

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 2000 General Population Respondents
Conducted February 11 - 15, 2016
Margin of Error $\pm 2.8\%$

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	49%
Some of the time	30%
Only now and then	12%
Hardly at all	8%
Don't know	1%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	27%
Off on the wrong track	63%
Not sure	9%

3. 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	21%	19%	12%	43%	5%
Bernie Sanders	21%	28%	18%	22%	11%

4. How would you feel if (your first choice) was the 2016 Democratic presidential election nominee?

Asked of registered voters

Enthusiastic	43%
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	37%
Dissatisfied but not upset	10%
Upset	5%
Not sure	5%

5. How do you feel about the field of Democratic candidates running for president in 2016?

Asked of registered voters

Would like to see someone else run for the Democratic nomination	51%
Satisfied with the choices	37%
Don't know	12%

6. Which candidate do you think will win the Nevada Democratic caucus?

Hillary Clinton	34%
Bernie Sanders	36%
Not sure	29%

7. Which candidate do you think will win the Democratic South Carolina primary?

Hillary Clinton	40%
Bernie Sanders	31%
Not sure	28%

8. Who do you think is the most likely candidate to become the Democratic nominee for president in 2016?

Hillary Clinton	43%
Bernie Sanders	32%
Not sure	26%

9. Regardless of who the Republicans select as their nominee, do you think the Democratic presidential candidates listed below could possibly win or could never win the general election in November if he or she was to become the Democratic nominee?

	Could possibly win	Could never win	Not sure
Hillary Clinton	65%	22%	13%
Bernie Sanders	58%	23%	19%

10. Which Democratic candidate do you think has the better chance to win the general election in November?

Hillary Clinton	41%
Bernie Sanders	34%
Not sure	24%

11. If elected president, who do you think would be more successful at achieving their goals, Bernie Sanders or Hillary Clinton?

Bernie Sanders	23%
Hillary Clinton	31%
Both equally	18%
Not sure	27%

12. When do you think the Democratic nominee will be decided?

March	6%
April	10%
May	14%
June	12%
At the Democratic National Convention in July	58%

13. Do you think Hillary Clinton has criticized Bernie Sanders unfairly, or has she made fair points?

Her critiques have been unfair	31%
She has made fair points	37%
Have not heard criticism	32%

14. Do you think Bernie Sanders has criticized Hillary Clinton unfairly, or has he made fair points?

His critiques have been unfair	12%
He has made fair points	55%
Have not heard criticism	33%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Jeb Bush	7%	25%	25%	28%	15%
Ben Carson	13%	25%	16%	28%	17%
Ted Cruz	12%	24%	15%	32%	17%
Jim Gilmore	2%	8%	14%	16%	60%
John Kasich	8%	24%	19%	15%	35%
Marco Rubio	10%	24%	19%	26%	21%
Donald Trump	23%	15%	11%	46%	6%

16. How would you feel if (your first choice) was the 2016 Republican presidential election nominee?

Asked of registered voters

Enthusiastic	54%
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	34%
Dissatisfied but not upset	7%
Upset	2%
Not sure	3%

17. How do you feel about the field of Republican candidates running for president in 2016?

Asked of registered voters

Would like to see someone else run for the Republican nomination	36%
Satisfied with the choices	50%
Don't know	14%

18. Which candidate do you think will win the South Carolina Republican primary?

Jeb Bush	6%
Ben Carson	3%
Ted Cruz	14%
Jim Gilmore	0%
John Kasich	3%
Marco Rubio	5%
Donald Trump	39%
Not sure	31%

19. Which candidate do you think will win the Nevada Republican caucus?

Jeb Bush	5%
Ben Carson	3%
Ted Cruz	10%
Jim Gilmore	0%
John Kasich	3%
Marco Rubio	5%
Donald Trump	39%
Not sure	36%

20. Who do you think is the most likely candidate to become the Republican nominee for president in 2016?

Jeb Bush	5%
Ben Carson	2%
Ted Cruz	12%
Jim Gilmore	0%
John Kasich	3%
Marco Rubio	7%
Donald Trump	40%
Not sure	30%

21. Regardless of who the Democrats select as their nominee, do you think the Republican presidential candidates listed below could possibly win or could never win the general election in November if he or she was to become the Republican nominee?

	Could possibly win	Could never win	Not sure
Jeb Bush	35%	44%	21%
Ben Carson	24%	52%	24%
Ted Cruz	48%	30%	22%
Jim Gilmore	6%	58%	36%
John Kasich	30%	37%	33%
Marco Rubio	44%	29%	27%
Donald Trump	58%	28%	15%

22. Which Republican candidate do you think has the best chance to win the general election in November?

Jeb Bush	6%
Ben Carson	3%
Ted Cruz	12%
Jim Gilmore	1%
John Kasich	7%
Marco Rubio	9%
Donald Trump	36%
Not sure	26%

23. How much have you seen or heard about Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump using vulgar language in his campaign appearances?

