37. Should the health warning messages on cigarette packages only include text or should they include text and images?**

*Asked if respondent favors warning labels on cigarette packages*

Text only .....	20%
Text and images .....	67%
Not sure .....	13%

**38. How much space should the health warning labels on cigarette packages take up?**

More than half of package .....	24%
About half of package .....	34%
Less than half of package .....	24%
Warning labels are not necessary .....	18%

**39. Above are two examples of cigarette health warning labels. The image on the left is an example of the current warning label. The image on the right is an example of a new warning label that will appear on cigarette packages starting in September, 2012. Which warning label do you think is more effective at discouraging smoking?**

*See appendix to view images shown to respondents*

Current warning label .....	7%
New warning label .....	49%
Both equally effective .....	12%
Neither are effective .....	25%
Not sure .....	6%

**40. Who is more to blame for the health problems resulting from smoking?**

Tobacco companies .....	12%
Smokers .....	33%
Both equally to blame .....	47%
Neither to blame .....	4%
Not sure .....	4%

**41. Who should pay for the cost of treating cigarette smokers for their smoking-related health problems?**

Tobacco companies .....	13%
Patients themselves .....	42%
Both .....	36%
Neither .....	2%
Not sure .....	7%

**42. Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?**

Yes .....	50%
No .....	50%

**43. Do you now smoke cigarettes...**  
*Asked if respondent has smoked at least 100 cigarettes in life*

Every day .....	40%
Some days .....	9%
Not at all .....	51%

**44. How would you describe yourself?**

Very patriotic .....	49%
Somewhat patriotic .....	38%
Not very patriotic .....	9%
Not at all patriotic .....	4%

**45. Do you think Americans are becoming more or less patriotic?**

More patriotic .....	11%
About the same .....	47%
Less patriotic .....	43%

**46. Is it possible for someone to do the following things and still be considered patriotic?**

	Yes	No
Refuse to serve in a war that they oppose	59%	41%
Disobey a law they think is immoral	62%	38%
Criticize our leaders to foreigners	55%	45%
Refuse to pay taxes	36%	64%
Burn an American flag in protest	20%	80%

**47. Which political party do you think is more patriotic?**

Democratic party	16%
About the same	59%
Republican party	25%

**48. How would you rank the following values in terms of their importance to you? The value that you consider most important should be ranked first the one you consider least important should be ranked last.**

	Ranked 1st	Ranked 2nd	Ranked 3rd
Freedom of speech	42%	44%	15%
Freedom of religion	19%	29%	52%
Equality	40%	28%	33%

49. Do you support or oppose granting legal U.S. residency to foreigners under the following circumstances?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Neither support, nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure
The individual was brought to the U.S. as a minor by parents who entered the country illegally	17%	18%	18%	12%	30%	5%
The individual graduated from a U.S. high school	22%	19%	19%	13%	21%	5%
The individual served in the U.S. military	51%	23%	11%	4%	7%	4%
The individual is in a committed relationship with a same-sex partner who is a U.S. citizen	17%	12%	20%	11%	35%	5%

50. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Anyone born within the borders of the United States is considered a United States citizen.

Agree	52%
Neither agree, nor disagree	16%
Disagree	26%
Not sure	7%

51. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Anyone born within the borders of the United States should be considered a United States citizen

Agree	43%
Neither agree, nor disagree	17%
Disagree	31%
Not sure	8%

52. What about children born to people who have come to the United State illegally? Should children born to illegal immigrants within the borders of the United States be considered United States citizen?

Definitely yes	22%
Probably yes	19%
Probably no	15%
Definitely no	34%
Not sure	11%

53. The Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gives U.S. citizenship to anyone born within the borders of the United States. In order to prevent children born to illegal immigrants within the borders of the United States from becoming citizens, should the Constitution be changed?

Definitely yes	22%
Probably yes	23%
Probably no	14%
Definitely no	27%
Not sure	14%

54. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	28%
Liberal	21%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	3%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	20%

55. Do you think Barack Obama...

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

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

Like a lot .....	33%
Like somewhat .....	30%
Dislike .....	26%
Not sure .....	11%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Bold	32%	50%	18%
Decisive	24%	50%	25%
Effective	23%	43%	34%
Experienced	15%	46%	40%
Honest	32%	38%	30%
In touch	23%	43%	34%
Inspiring	37%	40%	24%
Intelligent	59%	27%	13%
Partisan	24%	57%	19%
Patriotic	32%	41%	26%
Realistic	27%	42%	31%
Religious	16%	56%	29%
Sincere	35%	36%	29%
Strong	31%	47%	22%
Unifying	16%	49%	35%

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

Strongly approve .....	2%
Somewhat approve .....	11%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	15%
Somewhat disapprove .....	28%
Strongly disapprove .....	34%
Not sure .....	10%



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

Generally headed in the right direction .....	21%
Off on the wrong track .....	64%
Not sure .....	15%

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

Getting better .....	14%
About the same .....	40%
Getting worse .....	40%
Not sure .....	7%

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

Higher .....	18%
About the same .....	33%
Lower .....	26%
Not sure .....	23%

**62. Would you say that you and your family are...**

Better off financially .....	12%
About the same as now .....	43%
Worse off financially .....	40%
Not sure .....	5%

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	June 25-28, 2011
<b>Target population</b>	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
<b>Sampling method</b>	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.
<b>Weighting</b>	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 0.5 to 4.3, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.68.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3.8% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	28 questions not reported.

Appendix



Current Label

"SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING:  
Quitting Smoking Now Greatly  
Reduces Serious Risks  
to Your Health"



New Label

"WARNING:  
Cigarettes cause strokes  
and heart disease.  
1-800-QUIT-NOW"