

# The Economist/YouGov Poll

September 12 - 14, 2021 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens  
Conducted September 12 - 14, 2021  
Margin of Error  $\pm 2.7\%$

## 1. Would you say things in this country today are...

Generally headed in the right direction	27%
Off on the wrong track	58%
Not sure	15%

## 2. How would you describe the current state of the American economy?

Excellent	3%
Good	22%
Fair	35%
Poor	34%
Don't know	6%

## 3. Which do you think is a more important problem facing the U.S. today: unemployment or inflation?

Unemployment	18%
Inflation	28%
Both equal	46%
Not sure	8%

## 4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling the war in Afghanistan?

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Not sure	10%

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

Yes	42%
No	34%
Not sure	25%

## 6. Do you think the United States made a mistake by recently withdrawing troops from Afghanistan?

Yes	38%
No	43%
Not sure	19%

## 7. Is the resurgence of the Taliban in Afghanistan a threat to the United States?

Yes	59%
No	15%
Not sure	27%

8. How serious a threat do you think the following groups or countries pose to the United States?

	An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	A minor threat to the U.S.	Not a threat to the U.S.	Not sure
Iran	27%	31%	22%	6%	15%
Islamic State (ISIS)	43%	27%	14%	4%	11%
Russia	22%	37%	21%	9%	12%
Taliban	40%	26%	18%	5%	11%
China	33%	32%	16%	9%	11%
North Korea	22%	35%	25%	6%	12%

9. What do you think are the chances of a terrorist attack against the United States in the next 12 months?

Very likely	24%
Somewhat likely	38%
Not very likely	15%
Very unlikely	6%
Not sure	16%

10. Which comes closer to your view?

In the long run, the U.S. will be safer from terrorism if it confronts the countries and groups that promote terrorism	51%
In the long run, the U.S. will be safer from terrorism if it stays out of other countries' affairs	49%

11. How closely are you following the news about COVID-19?

Very closely	33%
Somewhat closely	41%
Not very closely	19%
Not following at all	6%

12. Do you personally know anyone who... [has been laid off from work due to covid-19]? Check all that apply.

Yes, me	9%
Yes, a family member	15%
Yes, a close friend	15%
No	63%
Prefer not to say	2%

**13. Do you personally know anyone who... [has tested positive for covid-19]? Check all that apply.**

Yes, me .....	10%
Yes, a family member .....	36%
Yes, a close friend .....	36%
No .....	35%
Prefer not to say .....	2%

**14. Do you personally know anyone who... [has died due to complications from covid-19]? Check all that apply.**

Yes, a family member .....	12%
Yes, a close friend .....	20%
No .....	67%
Prefer not to say .....	3%

**15. Taking into consideration both your risk of contracting it and the seriousness of the illness, how worried are you personally about experiencing COVID-19?**

Very worried .....	18%
Somewhat worried .....	36%
Not too worried .....	30%
Not worried at all .....	16%

**16. In the past seven days, how often have you worn a mask on your face when outside your home?**

Always .....	35%
Most of the time .....	22%
Some of the time .....	26%
Never .....	18%

**17. Do you think the number of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is...**

Increasing .....	54%
Not changing .....	17%
Decreasing .....	13%
Not sure .....	16%

**18. Do you think the number of cases of COVID-19 in the community where you live is...**

Increasing .....	41%
Not changing .....	21%
Decreasing .....	17%
Not sure .....	21%

**19. Looking at the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S., do you believe that...**

The pandemic is going to get worse .....	33%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic .....	18%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us .....	27%
Not sure .....	21%

20. How would you describe your personal situation regarding COVID-19 vaccines?

I have received all the injections required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19	63%
I have started the vaccination process, but need another shot	6%
I plan to get vaccinated	5%
I will not get vaccinated	17%
I'm not sure about getting vaccinated	9%

21. Which vaccine did you receive?

*Among people who have been vaccinated*

Pfizer-BioNtech	49%
Moderna	38%
Oxford-AstraZeneca	1%
Johnson & Johnson	11%

22. Do your family members and close friends know you [have been vaccinated? / plan to get vaccinated? / have not been vaccinated?]

*Asked of those who disclosed their vaccination status*

Yes, all do	66%
Yes, some do	22%
Only a few do	6%
None do	5%

23. To combat variants, some countries — including the U.S. — are now or will soon be offering boosters to adults. Would you get a booster shot if it were available to you?

*Asked of those who have been vaccinated for COVID-19*

Yes	70%
No	8%
Not sure	19%
I have already received a booster	3%

24. Do you think the following groups of people should or should not be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19?