Heard a lot	47%
Heard a little	38%
Heard nothing at all	15%

24. From what you've seen or heard, has Donald Trump using vulgar language in his campaign appearances made you more likely or less likely to support Donald Trump, or has it made no difference?

More likely	7%
Makes no difference	44%
Less likely	40%
Not sure	9%

25. How much have you seen or heard about Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio repeating a line about Barack Obama during a debate last Saturday?

Heard a lot	35%
Heard a little	28%
Heard nothing at all	37%

26. From what you've seen or heard, has it made you more likely or less likely to support Marco Rubio, or has it made no difference?

More likely	5%
Makes no difference	47%
Less likely	27%
Not sure	21%

27. When you are deciding which candidate to support for the 2016 presidential election, how important are the results of the Iowa caucuses and New Hampshire primary?

Very important	10%
Somewhat important	24%
Not too important	28%
Not at all important	39%

28. Thinking about the order in which states hold their presidential (election) primaries and caucuses, which would you prefer—the current system in which Iowa and New Hampshire always come first, or a system in which other states come first?

Iowa and New Hampshire first	19%
Other states first	34%
Not sure	47%

29. Do you think voters in states like Iowa and New Hampshire have too much influence on who wins the party nominations for president, not enough influence, or about the right amount of influence on who wins the party nominations for president?

Too much influence	38%
The right amount of influence	24%
Not enough influence	5%
Not sure	33%

30. Which is more important: picking a candidate who...

Is honest and trustworthy	33%
Is best prepared to win the general election in November	8%
Shakes up politics-as-usual	8%
Has policy proposals I agree with	26%
Has the experience to be president	16%
Something else	8%

31. Would you say you follow what's going on in the presidential election...

Most of the time	43%
Some of the time	27%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	10%
Don't know	6%

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

Asked of registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	40%
The Republican Party candidate	45%
Other	2%
Not sure	11%
I would not vote	2%

33. Do you think the following presidential candidates are ready to be Commander-in-Chief?

	Ready	Not ready	Not sure
Jeb Bush	34%	43%	23%
Ben Carson	16%	59%	25%
Hillary Clinton	49%	38%	13%
Ted Cruz	32%	44%	24%
John Kasich	26%	40%	34%
Marco Rubio	26%	48%	26%
Bernie Sanders	38%	39%	24%
Donald Trump	32%	53%	15%

34. Do you think the following presidential candidates are honest and trustworthy, or not?

	Honest and trustworthy	Not honest and trustworthy	Not sure
Jeb Bush	30%	39%	31%
Ben Carson	39%	31%	30%
Hillary Clinton	27%	56%	17%
Ted Cruz	29%	41%	30%
John Kasich	31%	25%	44%
Marco Rubio	28%	37%	36%
Bernie Sanders	47%	24%	29%
Donald Trump	29%	52%	19%

35. Are you confident or uneasy about the following presidential candidates' ability to deal wisely with the U.S. economy?

	Confident	Uneasy	Not sure
Jeb Bush	26%	48%	26%
Ben Carson	20%	51%	28%
Hillary Clinton	37%	48%	15%
Ted Cruz	29%	46%	26%
John Kasich	24%	36%	40%
Marco Rubio	23%	46%	31%
Bernie Sanders	33%	43%	24%
Donald Trump	37%	49%	14%

36. Are you confident or uneasy about the following presidential candidates' ability to deal wisely with immigration?

	Confident	Uneasy	Not sure
Jeb Bush	27%	47%	26%
Hillary Clinton	38%	45%	17%
Ted Cruz	27%	45%	28%
John Kasich	20%	38%	42%
Marco Rubio	22%	47%	31%
Bernie Sanders	32%	39%	29%
Donald Trump	34%	54%	12%

37. Which of these three countries do you think poses the greatest threat to the United States?

Iran	34%
North Korea	40%
Russia	26%

38. Which is the bigger threat to the United States?

Iran	8%
North Korea	14%
Russia	12%
ISIS	65%

39. Do you support or oppose Donald Trump's plan to build a wall on the southern border of the U.S. and make Mexico pay for it?

Support strongly	27%
Support somewhat	16%
Oppose somewhat	10%
Oppose strongly	34%
Not sure	13%

40. If Donald Trump won the election for President, how likely do you think it is that the U.S. would build a wall on the southern border of the U.S. and make Mexico pay for it?

