

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted November 9-11, 2013
Margin of Error $\pm 4.8\%$

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	44%
Some of the time	31%
Only now and then	16%
Hardly at all	9%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	24%
Off on the wrong track	62%
Not sure	15%

3. Have you tried to visit the federal health insurance exchange website, healthcare.gov?

Yes	21%
No	77%
Not sure	2%

4. Have you visited any of the state run health insurance exchange websites listed below?

I have not been to any of the state websites	78%
Arkansas Health Connector - www.arhealthconnector.org	0%
Covered California - www.coveredca.com	3%
Connect for Health Colorado - www.connectforhealthco.com	1%
Access Health CT - www.accesshealthct.com	1%
DC Health Link - dchealthlink.com	0%
Hawaii Health Connector - www.hawaiihealthconnector.com	0%
Your Health Idaho - www.yourhealthidaho.org	0%
kynect: Kentucky's Healthcare Connection - kynect.ky.gov	0%
Maryland Health Connection - www.marylandhealthconnection.gov	0%
The Health Connector (Massachusetts) - www.mahealthconnector.org	0%
MNSure - mn.gov/hix	0%
Nevada Health Link - www.nevadahealthlink.com	0%
Be Well NM - www.bewellnm.com	0%
NY State of Health - nystateofhealth.ny.gov	1%
Covered Oregon - coveredoregon.com	0%
Health Source Rhode Island - www.healthsourceri.com	0%
Avenue H (Utah small businesses) - avenueh.com	0%
Vermont Health Connect - healthconnect.vermont.gov	0%
Washington Healthplan Finder - www.wahealthplanfinder.org	2%
Other website not listed above	3%

5. Have you been personally affected by the new health care law?

Yes	24%
No	54%
Not sure	23%

6. Has the new health care law made your life better or worse?

Asked of those who reported being personally affected by the health care law

Better	19%
About the same	11%
Worse	66%
Not sure	4%

7. Has at least one of your close relatives been personally affected by the new health care law? (For the purposes of this question, a close relative is a parent, spouse, brother, sister, or child.)

Yes	27%
No	41%
Not sure	33%

8. Thinking about the close relative who has been personally affected by the new health care law, has their life been made better or worse?

Asked of those who reported a close relative was personally affected by the health care law

Better	16%
About the same	14%
Worse	61%
Not sure	9%

9. 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	33%
More of a failure than a success	16%
Equal amount of both failure and success	12%
More of a success than a failure	13%
A complete success	2%
Too early to tell	14%
Not sure	11%

10. When will we know for sure whether the health care reform law is a success or failure?

We will never really know	11%
We will know after the law has been in effect for several years	26%
We will know after the law has been in effect for one year	17%
We will know in a few months when we find out how many people have enrolled	18%
We know now even before the law has been put into effect	29%

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

Expanded	23%
Kept the same	10%
Repealed	44%
Not sure	23%

12. Do you accept or not accept President Obama's apology to people who have had their health insurance policies cancelled despite the President's guarantee that everyone would be able to keep insurance plans they liked?

Accept his apology	30%
Do not accept his apology	51%
Not sure	18%

13. Do you think President Obama's apology was sincere?

Yes	41%
No	46%
Not sure	13%

14. Please indicate if you know personally... (Check all that apply)

	Yes, and that person is me	Yes, I know someone like this	No, don't know anyone like this
Someone who has a child in college	9%	48%	42%
Someone who has been denied coverage due to a preexisting condition	5%	24%	68%
Someone who is on Medicare	21%	53%	26%
Someone who is on Medicaid	9%	50%	38%

15. Why do you not have health insurance at the moment? Check all that apply.

Asked if respondent does not have health insurance

Too expensive	67%
Healthy and did not need it	13%
Refused by an insurance company	3%
Lost my job	22%
Other	9%
Prefer not to say	9%

16. How concerned are you about the health care costs you will face in the future?

Very concerned	51%
Somewhat concerned	33%
Not very concerned	10%
Not at all concerned	5%

17. Do you think that you will receive better or worse care under the new health care system?

A lot better	6%
A little better	8%
About the same	31%
A little worse	12%
A lot worse	27%
Not sure	17%

18. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Medicare?

