

The Economist/YouGov Poll

Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted January 16-19, 2010
Margin of Error ±3.6%

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the U.S. response to the earthquake in Haiti?

Strongly Approve	39%
Somewhat Approve	29%
Somewhat Disapprove	8%
Strongly Disapprove	6%
Not Sure	18%

2. Do you think the United States has a special responsibility to provide humanitarian assistance when people in other countries need help?

Yes	60%
No	25%
Not sure	15%

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

Very likely	21%
Somewhat likely	38%
Somewhat unlikely	15%
Very unlikely	6%
Not sure	20%

4. 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	13%
Support somewhat	31%
Oppose somewhat	18%
Oppose strongly	38%

5. 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	31%
Worse care	41%
Not sure	13%

6. 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	56%
About the same	22%
Pay less	7%
Not sure	14%

7. What kind of health care coverage do you currently have? (Asked if respondent has health insurance)

I have private insurance or belong to an HMO.	68%
I'm covered by a government plan, such as Medicare or Medicaid.	31%
Not sure	1%

8. How satisfied are you with your health insurance coverage? (Asked if respondent has health insurance)

Very satisfied	44%
Somewhat satisfied	39%
Somewhat dissatisfied	11%
Very dissatisfied	7%

9. Are you generally satisfied or dissatisfied with the quality of the health care you receive?

Very satisfied	41%
Somewhat satisfied	36%
Somewhat dissatisfied	12%
Very dissatisfied	12%

10. Thinking about the country as a whole, are you generally satisfied with the quality of health care in this country?

Very satisfied	18%
Somewhat satisfied	31%
Somewhat dissatisfied	25%
Very dissatisfied	26%

11. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with YOUR health care costs, both expenses not covered by insurance and the cost of your insurance if any?

Very satisfied	20%
Somewhat satisfied	29%
Somewhat dissatisfied	25%
Very dissatisfied	26%

12. Do you think the health care system in this country...

Works pretty well and requires only minor changes	26%
Needs fundamental changes	38%
Needs to be completely rebuilt	29%
Not sure	7%

13. Which comes closer to your opinion?

If policymakers made the right changes, they could reform the health care system without spending more money to do it.	75%
To make any real reforms to the health care system, policymakers will need to spend more money, either by raising some taxes, taking from other programs or increasing the deficit.	25%

14. 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 the "public option," a government-administered health insurance plan. 50%
- Congress should pass a health care reform bill, but without the "public option" of a government-administered health insurance plan. 15%
- Congress should not pass any health care reform bill. 35%

15. 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%

16. In order to help pay for health care reform, would you favor or oppose...

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	Not sure
a tax on the most generous employer health care plans?	11%	16%	18%	34%	21%
an additional tax on individuals earning \$500,000 or more and couples earning \$1 million or more?	42%	20%	9%	19%	9%
requiring companies with at least 50 employees to offer their employees health care coverage or pay a fine?	27%	25%	12%	24%	12%
requiring companies with an annual payroll of at least \$500,000 to offer their employees health care coverage or pay a fine?	31%	24%	11%	22%	12%
requiring everyone to have health care coverage (with a government subsidy for those who cannot afford it) or pay a fine?	16%	17%	14%	42%	11%
negotiating reductions in Medicare spending?	19%	21%	16%	25%	19%
increasing the Medicare tax for people earning over \$200,000?	36%	24%	10%	20%	11%
increasing the federal budget deficit?	4%	11%	21%	48%	16%

17. 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	17%	27%	20%	26%	10%
The economy	16%	24%	12%	42%	6%
Immigration	9%	21%	16%	36%	18%
The environment	16%	30%	13%	26%	15%
Terrorism	20%	23%	15%	31%	10%
Gay rights	8%	23%	17%	26%	26%
Education	17%	26%	15%	24%	18%
Health care	19%	22%	10%	43%	7%
Social security	12%	18%	17%	33%	20%
The war in Afghanistan	13%	32%	19%	25%	11%

18. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	49%	37%	10%	3%
The economy	86%	13%	1%	1%
Immigration	47%	32%	17%	5%
The environment	49%	34%	12%	5%
Terrorism	64%	27%	7%	2%
Gay rights	24%	24%	26%	27%
Education	64%	28%	6%	1%
Health care	78%	17%	3%	2%
Social security	64%	29%	6%	2%
The budget deficit	61%	31%	6%	2%
The war in Afghanistan	52%	34%	10%	4%

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

The war in Iraq	1%
The economy	37%
Immigration	3%
The environment	5%
Terrorism	7%
Gay rights	3%
Education	7%
Health care	20%
Social security	9%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	1%

20. 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	7%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	11%
Neither approve nor disapprove	15%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	41%
Not sure	11%

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

Republican	32%
Lean Republican	5%
Lean Democrat	7%
Democrat	37%
Not Sure	18%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	34%
Off on the wrong track	52%
Not sure	14%

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

Getting better	23%
About the same	35%
Getting worse	37%
Not sure	6%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	9%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	39%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	48%
Not sure	4%

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

Higher	30%
About the same	32%
Lower	17%
Not sure	21%

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

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Honest	35%	33%	32%
Intelligent	65%	23%	12%
Religious	19%	53%	29%
Inspiring	39%	41%	20%
Patriotic	32%	39%	29%
Strong	37%	44%	20%
Bold	40%	44%	16%
Experienced	14%	39%	47%
Sincere	39%	31%	30%
Partisan	26%	53%	21%
Effective	26%	48%	26%
Unifying	19%	50%	31%
In Touch	31%	38%	31%
Realistic	33%	36%	31%
Decisive	29%	48%	24%

28. Would you say Barack Obama is ...

Very liberal	35%
Somewhat liberal	21%
Moderate	21%
Somewhat conservative	4%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	18%

29. Do you think Barack Obama ...

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

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

Like a lot	36%
Like somewhat	29%
Dislike	23%
Not sure	11%