

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted October 8-11, 2011  
Margin of Error  $\pm 3.9\%$

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%	26%	18%	30%	15%
The economy	10%	20%	14%	46%	11%
Immigration	9%	18%	14%	41%	18%
The environment	10%	24%	17%	30%	19%
Terrorism	21%	25%	13%	26%	15%
Gay rights	17%	21%	10%	28%	24%
Education	12%	24%	19%	29%	16%
Health care	16%	18%	12%	45%	10%
Social security	13%	18%	16%	39%	14%
The budget deficit	10%	19%	12%	46%	13%
The war in Afghanistan	10%	25%	18%	31%	15%
Taxes	15%	18%	13%	42%	12%
Medicare	14%	17%	16%	39%	14%

2. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	37%	38%	17%	8%
The economy	81%	16%	3%	0%
Immigration	47%	31%	16%	6%
The environment	41%	40%	13%	6%
Terrorism	52%	31%	13%	4%
Gay rights	21%	25%	25%	30%
Education	56%	33%	8%	3%
Health care	72%	21%	5%	2%
Social security	67%	23%	7%	2%
The budget deficit	61%	29%	7%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	39%	38%	16%	7%
Taxes	68%	25%	5%	1%
Medicare	58%	30%	9%	3%

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

The war in Iraq	0%
The economy	39%
Immigration	5%
The environment	2%
Terrorism	3%
Gay rights	2%
Education	5%
Health care	11%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	8%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	5%
Medicare	4%

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

Strongly Approve .....	14%
Somewhat Approve .....	25%
Somewhat Disapprove .....	12%
Strongly Disapprove .....	41%
Not Sure .....	8%

**5. In general, do you think the Nobel Peace Prize Committee makes good decisions about who wins the prize?**

Good decisions .....	29%
Bad decisions .....	27%
Not sure .....	44%

**6. How much have you heard or read about the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize, whose recipients were announced on Friday?**

A lot .....	6%
A little .....	44%
Nothing at all .....	50%

**7. As you may know, the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize is shared by Liberian President, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Liberian peace activist, Leymah Gbowee, and Yemeni human rights activist, Tawakkol Karman. Do you approve or disapprove of the decision to award the Nobel Peace Prize to these individuals?**

Approve .....	23%
Disapprove .....	16%
Not sure .....	61%

**8. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable view of the following companies?**

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Not sure
Google	46%	38%	8%	4%	4%
Microsoft	42%	37%	11%	5%	6%
Apple	42%	35%	7%	6%	9%
Yahoo	34%	41%	13%	4%	8%
Facebook	25%	37%	18%	13%	6%

**9. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs?**

Very favorable	47%
Somewhat favorable	27%
Somewhat unfavorable	5%
Very unfavorable	3%
Don't know	18%

**10. From this list of prominent CEOs over the past 20 years, which ONE do you admire the most?**

Jeff Bezos, Amazon	4%
Larry Ellison, Oracle	0%
Carly Fiorina, Hewlett-Packard	1%
Bill Gates, Microsoft	24%
Lee Iacocca, Chrysler	9%
Bob Iger, Disney	2%
Steve Jobs, Apple	22%
Rupert Murdoch, News Corporation	4%
Ross Perot, Perot Systems	2%
Ted Turner, TBS and CNN	2%
Jack Welch, General Electric	2%
Meg Whitman, eBay and Hewlett-Packard	2%
Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook	3%
None of the above	23%

**11. How much have you heard or read about the death of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs?**

A lot .....	49%
A little .....	44%
Nothing at all .....	8%

**12. Which of the following best describes your personal reaction to the news of Steve Jobs' death?**

*Asked if respondent is aware of Steve Jobs' death*

I was very upset and saddened by it .....	18%
I was sorry to hear about it, but it didn't really affect me .....	71%
It didn't matter that much to me .....	11%

**13. What do you think was Steve Jobs' greatest achievement?**

Apple II .....	12%
Mac .....	20%
Pixar .....	9%
iPod .....	14%
iPhone .....	24%
iPad .....	10%
Other .....	12%

**14. Do you own any of the following types of desktop or laptop computers? Please check all that apply.**

Apple .....	15%
PC .....	78%
None of the above .....	14%

**15. Do you own any of the following Apple products? Please check all that apply.**

iPod .....	32%
iPad .....	8%
iPhone .....	15%
Apple TV .....	2%
None of these .....	59%

