

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted May 31-June 2, 2014
Margin of Error $\pm 4.1\%$

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	41%
Some of the time	28%
Only now and then	18%
Hardly at all	11%
Don't know	2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	28%
Off on the wrong track	58%
Not sure	13%

3. Do you think the United States made a mistake sending troops to fight in the following wars?

	Yes	No	Not sure
World War I	14%	65%	21%
World War II	11%	73%	16%
Korea	27%	44%	29%
Vietnam	57%	23%	20%
Desert Shield/Desert Storm	32%	43%	24%
Afghanistan	43%	38%	19%
Iraq	51%	31%	18%

4. Are Afghan civilians better off today than they were when the war in Afghanistan began?

Definitely yes	5%
Probably yes	31%
Probably no	31%
Definitely no	7%
Not sure	26%

5. Are American civilians better off today than they were when the war in Afghanistan began?

Definitely yes	5%
Probably yes	17%
Probably no	32%
Definitely no	28%
Not sure	18%

6. Do you think Barack Obama has a clear plan for U.S. Strategy in Afghanistan?

Yes	25%
No	52%
Not sure	23%

7. Do you support or oppose Barack Obama's plan for withdrawing U.S. troops from Afghanistan?

Support strongly	33%
Support somewhat	23%
Neither support nor oppose	15%
Oppose somewhat	10%
Oppose strongly	8%
Not sure	10%

8. Do you think Barack Obama has a clear plan for U.S. foreign policy?

Yes	25%
No	50%
Not sure	25%

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

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	29%
No opinion	17%

10. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Eric Shinseki?

Very favorable	4%
Somewhat favorable	14%
Somewhat unfavorable	21%
Very unfavorable	19%
Don't know	42%

11. Do you approve or disapprove of former Army General Eric Shinseki's decision to resign as Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs?

Approve strongly	26%
Approve somewhat	26%
Disapprove somewhat	10%
Disapprove strongly	4%
Not sure	34%

12. Do you think Secretary Shinseki should have had to resign or do you think he could have remained as the Secretary?

Should have had to resign	60%
Could have remained	40%

13. Do you think Secretary Shinseki's resignation will lead to improvements or make the situation worse at the Department of Veterans Affairs?

Lead to improvements	23%
Make no difference	42%
Make the situation worse	7%
Not sure	28%

14. Do you think more officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs need to resign or do you think General Shinseki's resignation is enough?

More should resign	79%
Shinseki is enough	21%

15. Who do you think is most to blame for the problems at the Department of Veterans Affairs?

President Barack Obama	19%
Former Secretary Eric Shinseki	8%
Lower level officials at the VA	20%
Congress	15%
President George W. Bush	9%
Not sure	30%

16. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the VA situation?

Strongly approve	9%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	22%
No opinion	28%

17. In general, do you think the government does too much or not enough to help the country's military veterans?

Too much	3%
Right amount	13%
Not enough	73%
Not sure	11%

18. On average, do you think veterans receive better or worse medical care at VA medical centers than people receive at non-VA medical centers?

Better care	10%
Same level of care	24%
Worse care	47%
Not sure	19%

19. On average, do you think veterans have shorter or longer wait times for medical care at VA medical centers than people receive at non-VA medical centers?

Longer wait times	55%
Same wait times	17%
Shorter wait times	8%
Not sure	20%

20. Do you think the federal government should operate special medical facilities for veterans or do you think the government should just provide health insurance for veterans and allow them to seek medical care on the private market?

Operate special medical facilities for veterans	40%
Provide insurance for private medical care for veterans	60%

21. Should funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs should be increased, decreased, or remain the same?

Increased	46%
Remain the same	28%
Decreased	6%
Not sure	20%

22. Have you or a close family member ever received treatment at a VA Medical Center?

Yes	34%
No	58%
I don't remember	8%

23. We'd like to know whether you or someone in your immediate family is currently serving or has ever served in the U.S. military. Immediate family is defined as your parents, siblings, spouse, and children. Please check all boxes that apply.

Military Household - I am	1%
Military Household - Family	9%
Military Household - I served previously	11%
Military Household - Family served previously	45%
Military Household - None	42%

24. How would you rate your personal health?

Excellent	17%
Good	57%
Fair	21%
Poor	5%

25. Over the past 12 months has your personal health improved or worsened, or have you not noticed any change?

Improved	14%
Remained the same	61%
Worsened	21%
Haven't noticed	4%

26. In the past 12 months have you...

Been seen by a dentist	48%
Been seen by a doctor	71%
Ordered prescription drugs	57%
None of these	19%

