

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
Conducted July 19-21, 2009
Margin of Error $\pm 4.8\%$

1. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right?

Just about always	1%
Most of the time	14%
Some of the time	46%
Almost never	33%
Don't Know	5%

2. Which part of the government do you trust most to do what's right?

Congress	5%
The Supreme Court	28%
The President	28%
Political parties	3%
Don't Know	37%

3. Which part of the government do you trust least to do what's right?

Congress	29%
The Supreme Court	3%
The President	16%
Political parties	35%
Don't Know	16%

4. Are you in favor of affirmative action? (Asked of half of respondents)

Favor	27%
Oppose	37%
Not sure	36%

5. Are you in favor of affirmative action programs for racial and ethnic minorities? (Asked of half of respondents)

Favor	26%
Oppose	41%
Not sure	33%

6. How important is it to have ethnic and gender diversity on the Supreme Court?

Very important	31%
Somewhat important	26%
Not very important	10%
Shouldn't be a consideration	33%

7. In a case recently heard by the U.S. Supreme Court, a city used a test to determine which firefighters should receive promotions. No black firefighters scored high enough to be promoted, so the city decided not to offer any promotions because it feared a lawsuit over the test's disparate impact on a protected minority. Do you think that a city should be allowed to use a test for promotions that results in no blacks being promoted?

Yes	48%
No	34%
Not sure	17%

8. Do you think race should ever be factor in deciding who gets promoted for a job?

Yes	7%
No	85%
Not sure	7%

9. As you may know, President Obama has nominated Judge Sonia Sotomayor to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. Generally speaking, how would you rate President Obama's choice of Sonia Sotomayor as a nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court?

Excellent	20%
Good	25%
Only Fair	16%
Poor	22%
Not sure	18%

10. Would you say that Sonia Sotomayor is . . .

Very liberal	24%
Somewhat liberal	19%
Moderate	20%
Somewhat conservative	3%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	32%

11. In terms of her education, experience, temperament, and integrity, how would you rate Judge Sotomayor?

Well qualified	30%
Qualified	30%
Not qualified	18%
Not sure	22%

12. Do you think the U.S. Senate should confirm or should not confirm Sonia Sotomayor as a Supreme Court justice?

Should confirm	47%
Should not confirm	27%
Not sure	26%

13. Have you watched any of the Senate confirmation hearings for Sonia Sotomayor?

Yes	51%
No	45%
Not sure	4%

14. Do you think Judge Sotomayor has been treated fairly in the Senate hearings? (Asked if respondent has watched confirmation hearings)

Yes	66%
No	24%
Not sure	11%

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

Strongly approve	25%
Somewhat approve	29%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	28%
Not sure	6%

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

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	16%
Neither approve nor disapprove	17%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	10%

17. 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	6%
Lean Democrat	8%
Democrat	40%
Not Sure	16%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	37%
Off on the wrong track	48%
Not sure	15%

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

Big business	39%
Big government	61%

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

Getting better	22%
About the same	31%
Getting worse	43%
Not sure	4%

21. 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	36%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	51%
Not sure	4%

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

Higher	33%
About the same	29%
Lower	23%
Not sure	15%

23. 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
War in Iraq	22%	32%	14%	17%	14%
Economy	18%	26%	13%	34%	10%
Immigration	13%	21%	14%	27%	25%
Environment	22%	29%	9%	23%	17%
Terrorism	22%	26%	11%	24%	17%
Gay Rights	12%	24%	15%	20%	29%
Education	22%	28%	12%	17%	21%
Health Care	25%	24%	8%	34%	9%
Social Security	14%	24%	13%	23%	26%

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

Honest	39%
Intelligent	65%
Religious	14%
Inspiring	43%
Patriotic	34%
Strong	40%
Bold	42%
Experienced	18%
Sincere	41%
Partisan	24%
Effective	32%
Unifying	28%
In Touch	35%
Realistic	33%
Decisive	33%

25. Which of these words would you definitely not use to describe Barack Obama?

Honest	27%
Intelligent	9%
Religious	31%
Inspiring	18%
Patriotic	23%
Strong	15%
Bold	13%
Experienced	40%
Sincere	25%
Partisan	23%
Effective	21%
Unifying	25%
In Touch	23%
Realistic	28%
Decisive	15%

26. Would you say Barack Obama is ...

Very liberal	33%
Somewhat liberal	25%
Moderate	22%
Somewhat conservative	4%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	14%

27. Do you think Barack Obama ...

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

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

Like a lot	44%
Like somewhat	25%
Dislike	19%
Not sure	12%