CBS News Poll – April 12-14, 2023
Adults in the U.S.

YouGov

Sample   2,065 Adults in the U.S.

Margin of Error   ±3.2%

2. How would you rate the condition of the national economy today?

Very good	6%
Fairly good	27%
Fairly bad	31%
Very bad	32%
Not sure	4%

6. As you and your family plan for the next year, are you doing so expecting the U.S. economy to be...

Booming	4%
Growing, but not booming	14%
Holding steady	22%
Slowing, but not in recession	26%
In recession	34%

25. As you may know the following are some of the largest items in the federal budget. As part of Congressional budget negotiations would you like to see spending on these items...

	Increased	Decreased	Kept same
Medicare and Medicaid	59%	13%	28%
Social Security	63%	11%	26%
Defense/military	41%	26%	33%

26. As you may know, the debt ceiling is the legal limit the federal government can borrow to pay its current debts. Do you think Congress should raise the debt ceiling or not raise it?

Raise the debt ceiling	46%
Not raise the debt ceiling	54%

27. What if NOT raising the debt ceiling will result in the U.S. defaulting on its current debts? Then do you think Congress should raise the debt ceiling to let the U.S. pay its current debts, or not raise it and let the U.S. default on its current debts?

Asked of those who oppose raising debt ceiling; percentages reflect all respondents in Q26 and Q27

Not raise the debt ceiling, and let the U.S. default on its current debts	30%
Raise the debt ceiling, to let the U.S. pay its current debts	23%
Raise the debt ceiling in general	47%

Questions held for future release.

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2. Condition of National Economy
How would you rate the condition of the national economy today?

		Gender		Age				Ideology		
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Very good	6%	8%	4%	14%	7%	3%	2%	10%	7%	3%
Fairly good	27%	31%	23%	29%	35%	22%	21%	41%	31%	15%
Fairly bad	31%	28%	33%	34%	25%	33%	30%	28%	35%	29%
Very bad	32%	29%	35%	18%	25%	39%	44%	16%	23%	51%
Not sure	4%	4%	5%	5%	8%	2%	3%	5%	4%	2%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,065)	(993)	(1,071)	(434)	(517)	(671)	(443)	(510)	(672)	(644)

		2020 Vote		Party ID			Race			White by Education	
	Total	Biden	Trump	Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Very good	6%	11%	2%	14%	3%	2%	6%	6%	8%	5%	7%
Fairly good	27%	46%	8%	45%	22%	15%	24%	39%	28%	18%	34%
Fairly bad	31%	25%	32%	24%	35%	33%	30%	27%	31%	31%	27%
Very bad	32%	14%	57%	13%	37%	46%	36%	23%	27%	41%	29%
Not sure	4%	4%	1%	4%	3%	4%	4%	5%	6%	4%	3%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%
Weighted N	(2,065)	(651)	(614)	(628)	(683)	(575)	(1,296)	(247)	(338)	(805)	(491)

6. Expectations for U.S. Economy

As you and your family plan for the next year, are you doing so expecting the U.S. economy to be...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Booming	4%	6%	4%	8%	9%	1%	0%	6%	6%	2%
Growing, but not booming	14%	16%	11%	20%	12%	14%	9%	22%	17%	6%
Holding steady	22%	20%	23%	23%	28%	19%	18%	31%	24%	12%
Slowing, but not in recession	26%	25%	27%	27%	24%	26%	27%	25%	29%	21%
In recession	34%	33%	35%	22%	26%	40%	46%	16%	24%	58%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,055)	(985)	(1,070)	(430)	(514)	(669)	(442)	(510)	(665)	(642)

	Total	2020 Vote		Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Biden	Trump	Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Booming	4%	6%	1%	7%	3%	3%	4%	10%	4%	2%	6%
Growing, but not booming	14%	24%	4%	28%	8%	7%	12%	27%	14%	10%	15%
Holding steady	22%	32%	12%	27%	21%	14%	20%	19%	27%	17%	26%
Slowing, but not in recession	26%	26%	20%	26%	28%	23%	25%	25%	28%	27%	21%
In recession	34%	12%	63%	12%	40%	52%	39%	19%	27%	44%	32%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,055)	(647)	(613)	(628)	(673)	(575)	(1,290)	(247)	(335)	(800)	(491)

25A. Federal Spending Negotiations — Medicare and Medicaid

As you may know the following are some of the largest items in the federal budget. As part of Congressional budget negotiations would you like to see spending on these items...

		Gender		Age				Ideology		
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	59%	58%	60%	55%	56%	62%	65%	70%	62%	50%
Decreased	13%	15%	11%	21%	15%	12%	3%	12%	12%	13%
Kept same	28%	27%	28%	23%	29%	26%	32%	18%	26%	37%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,032)	(973)	(1,059)	(422)	(497)	(669)	(443)	(508)	(655)	(640)

		2020 Vote		Party ID			Race			White by Education	
	Total	Biden	Trump	Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	59%	70%	49%	68%	56%	55%	60%	63%	59%	64%	55%
Decreased	13%	9%	12%	11%	14%	12%	11%	14%	19%	11%	12%
Kept same	28%	21%	39%	21%	30%	33%	29%	22%	21%	25%	33%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,032)	(638)	(613)	(621)	(672)	(571)	(1,280)	(238)	(330)	(796)	(484)

