

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
 Conducted March 13-16, 2010
 Margin of Error ±4%

1. Do you think the Obama Administration is putting too much or too little emphasis on achieving each of these policy goals?

	Too much	About the right amount	Too little	Not sure
Achieving health care reform	39%	30%	21%	9%
Reducing unemployment	5%	32%	54%	10%
Reducing the budget deficit	4%	32%	54%	11%
Fighting terrorism	6%	44%	37%	13%
Ending the war in Iraq	8%	46%	32%	14%

2. How likely is it that Congress will pass health care reform legislation this year?

Very likely	15%
Somewhat likely	33%
Somewhat unlikely	22%
Very unlikely	13%
Not sure	17%

3. Overall, given what you know about them, do you support or oppose the proposed changes to the health care system being developed by Congress and the Obama Administration?

Support strongly	16%
Support somewhat	32%
Oppose somewhat	18%
Oppose strongly	35%

4. When, if ever, do you think the health care system should be reformed?

Immediately	44%
Next year	9%
In a few years	16%
Not necessary to reform the health care system	14%
Not sure	18%

5. In the Senate, it takes the votes of 60 out of 100 Senators to stop debate and force a vote on a bill. But Democrats in the Senate may use a parliamentary procedure known as budget reconciliation to pass the health care bill with only 51 votes. How do you feel about using budget reconciliation to pass the health care bill with 51 votes?

Strongly Approve	23%
Somewhat Approve	15%
Somewhat Disapprove	10%
Strongly Disapprove	36%
Not Sure	16%

6. If President Obama and Congress pass a health care reform plan, do you think you personally would receive better or worse care than you receive now?

Better care	16%
About the same	33%
Worse care	37%
Not sure	13%

7. Do you think you personally would pay more, either in taxes or insurance costs, if President Obama and Congress pass a health care reform plan?

Pay more	52%
About the same	26%
Pay less	10%
Not sure	12%

8. Which of the following comes closest to describing your preferences for the health care reform bill that Congress is now debating?

- Congress should pass a health care reform bill that includes coverage for abortions. 34%
- Congress should pass a health care reform bill that does not include coverage for abortions. 32%
- Congress should not pass any health care reform bill. 34%

9. Would you say the U.S. is winning the war in Iraq?

- Yes 35%
- No 33%
- Not sure 32%

10. At the end of 2012, do you think the United States will have more or fewer troops in Iraq than it has now?

- More troops in Iraq than it has now 7%
- About the same number of troops in Iraq as it has now 35%
- Fewer troops in Iraq than it has now 58%

11. What do you think will eventually happen in Iraq?

- The United States will win the war in Iraq. 38%
- The United States will withdraw from Iraq without winning. 62%

12. Do you think Barack Obama has a clear plan for U.S. strategy in Iraq?

- Yes 24%
- No 46%
- Not sure 29%

13. Which of these do you think is most likely?

- Iraq will become a stable democracy in the next year or two. 6%
- Iraq will become a stable democracy, but it will take longer than a year or two. 36%
- Iraq will probably never become a stable democracy. 41%
- Not sure 17%

14. Would you say the U.S. is winning the war in Afghanistan?

- Yes 19%
- No 35%
- Not sure 45%

15. At the end of 2012, do you think the United States will have more or fewer troops in Afghanistan than it has now?

- More troops in Afghanistan than it has now 25%
- About the same number of troops in Afghanistan as it has now 45%
- Fewer troops in Afghanistan than it has now 30%

16. What do you think will eventually happen in Afghanistan?

- The United States will win the war in Afghanistan. 33%
- The United States will withdraw from Afghanistan without winning. 67%

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

- Yes 21%
- No 49%
- Not sure 29%

18. Barack Obama said that he will start removing U.S. troops from Afghanistan in July 2011. How likely is it that he will be able to do this?

Very likely	8%
Somewhat likely	31%
Somewhat unlikely	29%
Very unlikely	22%
Not sure	11%

19. Which of these do you think is most likely?

Afghanistan will become a stable democracy in the next year or two.	2%
Afghanistan will become a stable democracy, but it will take longer than a year or two.	26%
Afghanistan will probably never become a stable democracy.	54%
Not sure	18%

20. The U.S. has been holding suspected terrorists at a military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Do you think the U.S. should continue to operate the prison or close it down?