	Should	Should not	Not sure
Teachers	60%	28%	12%
Students in K-12 schools who are eligible to get the vaccine	56%	31%	13%
Medical providers (e.g. doctors, nurses, phlebotomists, lab techs, etc)	63%	26%	11%
Members of the U.S. Congress	64%	24%	13%
Federal employees	58%	28%	14%
Workers at businesses with more than 100 employees	54%	32%	14%

25. Would you prefer that your health care providers be vaccinated, unvaccinated, or does it not matter to you?

I would prefer my healthcare providers to be vaccinated	59%
I would prefer my healthcare providers to be unvaccinated	7%
Doesn't matter	33%

26. Should people be able to avoid a COVID-19 vaccine mandate if they:

	Should be able to avoid a COVID-19 mandate	Should not be able to avoid a COVID-19 mandate	Not sure
can show a religious objection to vaccinations?	46%	36%	18%
have a medical condition that makes a vaccine potentially dangerous to them?	73%	12%	14%
are worried about possible side effects?	41%	43%	17%
they are afraid of needles?	33%	51%	16%
are willing to take weekly tests for COVID-19 instead?	46%	36%	18%
if they simply don't want to be vaccinated?	39%	46%	14%
if they have already been infected with COVID-19?	39%	44%	18%
if they believe the vaccines are ineffective?	38%	46%	16%

27. Do you think students in K-12 schools should be required to wear masks in school?

Should	57%
Should not	30%
Not sure	13%

28. Do you think members of the U.S. Congress should or should not be required to wear masks in public spaces in the U.S. Capitol?

Should	66%
Should not	24%
Not sure	10%

29. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling COVID-19?

Strongly approve	25%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	9%

30. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about President Joe Biden announcing a vaccine mandate that will soon take effect?

A lot .....	44%
A little .....	41%
Nothing at all .....	15%

31. Last week, President Joe Biden announced that federal agencies and businesses with more than 100 employees will need to ensure all their employees are fully vaccinated or tested for COVID-19 weekly. Do you approve or disapprove of this mandate?

Strongly approve .....	38%
Somewhat approve .....	14%
Somewhat disapprove .....	8%
Strongly disapprove .....	32%
Not sure .....	8%

32. Do you think this mandate would be...

Too strict .....	36%
About right .....	36%
Not strict enough .....	17%
Not sure .....	11%

33. Would you get the vaccine if...

*Asked of those who have not been vaccinated for COVID-19 and do not plan to*

	Yes	No	Not sure
Your employer required you to be vaccinated	10%	77%	13%
Someone close to you contracted COVID-19	6%	76%	18%
The vaccine could protect your family from COVID-19	15%	62%	23%
You needed to be vaccinated to be able to travel	9%	75%	16%

34. In your opinion, when do you think the COVID-19 pandemic will finally end?

The pandemic has already ended .....	9%
Before the end of the summer 2021 .....	3%
Before the end of 2021 .....	8%
In 2022 .....	23%
After 2022 .....	29%
Never .....	29%

35. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Gavin Newsom	10%	16%	7%	27%	40%
Kathy Hochul	5%	11%	7%	8%	69%
Ron DeSantis	19%	11%	7%	28%	36%
Greg Abbott	15%	10%	7%	25%	43%
Kristi Noem	13%	8%	5%	13%	61%

36. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the people who took over the Capitol on January 6th?

Very favorable	6%
Somewhat favorable	11%
Somewhat unfavorable	13%
Very unfavorable	53%
Don't know	17%

37. Do you feel like the people who took over the Capitol building to stop Congressional proceedings represent most supporters of Donald Trump or not?

They represent most Trump supporters	45%
They do not represent most Trump supporters	38%
Not sure	18%

38. How much responsibility does former President Trump have for the takeover of the Capitol?

A lot	38%
Some	11%
A little	9%
None	30%
Not sure	11%

39. Do you think the Capitol Police were adequately prepared for people entering the Capitol building on January 6th?

They were over-prepared	5%
They were adequately prepared	13%
They were under-prepared	68%
Not sure	14%

40. Do you believe the police response to people entering the Capitol building on January 6th was...?

Too forceful	13%
Not forceful enough	49%
Appropriate	15%
Not sure	23%

41. Do you think the Capitol Police will be adequately prepared for people entering the Capitol building in the future?

They will be over-prepared .....	14%
They will be adequately prepared .....	42%
They will be under-prepared .....	17%
Not sure .....	27%

42. Do you approve or disapprove of the following security measures around federal buildings in Washington D.C.?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Not sure
Fencing off Lafayette Square and other streets around the White House from the public	22%	21%	15%	25%	17%
Fencing off the Capitol Building from the public	25%	22%	13%	25%	15%

43. Do you think it is right for people to be prosecuted over their participation in the takeover of the Capitol building?

Yes .....	62%
No .....	23%
Not sure .....	15%

44. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news about a committee to investigate the takeover of the Capitol on January 6th?

A lot .....	26%
A little .....	51%
Nothing at all .....	23%

45. Do you believe the House Select Committee to investigate the takeover of the Capitol on January 6th is conducting their investigation fairly?