27. In the past 12 months have decided not to see a doctor because you could not afford it?

Yes	24%
No	71%
Prefer not to say	5%

28. In the past 12 months have decided not to see a dentist because you could not afford it?

Yes	30%
No	66%
Prefer not to say	4%

29. In the past 12 months have decided not to fill a prescription because you could not afford it?

Yes	19%
No	78%
Prefer not to say	3%

30. Compared to a year ago, are you paying more or less for health care coverage today?

More	41%
The same	40%
Less	9%
Not sure	10%

31. Compared to a year ago, would you say the quality of your health care is better or worse today?

Better	10%
The same	63%
Worse	19%
Not sure	8%

32. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	82%
No	18%

33. Which of the following best describes your primary health insurance?

Asked of those who reported having health insurance

I have health insurance that is provided through my or a family member's employer, union, school, trade group or professional association	38%
I have health insurance provided through Medicare	17%
I have health insurance that I or a family member purchased directly from the health insurance company or HMO, not through an employer, union, school, trade group or professional association	10%
I have health insurance through the military or through VA Benefits	3%
I have health insurance that is provided through a government health program, such as Medicaid	13%
Does not have health insurance	18%
Prefer not to say	2%

34. Did you have health insurance before January 1, 2014?

Yes	76%
No	22%
Not sure	2%

35. Do you think the health care reform law should be expanded, kept the same, or repealed?

Expanded	28%
Kept the same	14%
Repealed	42%
Not sure	16%

36. From all that you know now, has the health care reform law been a complete success, a complete failure, or something in between?

A complete failure	22%
More of a failure than a success	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success	16%
More of a success than a failure	16%
A complete success	3%
Too early to tell	11%
Not sure	10%

37. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	73%	23%	3%	2%
Immigration	40%	36%	16%	8%
The environment	42%	35%	16%	7%
Terrorism	47%	35%	14%	5%
Gay rights	22%	25%	22%	31%
Education	56%	34%	8%	2%
Health care	65%	26%	7%	3%
Social security	58%	30%	10%	2%
The budget deficit	51%	33%	12%	4%
The war in Afghanistan	24%	41%	26%	8%
Taxes	56%	33%	9%	2%
Medicare	52%	32%	13%	3%
Abortion	33%	30%	23%	14%

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

The economy	31%
Immigration	5%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	2%
Education	10%
Health care	9%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	5%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	4%

39. 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	25%	18%	16%	36%	5%
Joe Biden	16%	23%	19%	28%	13%
John Boehner	5%	16%	22%	31%	26%
Mitch McConnell	3%	16%	19%	26%	35%
Harry Reid	8%	16%	14%	32%	30%
Nancy Pelosi	11%	18%	14%	37%	20%

40. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Hillary Clinton	26%	23%	14%	30%	8%
Rand Paul	13%	22%	14%	21%	30%
Chris Christie	8%	23%	24%	21%	24%
Paul Ryan	13%	20%	16%	25%	26%
Jeb Bush	10%	23%	22%	21%	25%
Mike Huckabee	12%	22%	16%	20%	30%
Marco Rubio	9%	19%	16%	20%	35%
Elizabeth Warren	15%	14%	14%	16%	41%
Scott Walker	12%	14%	11%	17%	46%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	6%

42. 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	13%	23%	17%	36%	11%
Immigration	11%	24%	19%	31%	15%
The environment	12%	28%	16%	26%	18%
Terrorism	17%	25%	18%	25%	14%
Gay rights	16%	25%	12%	27%	21%
Education	14%	28%	18%	23%	17%
Health care	17%	24%	13%	38%	9%
Social security	11%	25%	18%	25%	21%
The war in Afghanistan	14%	26%	21%	26%	13%
The budget deficit	12%	20%	19%	36%	13%
Taxes	12%	22%	19%	31%	14%
Medicare	13%	24%	18%	27%	18%
Abortion	13%	22%	14%	24%	27%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	6%
Neither approve nor disapprove	18%
Somewhat disapprove	28%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	7%

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	36%
Conservative	30%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	1%

45. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	35%
Liberal	19%
Moderate	25%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	14%

46. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	33%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	54%
Not sure	13%

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

Like a lot	28%
Like somewhat	31%
Dislike	29%
Not sure	11%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	39%	33%	29%
Bold	23%	59%	18%
Effective	20%	46%	34%
Exciting	11%	65%	23%
Experienced	18%	52%	30%
Honest	24%	42%	34%
Hypocritical	37%	40%	23%
Inspiring	27%	48%	24%
Intelligent	51%	34%	15%
Partisan	24%	63%	13%
Patriotic	26%	47%	28%
Religious	11%	61%	28%
Sincere	26%	43%	30%
Steady	24%	56%	20%
Strong	26%	51%	22%

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

Getting better	22%
About the same	37%
Getting worse	35%
Not sure	6%

50. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	66%
No	30%
Don't know	4%

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

More jobs	17%
The same amount of jobs	40%
Fewer jobs	30%
Not sure	13%

52. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

53. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the goals of the Tea Party movement?

Strongly support	12%
Somewhat support	15%
Neither support, nor oppose	22%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	22%
Not sure	20%

54. Education

No high school	10%
High school graduate	31%
Some college	25%
2-year college	10%
4-year college	16%
Post-graduate	8%

55. Age

18-29	26%
30-44	27%
45-64	33%
65+	14%

56. Race

White	67%
Black	15%
Hispanic	11%
Other	7%

57. Region

Northeast	20%
Midwest	23%
South	35%
West	23%

58. Party Identification

Democratic	37%
Independent	36%
Republican	27%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	May 31-June 2, 2014
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 0.2 to 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.85.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.1% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.