Very favorable	19%
Somewhat favorable	37%
Somewhat unfavorable	13%
Very unfavorable	8%
Don't know	23%

19. Do you support or oppose making Medicare available for everyone, regardless of age?

Support strongly	18%
Support somewhat	17%
Neither support nor oppose	16%
Oppose somewhat	10%
Oppose strongly	24%
Not sure	16%

20. Do you support or oppose eliminating Medicare?

Support strongly	6%
Support somewhat	4%
Neither support nor oppose	12%
Oppose somewhat	14%
Oppose strongly	52%
Not sure	12%

21. Do you support or oppose lowering the eligibility age for Medicare from 65 to 60?

Support strongly	23%
Support somewhat	18%
Neither support nor oppose	20%
Oppose somewhat	13%
Oppose strongly	14%
Not sure	12%

22. Do you support or oppose raising the eligibility age for Medicare from 65 to 70?

Support strongly	6%
Support somewhat	13%
Neither support nor oppose	15%
Oppose somewhat	17%
Oppose strongly	38%
Not sure	12%

23. Should the federal government increase or decrease spending on the following programs?

	Increase	Keep the same	Decrease	Eliminate completely	Not sure
Food stamps	25%	31%	26%	7%	10%
Section 8 housing vouchers	16%	32%	24%	13%	16%
VA education benefits	32%	48%	6%	2%	13%
VA home loan guarantees	21%	51%	10%	3%	15%
Small business loans	31%	43%	9%	4%	13%
Unemployment benefits	22%	40%	23%	4%	11%
Crop subsidies	11%	31%	23%	16%	20%
Advanced Technology Program grants	22%	35%	15%	10%	18%

24. Do you think the federal minimum wage should be changed?

Yes, increased significantly	35%
Yes, increased a little bit	27%
No, it should not be changed	21%
Yes, decreased a little bit	3%
Yes, decreased significantly	5%
Not sure	8%

25. Do you think a federal minimum wage of \$10.10 per hour is too high, about right, or too low?

Too high	27%
About right	47%
Too low	19%
Not sure	7%

26. Do you think President Barack Obama is doing enough to create new jobs for Americans or should he do more?

Doing enough	15%
Should do more	67%
Not sure	17%

27. Do you think Republicans in Congress are doing enough to create new jobs for Americans or should they do more?

Doing enough	11%
Should do more	74%
Not sure	15%

28. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole unemployment rates during THE NEXT YEAR will increase, decrease or remain about the same?

Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot lower</u> than they are today	3%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	20%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	25%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	19%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	16%
Not sure	16%

29. Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole unemployment rates during THE NEXT FIVE YEARS will increase, decrease or remain about the same?

Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot lower</u> than they are today	7%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat lower</u> than they are today	21%
Unemployment rates will be <u>about the same</u> as they are today	20%
Unemployment rates will be <u>somewhat higher</u> than they are today	17%
Unemployment rates will be <u>a lot higher</u> than they are today	15%
Not sure	20%

30. Do you think the following things make for good or bad investments?

	Good investment	Neither good nor bad investment	Bad investment	Not sure
Large retail companies	20%	40%	17%	23%
Hi-tech hardware companies	38%	32%	8%	23%
Real estate	35%	30%	16%	19%
Precious metals (e.g. gold, silver, or platinum)	45%	27%	9%	19%
Commodities (e.g. crop futures, foreign exchanges)	18%	34%	16%	31%
Internet applications companies	30%	33%	12%	26%
Manufacturing firms	25%	38%	11%	25%
Energy companies (e.g. oil and gas companies)	46%	25%	9%	20%
Savings bonds	26%	32%	19%	23%

31. Do you think the following hi-tech companies are good or bad investments? (Check all that apply.)

	Good investment	Neither good nor bad investment	Bad investment	Not sure
Twitter	23%	33%	21%	24%
Apple	44%	30%	8%	17%
Microsoft	44%	31%	7%	18%
Amazon	53%	26%	5%	16%
Dell	26%	35%	17%	22%
IBM	30%	36%	9%	25%
Research in Motion	7%	28%	15%	50%