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

Very closely .....	31%
Somewhat closely .....	31%
Not too closely .....	24%
Not at all .....	14%

**17. In the upcoming primary elections, are you more likely to vote in a Democratic presidential primary or caucus, or a Republican primary or caucus, or aren't you likely to vote in a primary or caucus at all?**

*Asked of registered voters*

Democratic primary or caucus .....	41%
Republican primary or caucus .....	42%
Don't plan to vote in a primary or caucus at all .....	17%

**18. Are you satisfied with the field of Republicans who have declared their candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination or would you like someone else to enter the race?**

*Asked of registered voters who are likely to vote in a Republican primary or caucus*

Satisfied with current field .....	55%
Would like someone else to enter .....	17%
Not sure .....	28%

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

*Asked of registered voters who are likely to vote in a Republican primary or caucus*

Mitt Romney .....	18%
Newt Gingrich .....	9%
Michele Bachmann .....	3%
Jon Huntsman .....	4%
Ron Paul .....	7%
Herman Cain .....	33%
Rick Santorum .....	0%
Rick Perry .....	10%
Gary Johnson .....	0%
Other .....	6%
No preference .....	9%

**20. And which of these individuals would be your SECOND choice to be the Republican nominee for president in 2012?**

*Asked of registered voters who are likely to vote in a Republican primary or caucus*

Mitt Romney .....	21%
Newt Gingrich .....	13%
Michele Bachmann .....	8%
Jon Huntsman .....	2%
Ron Paul .....	11%
Herman Cain .....	16%
Rick Santorum .....	4%
Rick Perry .....	14%
Gary Johnson .....	2%
Other .....	2%
No preference .....	6%

**21. Who would you prefer as the Republican nominee for president in 2012 if the choice were between Rick Perry and Mitt Romney?**

*Asked of registered voters who are likely to vote in a Republican primary or caucus*

Mitt Romney .....	49%
Rick Perry .....	30%
No preference .....	21%

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

*Asked of registered voters who are likely to vote in a Democratic primary or caucus*

Barack Obama .....	77%
Someone else .....	9%
Not sure .....	13%

23. If the 2012 presidential election were being held today, and the candidates were Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Rick Perry, the Republican, would you vote for Barack Obama or Rick Perry?

*Asked of registered voters*

Barack Obama .....	47%
Lean Barack Obama .....	1%
Lean Rick Perry .....	2%
Rick Perry .....	38%
Other .....	7%
Not sure .....	6%

24. 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 .....	2%
Lean Mitt Romney .....	2%
Mitt Romney .....	39%
Other .....	5%
Not sure .....	7%

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

A great deal .....	33%
A fair amount .....	34%
Not much .....	21%
Nothing at all .....	12%



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

*Asked if respondent is aware of Tea Party movement*

Yes .....	19%
No .....	81%

**27. 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 .....	16%
Somewhat support .....	18%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	18%
Somewhat oppose .....	8%
Strongly oppose .....	27%
Not sure .....	12%

**28. How much have you heard or read about the protest movement known as the Occupy Wall Street movement?**

A great deal .....	21%
A fair amount .....	34%
Not much .....	22%
Nothing at all .....	23%

**29. Do you think of yourself as a part of the Occupy Wall Street movement?**

*Asked if respondent is aware of Occupy Wall Street movement*

Yes .....	21%
No .....	79%

**30. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the goals of the Occupy Wall Street movement?**

*Asked if respondent is aware of Occupy Wall Street movement*

Strongly support .....	22%
Somewhat support .....	17%
Neither support, nor oppose .....	22%
Somewhat oppose .....	8%
Strongly oppose .....	17%
Not sure .....	14%

**31. Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate if he or she is endorsed by and endorses the goals of...?**

	Much more likely	Somewhat more likely	No effect	Somewhat less likely	Much less likely	Not sure
The Tea Party	18%	10%	21%	4%	28%	19%
Occupy Wall Street	14%	12%	27%	4%	21%	23%

**32. How do you feel about the following things?**

	Enthusiastic	Satisfied but not enthusiastic	Dissatisfied but not angry	Angry	No opinion
Congress	1%	7%	29%	48%	14%
The Obama Administration	11%	20%	23%	36%	10%
Major banks and financial institutions	1%	13%	27%	45%	14%
The Federal Reserve	2%	18%	32%	28%	21%
The Democratic Party	7%	18%	28%	32%	15%
The Republican Party	6%	20%	25%	34%	15%