Continue to operate	53%
Close down	29%
Not sure	19%

21. Would closing the U.S. prison at Guantanamo increase or decrease America's standing in the world?

Increase	25%
No effect	37%
Decrease	16%
Not sure	22%

22. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama has handled the prison at Guantanamo?

Approve strongly	7%
Approve somewhat	25%
Disapprove somewhat	17%
Disapprove strongly	27%
Not sure	25%

23. Do you favor or oppose holding trials for the terrorist suspects being held at Guantanamo?

Favor strongly	40%
Favor somewhat	26%
Oppose somewhat	7%
Oppose strongly	11%
Not sure	17%

24. If trials are held for terrorist suspects, should they be held in U.S. courts or military tribunals?

U.S. courts	23%
Military tribunals	58%
Not sure	19%

25. The Obama Administration is reviewing a plan to try Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the alleged mastermind of September 11th, and several other terrorist suspects in a civilian court in New York City. How do you feel about this plan?

Suspects should be tried in a civilian court in New York City	17%
Suspects should be tried in a civilian court, but not in New York City	12%
Suspects should be tried in a military tribunal	49%
Suspects should be held without trial	5%
Not sure	17%

26. 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	15%	35%	17%	22%	11%
The economy	15%	25%	12%	39%	8%
Immigration	6%	21%	18%	34%	21%
The environment	13%	29%	15%	26%	16%
Terrorism	19%	27%	16%	27%	11%
Gay rights	9%	24%	15%	24%	28%
Education	18%	30%	17%	22%	13%
Health care	19%	21%	12%	40%	8%
Social security	12%	22%	17%	31%	18%
The budget deficit	9%	23%	15%	42%	11%
The war in Afghanistan	14%	33%	19%	20%	13%

27. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	46%	42%	9%	3%
The economy	86%	13%	1%	1%
Immigration	46%	32%	17%	5%
The environment	50%	35%	11%	4%
Terrorism	62%	28%	8%	2%
Gay rights	22%	25%	26%	27%
Education	66%	28%	4%	2%
Health care	72%	20%	4%	4%
Social security	64%	26%	7%	2%
The budget deficit	66%	26%	6%	2%
The war in Afghanistan	48%	38%	11%	3%

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

The war in Iraq	1%
The economy	40%
Immigration	3%
The environment	3%
Terrorism	5%
Gay rights	3%
Education	8%
Health care	20%
Social security	8%
The budget deficit	9%
The war in Afghanistan	1%

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

Strongly approve	19%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	33%
Not sure	8%

30. Overall, do you approve of the way the U.S. Congress is handling its job?

Strongly approve	1%
Somewhat approve	8%
Neither approve nor disapprove	13%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	43%
Not sure	11%

31. If the 2010 elections for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

	Republican	Lean Republican	Lean Democrat	Democrat	Not Sure
Registered Voters	41%	4%	5%	39%	10%
All Respondents	34%	4%	7%	38%	18%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	32%
Off on the wrong track	53%
Not sure	15%

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

Getting better	24%
About the same	33%
Getting worse	35%
Not sure	8%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	11%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	40%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	44%
Not sure	5%

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

Higher	31%
About the same	33%
Lower	16%
Not sure	19%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Honest	32%	38%	29%
Intelligent	61%	28%	11%
Religious	16%	54%	30%
Inspiring	40%	40%	20%
Patriotic	33%	43%	24%
Strong	37%	45%	17%
Bold	37%	48%	15%
Experienced	12%	43%	45%
Sincere	39%	37%	24%
Partisan	21%	58%	21%
Effective	23%	46%	31%
Unifying	18%	51%	30%
In Touch	30%	42%	29%
Realistic	29%	40%	31%
Decisive	24%	54%	22%

37. Would you say Barack Obama is ...

Very liberal	34%
Somewhat liberal	21%
Moderate	20%
Somewhat conservative	2%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	20%

38. Do you think Barack Obama ...

Says what he believes	49%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	51%

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

Like a lot	35%
Like somewhat	29%
Dislike	24%
Not sure	11%