Yes .....	32%
No .....	36%
Not sure .....	32%

46. Did you watch any of the hearings held by the House Select Committee to investigate the takeover of the Capitol on January 6th?

Yes .....	22%
No .....	67%
Not sure .....	10%



47. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about a rally planned by Trump supporters scheduled for September 18th in Washington D.C.?

A lot .....	10%
A little .....	36%
Nothing at all .....	54%

48. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	65%	28%	4%	2%
Immigration	47%	33%	14%	6%
Climate change and the environment	44%	22%	17%	16%
Foreign policy	38%	41%	15%	5%
National Security	63%	26%	8%	3%
Education	56%	30%	9%	4%
Health care	65%	25%	7%	4%
Taxes and government spending	58%	31%	8%	3%
Abortion	42%	27%	20%	11%
Civil rights	55%	28%	12%	6%
Civil liberties	55%	30%	10%	4%
Guns	49%	28%	14%	8%
Crime	58%	31%	8%	3%
Criminal justice reform	47%	34%	13%	6%

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

Jobs and the economy .....	13%
Immigration .....	7%
Climate change and the environment .....	15%
Foreign policy .....	1%
National Security .....	8%
Education .....	5%
Health care .....	17%
Taxes and government spending .....	11%
Abortion .....	5%
Civil rights .....	7%
Civil liberties .....	5%
Guns .....	3%
Crime .....	3%
Criminal justice reform .....	2%

50. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Joe Biden	25%	20%	10%	39%	6%
Kamala Harris	22%	20%	8%	39%	10%
Nancy Pelosi	17%	19%	10%	42%	11%
Kevin McCarthy	6%	16%	13%	29%	36%
Mitch McConnell	5%	14%	19%	41%	21%
Chuck Schumer	13%	18%	12%	32%	26%
Donald Trump	25%	14%	9%	46%	6%
Barack Obama	34%	17%	11%	31%	6%

51. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the political parties?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	16%	23%	14%	37%	10%
The Republican Party	9%	22%	21%	38%	10%

52. Do you think the current Congress has accomplished more or less than Congress usually does at this point in its two-year term?

More than usual	10%
About the same	26%
Less than usual	38%
Not sure	26%

53. Who is more to blame for Congress achieving less than usual?

Democrats in Congress	46%
Republicans in Congress	17%
Both equally	33%
Neither	2%
Not sure	2%

54. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as President?

Strongly approve	20%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	8%

55. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling these specific issues?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Jobs and the economy	19%	23%	11%	34%	13%
Education	16%	25%	11%	29%	19%
Health care	18%	24%	12%	30%	16%
Abortion	13%	18%	14%	32%	24%

56. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal	29%
Liberal	23%
Moderate	24%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	17%

57. How much do you think Joe Biden cares about the needs and problems of people like you?

A lot	23%
Some	22%
Not much	13%
Doesn't care at all	35%
Not sure	7%

58. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like or dislike Joe Biden as a person?

Like a lot	24%
Like somewhat	16%
Neither like nor dislike	18%
Dislike somewhat	7%
Dislike a lot	27%
Not sure	8%

59. Would you say Joe Biden is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	17%
Somewhat strong	28%
Somewhat weak	16%
Very weak	40%

60. Do you think Joe Biden is honest and trustworthy, or not?

Honest and trustworthy	39%
Not honest and trustworthy	45%
Not sure	16%

61. Are you confident in Joe Biden’s ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident .....	35%
Uneasy .....	50%
Not sure .....	15%

62. Do you think Joe Biden...

Says what he believes .....	41%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	43%
Not sure .....	16%

63. Do you think that Joe Biden will be able to bring the country together as President?

Yes .....	19%
No .....	56%
Not sure .....	24%

64. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the next few years with Joe Biden as President?

Optimistic .....	37%
Pessimistic .....	44%
Not sure .....	19%

65. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

Strongly approve .....	4%
Somewhat approve .....	14%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	17%
Somewhat disapprove .....	19%
Strongly disapprove .....	34%
Not sure .....	11%

66. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Nancy Pelosi is handling her job as the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve .....	15%
Somewhat approve .....	20%
Somewhat disapprove .....	10%
Strongly disapprove .....	40%
Not sure .....	15%

67. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chuck Schumer is handling his job as Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Strongly approve	10%
Somewhat approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	33%
Not sure	25%

68. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mitch McConnell is handling his job as Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	15%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Not sure	21%

69. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Kevin McCarthy is handling his job as Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	32%
Not sure	30%

70. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Supreme Court of the United States is handling its job?