25B. Federal Spending Negotiations — Social Security

As you may know the following are some of the largest items in the federal budget. As part of Congressional budget negotiations would you like to see spending on these items...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	63%	61%	65%	53%	53%	71%	72%	66%	65%	57%
Decreased	11%	14%	8%	24%	12%	6%	1%	10%	11%	11%
Kept same	26%	25%	27%	22%	35%	23%	27%	24%	24%	31%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,036)	(977)	(1,059)	(428)	(497)	(669)	(442)	(508)	(660)	(641)

	Total	2020 Vote		Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Biden	Trump	Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	63%	69%	57%	71%	60%	60%	62%	69%	66%	67%	54%
Decreased	11%	9%	9%	9%	11%	11%	10%	10%	16%	9%	12%
Kept same	26%	22%	34%	19%	29%	29%	28%	21%	17%	24%	34%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,036)	(641)	(614)	(622)	(675)	(571)	(1,283)	(237)	(333)	(798)	(484)

25C. Federal Spending Negotiations — Defense/military
As you may know the following are some of the largest items in the federal budget. As part of Congressional budget negotiations would you like to see spending on these items...

		Gender		Age				Ideology		
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	41%	42%	39%	38%	33%	39%	53%	25%	35%	63%
Decreased	26%	27%	25%	37%	28%	26%	16%	45%	26%	13%
Kept same	33%	31%	35%	25%	39%	35%	31%	30%	39%	24%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,039)	(980)	(1,059)	(428)	(500)	(669)	(443)	(508)	(663)	(641)

		2020 Vote		Party ID			Race			White by Education	
	Total	Biden	Trump	Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	41%	24%	61%	31%	35%	60%	44%	38%	37%	49%	34%
Decreased	26%	39%	11%	34%	31%	12%	25%	23%	36%	19%	35%
Kept same	33%	37%	27%	35%	33%	28%	31%	39%	27%	32%	31%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,039)	(642)	(613)	(623)	(679)	(571)	(1,284)	(238)	(333)	(797)	(487)

26. Raise the Debt Ceiling

As you may know, the debt ceiling is the legal limit the federal government can borrow to pay its current debts. Do you think Congress should raise the debt ceiling or not raise it?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Raise the debt ceiling	46%	50%	43%	55%	46%	44%	43%	69%	51%	25%
Not raise the debt ceiling	54%	50%	57%	45%	54%	56%	57%	31%	49%	75%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,014)	(969)	(1,046)	(418)	(495)	(661)	(440)	(507)	(658)	(630)

	Total	2020 Vote		Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Biden	Trump	Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Raise the debt ceiling	46%	73%	23%	72%	41%	31%	45%	66%	46%	38%	55%
Not raise the debt ceiling	54%	27%	77%	28%	59%	69%	55%	34%	54%	62%	45%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,014)	(620)	(607)	(609)	(666)	(573)	(1,271)	(229)	(331)	(785)	(487)

27. Raise the Debt Ceiling - Default (Combined)
What if NOT raising the debt ceiling will result in the U.S. defaulting on its current debts? Then do you think Congress should raise the debt ceiling to let the U.S. pay its current debts, or not raise it and let the U.S. default on its current debts?

Asked of those who oppose raising debt ceiling; percentages reflect all respondents in Q26 and Q27

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Not raise the debt ceiling, and let the U.S. default on its current debts	30%	32%	28%	25%	28%	32%	34%	13%	27%	48%
Raise the debt ceiling, to let the U.S. pay its current debts	23%	18%	28%	20%	25%	24%	23%	18%	22%	26%
Raise the debt ceiling in general	47%	50%	44%	55%	47%	44%	43%	69%	51%	26%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,004)	(967)	(1,037)	(417)	(492)	(659)	(436)	(506)	(656)	(623)

	Total	2020 Vote		Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Biden	Trump	Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Not raise the debt ceiling, and let the U.S. default on its current debts	30%	10%	49%	10%	33%	44%	33%	15%	27%	36%	27%
Raise the debt ceiling, to let the U.S. pay its current debts	23%	17%	28%	18%	26%	25%	22%	19%	26%	25%	18%
Raise the debt ceiling in general	47%	73%	23%	72%	41%	31%	45%	66%	46%	39%	55%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,004)	(620)	(598)	(609)	(665)	(564)	(1,262)	(228)	(331)	(776)	(487)

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED AND THE MARGIN OF ERROR CALCULATED

The CBS News/YouGov survey of 2,065 adults in the U.S. was conducted between April 12-14, 2023.

This sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, and education based on the U.S. Census American Community Survey, and the U.S. Census Current Population Survey, as well as 2020 Presidential vote and 2022 Congressional vote. Respondents were selected to be representative of adults nationwide. The weights range from 0.5 to 6.5, with a mean of 1 and a standard deviation of 1.1.

The *margin of error* (a 95% confidence interval) for a sample percentage p based upon the entire sample is approximately 3.2%. It is calculated using the formula

$$\hat{p} \pm 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{1 + \text{CV}^2}{n}}$$

where CV is the coefficient of variation of the sample weights and n is the sample size used to compute the proportion. This is a measure of sampling error (the average of all estimates obtained using the same sample selection and weighting procedures repeatedly). The sample estimate should differ from its expected value by less than margin of error in 95 percent of all samples. It does not reflect non-sampling errors, including potential selection bias in panel participation or in response to a particular survey.