

# The Economist/YouGov Poll

December 19 - 21, 2021 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens  
Conducted December 19 - 21, 2021  
Margin of Error ±3%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	23%
Off on the wrong track	62%
Not sure	15%

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

Excellent	4%
Good	18%
Fair	33%
Poor	40%
Don't know	6%

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

Unemployment	11%
Inflation	39%
Both equal	44%
Not sure	7%

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

Very closely	31%
Somewhat closely	43%
Not very closely	17%
Not following at all	9%

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

Yes, me	12%
Yes, a family member	41%
Yes, a close friend	37%
No	34%
Prefer not to say	2%

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

Yes, a family member	11%
Yes, a close friend	20%
No	69%
Prefer not to say	3%

7. 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	17%
Somewhat worried	35%
Not too worried	27%
Not worried at all	21%

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

Always	36%
Most of the time	21%
Some of the time	21%
Never	23%

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

Increasing	54%
Not changing	15%
Decreasing	13%
Not sure	18%

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

Increasing	41%
Not changing	19%
Decreasing	16%
Not sure	24%

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

The pandemic is going to get worse	36%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic	12%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us	28%
Not sure	24%

12. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus?

A lot	51%
A little	41%
Nothing at all	8%

13. Taking into consideration both your risk of contracting it and the seriousness of the illness, how worried are you personally about experiencing this new variant?

Very worried	17%
Somewhat worried	36%
Not too worried	24%
Not worried at all	23%

14. Which statement describes you best?

I have received at least ONE shot of ANY manufacturer's COVID-19 vaccine	69%
I have NOT received ANY shots of ANY manufacturer's COVID-19 vaccine	31%

15. Which statement describes you best?

*Asked of those who have received at least one shot*

I have received only ONE shot	8%
I have received only TWO shots	43%
I have received at least THREE shots	49%

16. Which vaccine did you get for your FIRST shot?

*Asked of those who have received at least one shot*

Pfizer-BioNtech	45%
Moderna	41%
Oxford-AstraZeneca	1%
Johnson & Johnson	9%
Don't remember	4%

17. Which vaccine did you get for your SECOND shot?

*Asked of those who have received at least two shots*

Pfizer-BioNtech	49%
Moderna	42%
Oxford-AstraZeneca	1%
Johnson & Johnson	5%
Don't remember	3%

18. Which vaccine did you get for your THIRD shot, or booster shot?

*Asked of those who have received at least three shots*

Pfizer-BioNtech	49%
Moderna	48%
Oxford-AstraZeneca	0%
Johnson & Johnson	1%
Don't remember	2%

19. Have you gotten more than three shots?

*Asked of those who have received at least three shots*

Yes, I have had more than three shots	2%
No, I have had only three shots	98%

20. Which statement describes you best?

*Asked of those who have not received any shots of any COVID-19 vaccine*

I do not plan on ever getting ANY shots of ANY COVID-19 vaccine	62%
I might get a shot of one of the COVID-19 vaccines in the future	18%
I definitely will get a shot of one of the COVID-19 vaccines in the future	10%
Prefer not to say	10%

21. Instead of getting an injection, how likely are you to take a COVID-19 vaccine in the form of:

*Among those who do not plan on getting vaccinated*

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Not very likely	Not likely at all	Not sure
Nasal spray	3%	3%	9%	74%	11%
Pill	3%	4%	9%	71%	13%

22. To combat variants, some countries — including the U.S. — are now 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	25%
No	10%
Not sure	12%
I have already received a booster	52%

23. Are you currently eligible to receive a booster shot?

*Asked of those willing to get a booster*

Yes, I am eligible	27%
No, I am not eligible	6%
I'm not sure	9%
Already gotten a booster	58%

24. Should the COVID-19 booster be made available to Americans of any age who are eligible based on when they had their last vaccine shot?