32. Do you have a Twitter account?

Yes	30%
No	70%

33. How often do you "tweet" or post a message on your Twitter account?

Asked of those who reported having a Twitter account

Never	31%
Once a month or less	38%
Once a week	13%
Once a day	12%
Several times a day	5%

34. How often do you check your Twitter account?

Asked of those who reported having a Twitter account

Never	21%
Once a month or less	37%
Once a week	19%
Once a day	13%
Several times a day	10%

35. How many people do you follow on Twitter?

Asked of those who reported having a Twitter account

Mean	30
------------	----

36. How many people follow you on Twitter?

Asked of those who reported having a Twitter account

Mean	19
------------	----

37. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	73%	21%	4%	3%
Immigration	42%	34%	16%	8%
The environment	40%	34%	14%	12%
Terrorism	41%	34%	15%	10%
Gay rights	20%	23%	20%	37%
Education	55%	31%	9%	5%
Health care	66%	24%	6%	4%
Social security	54%	31%	11%	3%
The budget deficit	53%	28%	13%	6%
The war in Afghanistan	28%	39%	22%	12%
Taxes	56%	29%	11%	4%
Medicare	47%	32%	16%	5%
Abortion	30%	30%	22%	18%

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

The economy	32%
Immigration	5%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	2%
Gay rights	1%
Education	9%
Health care	13%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	8%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	5%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	4%

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

The economy	44%
Immigration	0%
The environment	2%
Terrorism	0%
Gay rights	0%
Education	24%
Health care	18%
Social security	3%
The budget deficit	1%
The war in Afghanistan	7%
Taxes	0%
Medicare	1%
Abortion	2%

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
Barack Obama	25%	18%	10%	39%	8%
Joe Biden	19%	23%	12%	30%	16%
John Boehner	4%	16%	20%	35%	25%
Mitch McConnell	3%	13%	22%	27%	35%
Harry Reid	6%	18%	14%	32%	30%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	23%	10%	39%	20%
Hillary Clinton	28%	22%	9%	30%	12%

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

Strongly approve	14%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	40%
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	11%	24%	15%	40%	11%
Immigration	10%	22%	17%	34%	17%
The environment	10%	24%	17%	28%	20%
Terrorism	15%	23%	16%	30%	15%
Gay rights	16%	21%	12%	30%	21%
Education	11%	29%	17%	27%	16%
Health care	15%	20%	12%	43%	9%
Social security	9%	24%	17%	30%	19%
The war in Afghanistan	11%	25%	19%	29%	17%
The budget deficit	10%	22%	14%	41%	13%
Taxes	11%	21%	17%	35%	16%
Medicare	11%	22%	16%	32%	19%
Abortion	11%	19%	14%	29%	28%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	5%
Neither approve nor disapprove	18%
Somewhat disapprove	18%
Strongly disapprove	49%
Not sure	8%

44. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following groups in Congress?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Democrats in Congress	13%	22%	17%	38%	9%
Republicans in Congress	4%	16%	25%	46%	9%

45. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the political parties?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	13%	25%	16%	37%	8%
The Republican Party	5%	19%	23%	45%	9%

46. If an election for president was going to be held now, would you vote for...

The Democratic Party candidate	33%
The Republican Party candidate	25%
Other	6%
Not sure	24%
I would not vote	12%

47. If an election for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

The Democratic Party candidate	34%
The Republican Party candidate	27%
Other	4%
Not sure	23%
I would not vote	12%

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

Very liberal	7%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	28%
Conservative	31%
Very conservative	8%
Not sure	9%

49. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	36%
Liberal	21%
Moderate	21%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	16%

50. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	36%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	52%
Not sure	11%

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

Like a lot	28%
Like somewhat	27%
Dislike	34%
Not sure	10%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	38%	37%	24%
Bold	26%	59%	15%
Effective	15%	53%	32%
Exciting	12%	65%	24%
Experienced	19%	51%	30%
Honest	24%	39%	37%
Hypocritical	36%	41%	23%
Inspiring	26%	47%	27%
Intelligent	48%	37%	15%
Partisan	25%	61%	14%
Patriotic	21%	51%	28%
Religious	10%	64%	26%
Sincere	29%	40%	32%
Steady	23%	58%	19%
Strong	22%	57%	21%

