

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted September 20-22, 2009
Margin of Error $\pm 5\%$

1. How much have you heard or read about the health care reform plans now being considered by Congress?

A great deal	37%
A fair amount	39%
Not much	21%
Nothing at all	3%

2. 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	20%
Support somewhat	29%
Oppose somewhat	18%
Oppose strongly	33%

3. 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	17%
About the same	35%
Worse care	36%
Not sure	13%

4. If President Obama and Congress pass a health care reform plan, do you think the overall quality of health care in the United States would get better or worse than it is now?

Get better	33%
Stay the same	15%
Get worse	41%
Not sure	11%

5. What if President Obama and Congress do NOT pass a health care reform plan this year. In the next few years, do you think the overall quality of health care in the United States would get better or worse than it is now?

Get better	9%
Stay the same	41%
Get worse	39%
Not sure	11%

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

Very likely	13%
Somewhat likely	37%
Somewhat unlikely	24%
Very unlikely	11%
Not sure	14%

7. Which is more important?

Making sure both Republicans and Democrats support health care reform legislation, even if that means it takes longer for health care reform to pass.	66%
Passing health care reform as soon as possible, even if only Democrats vote for it.	34%

8. Do you favor or oppose requiring everyone to have health insurance coverage (with those who cannot afford it being subsidized by the government)?

Favor	47%
Oppose	33%
Not sure	20%

9. Do you think the majority of the public favors or opposes health care reform?

Favors	27%
Evenly split	38%
Opposes	35%

10. Do you currently have health insurance?

Yes	75%
No	23%
Not sure	2%

11. Since Barack Obama has been President, do you think race relations in the United States have gotten...

Better	12%
Stayed about the same	62%
Worse	26%

12. Do you think race relations in the United States are generally...

Good	60%
Bad	40%

13. Think of the people who approve of the way Barack Obama is doing his job as President and support his policies. How many of them do you think support him mostly because he is black?

All of them	2%
Nearly all	8%
More than half	15%
About half	11%
Some	27%
Less than half	11%
Only a few	20%
None of them	4%

14. Think of the people who disapprove of the way Barack Obama is doing his job as President and oppose his policies. How many of them do you think oppose him mostly because he is black?

All of them	2%
Nearly all	6%
More than half	12%
About half	11%
Some	26%
Less than half	11%
Only a few	29%
None of them	4%

15. What about the people who protested at Town Halls and in demonstrations against President Obama, his health care reform plan and other policies. How many of them do you think oppose the President mostly because he is black?

All of them	2%
Nearly all	7%
More than half	12%
About half	9%
Some	22%
Less than half	8%
Only a few	28%
None of them	13%

16. Is there anyone you know personally who opposes President Obama mostly because he is black?

Yes	28%
No	57%
Not sure	15%

17. Former President Jimmy Carter said last week that he believed that an overwhelming portion of the "intensely demonstrated animosity" towards President Obama was based on the fact that he is a black man. Do you agree or disagree with that statement?

Agree	34%
Disagree	47%
Not sure	19%

18. Which of the following statements comes closer to your point of view?

Talk about race and how it might affect how people think about the President is healthy for the country because it produces a dialogue and can help deal with problems in race relations in the United States.	54%
Talk about race and how it might affect how people think about the President is NOT healthy for the country because it can lead to other actions and will only make race relations in the United States worse.	46%

19. Do you think the foreign policy of the Obama Administration has made the United States more or less safe?

More safe	26%
No effect	37%
Less safe	37%

20. How serious a threat do you think Iran poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	21%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	43%
A minor threat to the U.S.	20%
Not a threat to the U.S.	8%
Not sure	7%

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

Yes	10%
No	52%
Not sure	38%

22. Do you favor increasing the number of troops in Afghanistan?

Increase 38%
 Keep the same 23%
 Decrease 40%

23. Do you think the United States made a mistake sending troops to fight in Afghanistan?

Yes 34%
 No 44%
 Not sure 22%

24. 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	13%	31%	19%	21%	16%
The economy	17%	26%	13%	34%	9%
Immigration	7%	21%	13%	33%	25%
The environment	14%	31%	12%	20%	22%
Terrorism	16%	26%	12%	27%	18%
Gay rights	7%	22%	18%	24%	29%
Education	16%	27%	17%	17%	23%
Health care	22%	23%	10%	36%	8%
Social security	11%	20%	17%	26%	26%
The war in Afghanistan	9%	28%	22%	22%	18%

25. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	44%	38%	15%	3%
The economy	84%	11%	3%	1%
Immigration	45%	34%	16%	3%
The environment	49%	31%	14%	5%
Terrorism	57%	28%	13%	1%
Gay rights	22%	24%	26%	28%
Education	63%	28%	7%	2%
Health care	70%	22%	6%	1%
Social security	64%	26%	7%	1%
The budget deficit	63%	27%	8%	1%

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

The war in Iraq	1%
The economy	32%
Immigration	5%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	6%
Gay rights	2%
Education	9%
Health care	17%
Social security	12%
The budget deficit	9%

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

Strongly approve	25%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	26%
Not sure	7%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	12%
Neither approve nor disapprove	17%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Not sure	8%

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

Republican	30%
Lean Republican	5%
Lean Democrat	10%
Democrat	36%
Not Sure	19%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	35%
Off on the wrong track	51%
Not sure	14%

31. What do you think is more of a threat?

Big business	39%
Big government	61%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	8%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	40%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	49%
Not sure	3%

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

Higher	37%
About the same	29%
Lower	16%
Not sure	19%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Honest	38%	32%	30%
Intelligent	68%	23%	9%
Religious	17%	55%	28%
Inspiring	46%	37%	17%
Patriotic	32%	44%	24%
Strong	38%	46%	16%
Bold	43%	45%	11%
Experienced	16%	37%	46%
Sincere	40%	35%	25%
Partisan	22%	56%	22%
Effective	30%	46%	24%
Unifying	22%	48%	30%
In Touch	32%	45%	23%
Realistic	34%	39%	27%
Decisive	30%	50%	20%

35. Would you say Barack Obama is ...

Very liberal	35%
Somewhat liberal	21%
Moderate	24%
Somewhat conservative	3%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	16%

36. Do you think Barack Obama ...

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

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

Like a lot	40%
Like somewhat	30%
Dislike	19%
Not sure	11%