Yes	61%
No	18%
Not sure	21%

25. How safe, or unsafe, do you think the Pfizer-BioNtech vaccine is?

Very safe	35%
Somewhat safe	19%
Somewhat unsafe	8%
Very unsafe	14%
Don't know	24%

26. How safe, or unsafe, do you think the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine is?

Very safe	16%
Somewhat safe	17%
Somewhat unsafe	10%
Very unsafe	14%
Don't know	44%

27. How safe, or unsafe, do you think the Moderna vaccine is?

Very safe .....	38%
Somewhat safe .....	19%
Somewhat unsafe .....	8%
Very unsafe .....	12%
Don't know .....	23%

28. How safe, or unsafe, do you think the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is?

Very safe .....	14%
Somewhat safe .....	25%
Somewhat unsafe .....	18%
Very unsafe .....	19%
Don't know .....	24%

29. Do you think people should be asked for proof of vaccination in order to...

	Yes	No	Not sure
Work at an in-person job	45%	45%	9%
Attend in-person classes	43%	46%	10%
Eat out at a restaurant	39%	51%	10%
Attend an in-person religious service	37%	52%	11%
Go to a movie or theater	43%	48%	10%
Go to the gym	43%	48%	9%
Attend a sporting event	43%	47%	10%

30. In the past month, have you ever been asked for proof of vaccination in order to...

	Yes	No	Not sure	I don't do this
Work at an in-person job	10%	55%	4%	31%
Attend in-person classes	4%	49%	4%	43%
Eat out at a restaurant	8%	73%	4%	15%
Attend an in-person religious service	3%	60%	4%	33%
Go to a movie or theater	7%	57%	4%	33%
Go to the gym	3%	52%	4%	40%
Attend a sporting event	5%	51%	3%	41%

31. Do you think people should be asked for proof of a booster shot in order to...

	Yes	No	Not sure
Work at an in-person job	26%	56%	18%
Attend in-person classes	25%	57%	18%
Eat out at a restaurant	23%	60%	17%
Attend an in-person religious service	23%	59%	18%
Go to a movie or theater	23%	58%	18%
Go to the gym	24%	58%	18%
Attend a sporting event	25%	57%	18%

32. Would you support or oppose a policy that made it mandatory to wear masks in public indoor places?

Strongly support	37%
Somewhat support	16%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	28%
Not sure	10%

33. Do you believe state and local governments should be allowed to mandate masks for their citizens?

Yes	49%
No	38%
Not sure	13%

34. Do you believe healthcare professionals should be allowed to mandate masks for their patients?

Yes	60%
No	25%
Not sure	15%

35. Do you believe employers should be allowed to mandate masks for their employees?

Yes	55%
No	33%
Not sure	12%

36. Do you believe businesses should be allowed to mandate masks for their customers?

Yes	55%
No	33%
Not sure	12%

37. Do you believe airlines should be allowed to mandate masks for their passengers?

Yes	62%
No	27%
Not sure	11%

38. Do you believe K-12 schools should be allowed to mandate masks for their students?

Yes .....54%  
 No .....33%  
 Not sure .....13%

39. Do you believe colleges and universities should be allowed to mandate masks for their students?

Yes .....56%  
 No .....33%  
 Not sure .....11%

40. Which one are you most concerned about?

Protecting Americans from the health effects of the coronavirus outbreak .....56%  
 Protecting Americans from the economic effects of the coronavirus outbreak .....44%

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

Strongly approve .....20%  
 Somewhat approve .....22%  
 Somewhat disapprove .....12%  
 Strongly disapprove .....35%  
 Not sure .....10%

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

The pandemic has already ended .....12%  
 In the first half of 2022 .....7%  
 In the second half of 2022 .....15%  
 After 2022 .....34%  
 Never .....32%

43. Compared to the rest of the world, where does the US rank in terms of ...?

	Best	Towards the top	The middle	Towards the bottom	Worst
COVID-19 vaccination rate	8%	30%	44%	11%	7%
Minority rights	16%	21%	37%	18%	8%
LGBTQ rights	14%	30%	39%	10%	7%
Religious tolerance	14%	24%	38%	16%	8%
Income inequality	9%	16%	38%	24%	13%
Acceptance of migrants and refugees	14%	19%	37%	19%	10%

44. Would you ever consider permanently leaving the U.S.?

Yes .....30%  
 No .....51%  
 Not sure .....18%

45. Thinking about your ideal government for the United States, what model would you prefer?

- A stronger federal government, with more funding for social services and safety nets, even if it means higher taxes ..... 44%
- A weaker federal government, with taxation and policies left up to the states ..... 34%
- No change ..... 22%

46. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	64%	30%	5%	2%
Immigration	45%	33%	16%	5%
Climate change and the environment	45%	24%	16%	15%
Foreign policy	37%	44%	15%	4%
National Security	58%	32%	8%	3%
Education	59%	31%	7%	3%
Health care	67%	24%	6%	3%
Taxes and government spending	56%	33%	9%	2%
Abortion	42%	27%	19%	12%
Civil rights	57%	27%	10%	6%
Civil liberties	56%	31%	9%	4%
Guns	49%	27%	15%	9%
Crime	59%	30%	8%	3%
Criminal justice reform	48%	33%	12%	7%

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

- Jobs and the economy ..... 15%
- Immigration ..... 7%
- Climate change and the environment ..... 17%
- Foreign policy ..... 1%
- National Security ..... 7%
- Education ..... 4%
- Health care ..... 16%
- Taxes and government spending ..... 10%
- Abortion ..... 5%
- Civil rights ..... 5%
- Civil liberties ..... 4%
- Guns ..... 3%
- Crime ..... 4%
- Criminal justice reform ..... 2%

48. 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	21%	20%	13%	39%	7%
Kamala Harris	16%	21%	12%	40%	11%
Nancy Pelosi	17%	17%	11%	43%	12%
Kevin McCarthy	6%	14%	15%	32%	33%
Mitch McConnell	3%	12%	22%	42%	21%
Chuck Schumer	11%	17%	11%	35%	26%
Donald Trump	25%	15%	8%	45%	7%
Barack Obama	33%	17%	11%	31%	8%

49. 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	15%	22%	15%	38%	11%
The Republican Party	10%	21%	18%	41%	10%

50. 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	28%
Less than usual	41%
Not sure	22%

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

Democrats in Congress	42%
Republicans in Congress	18%
Both equally	37%
Neither	1%
Not sure	2%

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

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	12%

53. 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	16%	24%	12%	36%	12%
Civil rights	13%	24%	14%	32%	18%
Civil liberties	11%	25%	13%	32%	18%
Crime	11%	21%	11%	38%	19%
Criminal justice reform	9%	22%	16%	33%	21%

54. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal	27%
Liberal	19%
Moderate	28%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	18%

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

A lot	22%
Some	18%
Not much	14%
Doesn't care at all	37%
Not sure	9%

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

Like a lot	22%
Like somewhat	16%
Neither like nor dislike	18%
Dislike somewhat	8%
Dislike a lot	26%
Not sure	9%

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

Very strong	12%
Somewhat strong	26%
Somewhat weak	22%
Very weak	40%

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

Honest and trustworthy	36%
Not honest and trustworthy	45%
Not sure	19%

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

Confident .....	32%
Uneasy .....	48%
Not sure .....	20%

60. Do you think Joe Biden...

Says what he believes .....	34%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	45%
Not sure .....	21%

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

Yes .....	15%
No .....	59%
Not sure .....	26%

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

Optimistic .....	31%
Pessimistic .....	45%
Not sure .....	24%

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

Strongly approve .....	4%
Somewhat approve .....	11%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	15%
Somewhat disapprove .....	21%
Strongly disapprove .....	37%
Not sure .....	13%

64. 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 .....	19%
Somewhat disapprove .....	11%
Strongly disapprove .....	39%
Not sure .....	17%

65. 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	20%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	33%
Not sure	25%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	14%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Not sure	23%

67. 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	15%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	31%

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

Strongly approve	7%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	23%
Not sure	22%

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

Very liberal	4%
Liberal	8%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	19%
Very conservative	17%
Not sure	24%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Not sure
Brett Kavanaugh	11%	16%	11%	26%	35%
Neil Gorsuch	10%	15%	11%	15%	48%
Elena Kagan	15%	12%	8%	14%	51%
Sonia Sotomayor	21%	16%	9%	15%	39%
Samuel Alito	9%	16%	12%	14%	49%
John Roberts	8%	19%	19%	11%	42%
Stephen Breyer	8%	17%	10%	10%	55%
Amy Coney Barrett	12%	16%	11%	24%	38%
Clarence Thomas	20%	13%	8%	23%	36%

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

Getting better	14%
About the same	25%
Getting worse	50%
Not sure	11%

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

Higher	19%
About the same	26%
Lower	26%
Not sure	29%

73. 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?