**33. Do you think the problems with banks have been fixed?**

Most problems have been fixed .....	9%
Most problems have not been fixed .....	68%
Not sure .....	23%

**34. Do you think that the U.S. banking system can survive an economic crisis?**

Definitely can .....	8%
Probably can .....	35%
Probably cannot .....	26%
Definitely cannot .....	12%
Not sure .....	20%

**35. Which group do you think is the largest in the U.S.?**

Liberals .....	10%
Moderates .....	38%
Conservatives .....	19%
Not sure .....	33%

**36. Do you think there are more liberals or conservatives in the U.S.?**

Liberals .....	30%
Conservatives .....	45%
Not sure .....	25%

**37. Overall, do you think policies of the government in Washington are ...**

Too liberal .....	36%
About right .....	9%
Too conservative .....	24%
Not sure .....	31%

38. Do you think that government should increase or decrease its regulation of business?

Increase .....	23%
Keep the same .....	13%
Decrease .....	34%
Not sure .....	30%

39. In some countries, the economy is completely controlled by the government. In other countries, the economy operates with almost no government interference. Other countries are in between. How would you describe the U.S. economy?

Government-run economy						Free market system		Don't know
- 1	2	3	4	5	6	- 7		
9%	8%	14%	16%	16%	15%	9%		12%

40. What do you think is the best economic system?

Government-run economy						Free market system		Don't know
- 1	2	3	4	5	6	- 7		
3%	1%	6%	18%	13%	15%	28%		15%

41. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Neither agree, nor disagree	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly
"The government should see to it that everyone has a job and a good standard of living."	16%	19%	30%	16%	19%
"Government derives its only just authority from the consent of the governed."	28%	20%	39%	7%	5%
"Americans are becoming too dependent on government."	35%	18%	26%	13%	9%
"There is too much inequality in America."	27%	25%	30%	8%	9%
"Government is too controlled by special interests."	56%	23%	18%	2%	1%
"People should get ahead on their own."	28%	32%	29%	7%	4%

42. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	30%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	3%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	22%

**43. Do you think Barack Obama...**

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

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

Like a lot ..... 29%  
 Like somewhat ..... 30%  
 Dislike ..... 28%  
 Not sure ..... 13%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Bold	26%	53%	21%
Decisive	16%	52%	31%
Effective	15%	45%	41%
Experienced	14%	44%	42%
Honest	29%	38%	33%
In touch	21%	44%	35%
Inspiring	28%	44%	27%
Intelligent	54%	32%	14%
Partisan	21%	59%	19%
Patriotic	28%	43%	28%
Realistic	25%	43%	32%
Religious	15%	59%	27%
Sincere	31%	39%	30%
Strong	24%	50%	26%
Unifying	12%	51%	37%

46. 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	11%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	49%
Not sure	11%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	13%
Off on the wrong track	72%
Not sure	15%

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

Getting better	9%
About the same	33%
Getting worse	52%
Not sure	6%

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

Higher	13%
About the same	31%
Lower	34%
Not sure	22%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	10%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	40%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	44%
Not sure	5%

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

The Democratic Party candidate .....	42%
The Republican Party candidate .....	38%
Other .....	2%
Not sure .....	15%
I would not vote .....	2%

**52. If an election for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?**  
*Asked of registered voters*

The Democratic Party candidate .....	40%
The Republican Party candidate .....	38%
Other .....	2%
Not sure .....	17%
I would not vote .....	2%

**53. Gender**

Male .....	49%
Female .....	51%

**54. Age**

18-29 .....	19%
30-64 .....	65%
65+ .....	16%

**55. Education**

High school or less .....	44%
Some college .....	31%
College graduate .....	24%



**56. Race**

White .....	73%
Black .....	12%
Hispanic .....	8%
Other .....	7%

**57. Region**

Northeast .....	18%
Midwest .....	25%
South .....	35%
West .....	22%

**58. Party Identification**

Democrat .....	38%
Republican .....	27%
Independent .....	35%

# The Economist/YouGov Poll



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	October 8-11, 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 5.3, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.76.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3.9% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	24 questions not reported.