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	24%
Strongly disapprove	20%
Not sure	22%

71. In general, how would you describe the political viewpoint of the Supreme Court of the United States?

Very liberal	4%
Liberal	10%
Moderate	29%
Conservative	20%
Very conservative	15%
Not sure	23%

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

Getting better	17%
About the same	28%
Getting worse	45%
Not sure	11%

<b>73. Do you think the stock market will be higher or lower 12 months from now?</b>	
Higher .....	19%
About the same .....	24%
Lower .....	26%
Not sure .....	31%
<b>74. Do you personally (or jointly with a spouse), have any money invested in the stock market right now, either in an individual stock or in a mutual fund?</b>	
Yes .....	41%
No .....	59%
<b>75. Would you say that you and your family are...</b>	
Better off financially than you were a year ago .....	16%
About the same financially as you were a year ago .....	47%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	29%
Not sure .....	8%
<b>76. Six months from now do you think there will be...</b>	
More jobs .....	27%
The same amount of jobs .....	33%
Fewer jobs .....	19%
Not sure .....	21%
<b>77. How worried are you about losing your job?</b>	
Very worried .....	11%
Somewhat worried .....	29%
Not very worried .....	61%
<b>78. If you lost your job, how hard would it be for you to find a new job that paid as much as you are making now?</b>	
Very hard – I would probably have to take a pay cut. ....	24%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much. ....	34%
Not very hard .....	27%
Not sure .....	14%
<b>79. How happy would you say you are with your current job?</b>	
Very happy .....	24%
Happy .....	37%
Neither happy nor unhappy .....	28%
Unhappy .....	7%
Very unhappy .....	4%

**80. In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?**

Very liberal	10%
Liberal	15%
Moderate	30%
Conservative	20%
Very conservative	12%
Not sure	14%

**81. Are you registered to vote?**

Registered	77%
Not registered	23%

**82. Who did you vote for in the election for President in 2020?**

Joe Biden	34%
Donald Trump	31%
Other	1%
Did not vote for President	34%

**83. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?**

Democrat	33%
Republican	26%
Independent	29%
Other	3%
Not sure	9%

**84. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?**

Strong Democrat	20%
Not very strong Democrat	13%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	19%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	10%
Strong Republican	16%
Not sure	6%

**85. Would you say that Joe Biden legitimately won the election, or not?**

Biden legitimately won the election	60%
Biden did NOT legitimately win the election	40%

86. How likely or unlikely do you think it is that Donald Trump will be re-instated as President before the end of 2021?

Very likely .....	7%
Somewhat likely .....	10%
Not very likely .....	15%
Not likely at all .....	57%
Not sure .....	12%

87. Are you... ?

Male .....	48%
Female .....	52%

88. Respondent age by category

Under 30 .....	20%
30-44 .....	23%
45-64 .....	34%
65+ .....	22%

89. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White .....	67%
Black .....	13%
Hispanic .....	12%
Other .....	7%

90. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

HS or less .....	37%
Some college .....	29%
College grad .....	22%
Postgrad .....	12%

91. What is your marital status?

Married .....	44%
Separated .....	2%
Divorced .....	11%
Widowed .....	5%
Never married .....	31%
Domestic / civil partnership .....	6%

92. Calculated from respondent's state of residence

Northeast .....	17%
Midwest .....	22%
South .....	38%
West .....	23%



<b>93. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?</b>	
Yes .....	20%
No .....	80%
<b>94. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?</b>	
Under \$50K .....	44%
\$50-100K .....	25%
\$100K or more .....	19%
Prefer not to say .....	12%
<b>95. How important is religion in your life?</b>	
Very important .....	35%
Somewhat important .....	26%
Not too important .....	16%
Not at all important .....	23%
<b>96. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?</b>	
More than once a week .....	6%
Once a week .....	16%
Once or twice a month .....	6%
A few times a year .....	11%
Seldom .....	22%
Never .....	34%
Don't know .....	4%
<b>97. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?</b>	
Yes .....	27%
No .....	73%
<b>98. People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?</b>	
Several times a day .....	26%
Once a day .....	13%
A few times a week .....	12%
Once a week .....	4%
A few times a month .....	7%
Seldom .....	14%
Never .....	20%
Don't know .....	4%

99. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant .....	29%
Roman Catholic .....	18%
Mormon .....	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox .....	1%
Jewish .....	3%
Muslim .....	2%
Buddhist .....	2%
Hindu .....	0%
Atheist .....	6%
Agnostic .....	5%
Nothing in particular .....	25%
Something else .....	9%

<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	September 12 - 14, 2021
<b>Target population</b>	US Adult Population
<b>Sampling method</b>	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by gender, age, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2018 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2018 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement.
<b>Weighting</b>	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, and both 2016 and 2020 Presidential votes (or non-votes). The weights range from 0.399 to 3.076, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.397.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1500 1252 (Registered voters)
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 2.7% (adjusted for weighting) ± 2.9% (Registered voters)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	40 questions not reported.