Yes	40%
No	60%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	15%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	43%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	33%
Not sure	9%

75. Six months from now do you think there will be...

More jobs	23%
The same amount of jobs	35%
Fewer jobs	19%
Not sure	23%

76. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	26%
Not very worried	62%

77. 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?

Very hard – I would probably have to take a pay cut.	27%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	28%
Not very hard	27%
Not sure	19%

78. How happy would you say you are with your current job?

Very happy	25%
Happy	35%
Neither happy nor unhappy	29%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	5%

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

Very liberal	11%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	30%
Conservative	19%
Very conservative	12%
Not sure	12%

80. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	79%
Not registered	21%

81. 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%

82. If an election for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

The Democratic Party candidate	43%
The Republican Party candidate	36%
Other	2%
Not sure	14%
I would not vote	5%

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

Democrat .....	32%
Republican .....	24%
Independent .....	33%
Other .....	4%
Not sure .....	9%

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

Strong Democrat .....	22%
Not very strong Democrat .....	10%
Lean Democrat .....	9%
Independent .....	22%
Lean Republican .....	9%
Not very strong Republican .....	8%
Strong Republican .....	16%
Not sure .....	6%

85. At any point in your life, have you ever considered yourself a Democrat?

*Asked of Independents and Republicans*

Yes .....	26%
No .....	59%
Not sure .....	16%

86. At any point in your life, have you ever considered yourself a Republican?

*Asked of Independents and Democrats*

Yes .....	20%
No .....	65%
Not sure .....	15%

87. Would you say that the Democratic Party is to the left or right of you?

Much more to the left .....	32%
Slightly more left .....	11%
About the same .....	18%
Slightly more right .....	8%
Much more to the right .....	7%
Don't know .....	23%

88. Would you say that the Republican Party is to the left or right of you?

Much more to the left .....	4%
Slightly more left .....	10%
About the same .....	18%
Slightly more right .....	13%
Much more to the right .....	31%
Don't know .....	24%

89. Overall, would you say that your political views are closer to the views of the Democratic party or Republican party?

Democratic Party .....	53%
Republican Party .....	47%

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

Biden legitimately won the election .....	61%
Biden did NOT legitimately win the election .....	39%

91. 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 .....	5%
Somewhat likely .....	7%
Not very likely .....	14%
Not likely at all .....	61%
Not sure .....	14%

92. Are you... ?

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

93. Respondent age by category

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

94. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

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

96. What is your marital status?

Married .....	40%
Separated .....	2%
Divorced .....	12%
Widowed .....	5%
Never married .....	34%
Domestic / civil partnership .....	6%

97. Calculated from respondent's state of residence

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

98. How would you describe the place where you live?

Urban .....	28%
Suburb .....	36%
Rural/Other .....	37%

99. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?

Yes .....	20%
No .....	80%

100. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

Full-time .....	34%
Part-time .....	8%
Temporarily laid off .....	0%
Unemployed .....	9%
Retired .....	23%
Permanently disabled .....	9%
Homemaker .....	6%
Student .....	11%
Other .....	1%

101. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?

Under \$50K .....	44%
\$50-100K .....	27%
\$100K or more .....	16%
Prefer not to say .....	14%

**102. How important is religion in your life?**

Very important .....	34%
Somewhat important .....	26%
Not too important .....	14%
Not at all important .....	25%

**103. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?**

More than once a week .....	6%
Once a week .....	16%
Once or twice a month .....	7%
A few times a year .....	11%
Seldom .....	21%
Never .....	35%
Don't know .....	4%

**104. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?**

Yes .....	31%
No .....	69%

**105. People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?**

Several times a day .....	25%
Once a day .....	14%
A few times a week .....	12%
Once a week .....	3%
A few times a month .....	5%
Seldom .....	14%
Never .....	20%
Don't know .....	6%

**106. What is your present religion, if any?**

Protestant .....	29%
Roman Catholic .....	17%
Mormon .....	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox .....	1%
Jewish .....	3%
Muslim .....	1%
Buddhist .....	1%
Hindu .....	0%
Atheist .....	6%
Agnostic .....	6%
Nothing in particular .....	27%
Something else .....	9%

***The Economist/YouGov Poll***  
December 19 - 21, 2021 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	December 19 - 21, 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 0.298 to 6.003, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.644.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1500 1315 (Registered voters)
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3% (Registered voters)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	38 questions not reported.