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

Getting better	20%
About the same	39%
Getting worse	35%
Not sure	6%

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

Higher	24%
About the same	39%
Lower	14%
Not sure	23%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	17%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	48%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	31%
Not sure	4%

56. Is the place where you live owned or rented?

Owned by you or your family	60%
Rented from someone else	37%
Other	3%

57. Do you think the value of your home has increased or decreased in the last year?

Increased	27%
Stayed about the same	45%
Decreased	20%
Not sure	8%

58. Do you think home prices in your area have increased or decreased in the last year?

Increased	33%
Stayed about the same	35%
Decreased	10%
Not sure	22%

59. Thinking ahead, do you think home prices in your area will increase or decrease in the next year?

Will increase a lot	4%
Will increase a little	31%
Will stay about the same	33%
Will decrease a little	9%
Will decrease a lot	4%
Not sure	18%

60. How worried are you about making your mortgage payments?

Very worried	6%
Somewhat worried	24%
Not worried	35%
Don't have mortgage payments	34%

61. Do you plan to buy a home in the next 12 months?

Will definitely buy a home	3%
Am considering buying a home	10%
Not looking for a home now	88%

62. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?

Yes	29%
No	71%

63. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	71%
No	26%
Don't know	3%

64. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student	19%
Part-time student	9%
Not a student	73%

65. Do you have a job outside of school?

Full-time job	6%
Part-time job	0%
No job outside of school	94%

66. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

Full-time employed	38%
Part-time employed	12%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	12%
Retired	18%
Permanently disabled	9%
Homemaker	10%
Other	1%

67. Do you currently have more than one job?

Yes	14%
No	86%

68. In a typical week, about how many hours do you work for pay?

Mean	17
------------	----

69. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	31%
Not very worried	57%

70. If you lost your job, how hard would it be for you to find a new job that paid as much as you are making now?

Very hard – I would probably have to take a pay cut.	36%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	35%
Not very hard	19%
Not sure	11%

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

More jobs	18%
The same amount of jobs	42%
Fewer jobs	27%
Not sure	12%

72. How happy would you say you are with your current job?

Very happy	23%
Happy	35%
Neither happy nor unhappy	30%
Unhappy	7%
Very unhappy	6%

73. How would you guess your total family income to be six months from now?

Higher	16%
Same	67%
Lower	18%

74. If you lost your job, how long would it be before you exhausted your savings?

I don't have any savings	37%
I could last a few weeks on my savings	19%
I could last a few months on my savings	26%
I could last a year on my savings	9%
I could last more than a year on my savings	9%

75. Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

76. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat	33%
Republican	24%
Independent	31%
Other	4%
Not sure	8%

77. 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	13%
Somewhat support	18%
Neither support, nor oppose	21%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	24%
Not sure	17%

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

Yes	13%
No	71%
Not Sure	16%

79. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	67%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Asian	4%
Native American	0%
Middle Eastern	0%
Mixed	3%
Other	1%

80. Education

No high school	10%
High school graduate	30%
Some college	27%
2-year college	7%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	8%

81. What is your marital status?

Married	49%
Separated	1%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	5%
Single	31%
Domestic partnership	4%

82. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes	29%
No	71%

83. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	37%
Somewhat important	28%
Not too important	11%
Not at all important	24%

84. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

More than once a week	11%
Once a week	13%
Once or twice a month	9%
A few times a year	14%
Seldom	21%
Never	30%
Don't know	2%

85. People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?

Several times a day	27%
Once a day	13%
A few times a week	11%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	7%
Seldom	15%
Never	20%
Don't know	3%

86. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	37%
Roman Catholic	16%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	2%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	0%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	25%
Something else	3%

87. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	28%
45-64	33%
65+	14%

88. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat	33%
Republican	25%
Independent	30%
Other	4%
Not sure	8%

89. Race

White	67%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Other	8%

90. Region

Northeast	19%
Midwest	21%
South	39%
West	21%

91. Party Identification

Democrat	33%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	26%
Lean Republican	9%
Republican	24%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	November 9-11, 2013
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 0.3 to 7.2, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.16.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.8% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.