Very likely	18%
Somewhat likely	19%
Somewhat unlikely	18%
Very unlikely	34%
Not sure	11%

41. Do you support or oppose Bernie Sander's plan to replace private health insurance with Medicare for everyone and raise taxes on everyone to pay for it?

Support strongly	14%
Support somewhat	20%
Oppose somewhat	13%
Oppose strongly	36%
Not sure	16%

42. If Bernie Sanders won the election for President, how likely do you think it is that the U.S. would replace private health insurance with Medicare for everyone and raise taxes on everyone to pay for it?

Very likely	11%
Somewhat likely	23%
Somewhat unlikely	24%
Very unlikely	26%
Not sure	16%

43. Which party do you think will win the majority of seats in the U.S. Senate in the general election this November?

Democratic party	25%
Republican party	41%
Not sure	33%

44. Which party do you think will win the majority of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in the general election this November?

Democratic party	21%
Republican party	45%
Not sure	34%

45. Do you support or oppose closing the military-run prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and transferring the detainees to another facility in the U.S.?

Support	29%
Oppose	43%
Not sure	28%

46. Do you support or oppose the federal government reducing payments to Medicare Advantage insurance plans?

Support	21%
Oppose	42%
Not sure	37%

47. Do you support or oppose another round of military base closures?

Support	21%
Oppose	49%
Not sure	30%

48. Do you support or oppose a proposal that would fund fire suppression within the existing budget framework with the ability to go above the spending cap for extreme disasters?

Support37%
 Oppose14%
 Not sure49%

49. Do you support or oppose a proposal that would give the U.S. Department of Energy more access to the Nuclear Waste Fund for effort to build an interim storage facility for nuclear waste?

Support38%
 Oppose16%
 Not sure46%

50. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	75%	22%	2%	2%
Immigration	50%	33%	13%	4%
The environment	47%	36%	11%	5%
Terrorism	67%	23%	8%	3%
Gay rights	20%	23%	25%	32%
Education	62%	27%	8%	3%
Health care	72%	22%	4%	1%
Social security	71%	22%	5%	2%
The budget deficit	53%	35%	9%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	36%	41%	16%	6%
Taxes	60%	33%	5%	2%
Medicare	63%	27%	8%	2%
Abortion	36%	30%	20%	14%
Foreign policy	51%	37%	10%	3%
Gun control	48%	25%	15%	11%

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

The economy	19%
Immigration	8%
The environment	4%
Terrorism	13%
Gay rights	2%
Education	8%
Health care	10%
Social security	15%
The budget deficit	4%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	3%
Abortion	4%
Foreign policy	2%
Gun control	5%

52. 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	26%	21%	10%	38%	5%
Joe Biden	21%	24%	17%	22%	17%
Paul Ryan	7%	24%	19%	20%	30%
Mitch McConnell	2%	13%	18%	29%	38%
Nancy Pelosi	6%	18%	13%	37%	26%
Harry Reid	4%	16%	13%	30%	37%

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

Strongly Approve	19%
Somewhat Approve	26%
Somewhat Disapprove	12%
Strongly Disapprove	37%
Not Sure	7%

54. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	31%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	21%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	19%

55. Would you say Barack Obama is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	18%
Somewhat strong	28%
Somewhat weak	22%
Very weak	32%

56. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	42%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	45%
Not sure	13%

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

Like a lot	33%
Like somewhat	25%
Dislike	29%
Not sure	13%

58. 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
Abortion	16%	19%	11%	25%	28%
The war in Afghanistan	12%	23%	19%	31%	15%
The budget deficit	14%	20%	15%	34%	16%
The economy	18%	23%	15%	32%	12%
Education	16%	27%	15%	25%	17%
The environment	20%	25%	13%	25%	17%
Foreign policy	16%	22%	13%	33%	16%
Gay rights	22%	20%	9%	27%	21%
Gun control	18%	20%	15%	35%	13%
Health care	22%	18%	13%	38%	9%
Immigration	14%	22%	13%	37%	13%
Medicare	16%	22%	13%	30%	18%
Social security	14%	22%	16%	28%	19%
Taxes	13%	24%	16%	29%	17%
Terrorism	16%	22%	13%	36%	13%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	9%
Neither approve nor disapprove	18%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	12%

60. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the member of the US House of Representatives that represents your Congressional district is handling his or her job?

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	15%
Neither approve nor disapprove	20%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	23%
Not sure	19%

61. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Paul Ryan is handling his job as Speaker of the US House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	7%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	18%
Strongly disapprove	17%
Not sure	34%

62. Do you think the current Congress has accomplished more or less than Congress usually does at this point in its two-year term?

More than usual	5%
About the same	33%
Less than usual	39%
Not sure	23%

63. Who is more to blame for Congress achieving less than usual?

Asked if respondent says Congress accomplished less than usual

Republicans in Congress	44%
Democrats in Congress	8%
Both equally	45%
Neither	1%
Not sure	2%

64. 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	17%	27%	17%	28%	11%
The Republican Party	9%	26%	21%	32%	11%

65. 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	12%	22%	24%	26%	17%
Republicans in Congress	6%	20%	23%	34%	17%

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

Getting better	20%
About the same	31%
Getting worse	42%
Not sure	7%

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

Higher	17%
About the same	29%
Lower	30%
Not sure	24%

68. 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	45%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	33%
Not sure	5%

69. Six months from now do you think there will be...

More jobs	18%
The same amount of jobs	37%
Fewer jobs	29%
Not sure	16%

70. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	31%
Not very worried	56%

71. 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.	32%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	37%
Not very hard	22%
Not sure	9%

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

Very happy	26%
Happy	35%
Neither happy nor unhappy	27%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	5%

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

Liberal	20%
Moderate	35%
Conservative	36%
Not sure	9%

74. Thinking about politics these days, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Very liberal	5%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	35%
Conservative	29%
Very Conservative	6%
Not sure	9%

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

Democrat	31%
Republican	28%
Independent	29%
Other	3%
Not sure	9%

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

Democrat	31%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	24%
Lean Republican	8%
Republican	28%

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

Strong Democrat	19%
Not very strong Democrat	12%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	18%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	13%
Strong Republican	15%
Not sure	7%

78. Would you describe yourself as a libertarian?

Yes	17%
No	53%
Not sure	30%

79. Would you describe yourself as a Progressive?

Yes	30%
No	38%
Not sure	32%

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

Strongly support	9%
Somewhat support	16%
Neither support, nor oppose	25%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	22%
Not sure	19%

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

Yes	9%
No	69%
Not Sure	22%

82. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	62%
Not registered	38%

83. How often would you say you vote in primary or caucus elections—that is, the elections in which a party selects their nominee to run in a general election. Would you say you vote in primary or caucus elections...?

Always	30%
Nearly always	18%
Part of the time	11%
Seldom	10%
Never	25%
Unsure	6%

84. In the 2016 primary election or caucus in your state, are you likely to vote?

Likely to vote in Democratic primary or attend Democratic caucus	32%
Likely to vote in Republican primary or attend Republican caucus	34%
Not likely to vote in a primary election or attend a caucus	35%

85. Do you have a good idea of which candidate you'll vote for in your party's presidential primary next year, or are you still making up your mind?

Asked of those who said they are likely to vote in their party's presidential primary or caucus next year

I have a good idea of who I'll vote for	66%
I'm still making up my mind	31%
I don't plan to vote in the primary election or caucus	1%
Not sure	1%

86. Are you male or female?

Male	48%
Female	52%

87. Respondent age by category

Under 30	22%
30-44	26%
45-64	35%
65+	17%

88. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	68%
Black	12%
Hispanic	14%
Other	7%

89. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

HS or less	43%
Some college	31%
College grad	17%
Postgrad	9%

90. What is your marital status?

Married	47%
Separated	3%
Divorced	12%
Widowed	4%
Single	29%
Domestic partnership	3%

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

Yes	29%
No	71%

92. Calculated from respondent's state of residence

Northeast	18%
Midwest	21%
South	39%
West	23%

93. How would you describe the place where you live?

City	33%
Suburb	31%
Town	15%
Rural area	20%
Other	1%

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

Full-time employed	34%
Part-time employed	12%
Self-employed	-
Unemployed or temporarily on layoff	12%
Retired	23%
Permanently disabled	7%
Homemaker	11%
Other	1%

95. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?

Under \$50K	53%
\$50-100K	22%
\$100K or more	11%
Prefer not to say	13%

96. 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.

I am	1%
Family member	8%
I served previously	12%
Family served previously	36%
None	52%

97. Are you or is someone in your household a member of a labor union?

Yes, I am	6%
Yes, household member is	7%
No	88%

98. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	41%
Somewhat important	30%
Not too important	14%
Not at all important	16%

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

More than once a week	8%
Once a week	18%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	16%
Seldom	25%
Never	24%
Don't know	2%

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

Yes	32%
No	68%

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

Several times a day	29%
Once a day	17%
A few times a week	12%
Once a week	4%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	16%
Never	14%
Don't know	3%

102. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	39%
Roman Catholic	18%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	4%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	21%
Something else	6%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	February 11 - 15, 2016
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 0.1 to 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.81.
Number of respondents	2000
Margin of error	± 2.8% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.