

The Economist/YouGov Poll
May 8 - 11, 2021 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted May 8 - 11, 2021
 Margin of Error ±2.7%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	40%
Off on the wrong track	44%
Not sure	16%

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

Excellent	6%
Good	24%
Fair	37%
Poor	28%
Don't know	6%

3. Have you heard mostly positive or mostly negative news stories about the economy, or have you not heard much news at all about the economy?

Mostly positive	17%
Equally positive and negative	39%
Mostly negative	30%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	14%

4. How serious a problem is unemployment in the U.S.?

Very serious	34%
Somewhat serious	39%
A minor problem	14%
Not a problem	6%
Not sure	6%

5. How serious a problem is unemployment in your LOCAL community?

Very serious	17%
Somewhat serious	37%
A minor problem	25%
Not a problem	9%
Not sure	13%

6. For you personally, which of the following do you consider the best measure of how the national economy is doing?

The stock market index	7%
The unemployment rate and job reports	31%
The prices of goods and services you buy	33%
Your personal finances	13%
Don't know	16%

7. What is the current unemployment rate in the U.S.? Please tell us the percentage of adults who want to work that are currently unemployed and looking for a job. If you don't know, please make your best guess.

Less than 4%	3%
Between 4% and 5%	4%
Between 5% and 6%	6%
Between 6% and 7%	21%
Between 7% and 8%	10%
Between 8% and 10%	9%
Between 10% and 12%	8%
Between 12% and 15%	8%
Greater than 15%	10%
Not sure	22%

8. Since last month, has the unemployment rate increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

Increased	29%
Stayed the same	32%
Decreased	22%
Don't know	18%

9. How good of a job do you think the national unemployment rate does explaining the actual health of the national economy?

Very good	6%
Good	20%
Fair	32%
Poor	19%
Very poor	8%
Don't know	15%

10. The government releases unemployment numbers on the first Friday of the month. Do you think the government numbers are accurate or do you think there are more unemployed people or fewer unemployed people?

More unemployed people	51%
The government numbers are accurate	22%
Fewer unemployed people	8%
Don't know	19%

11. How accurate do you believe the predictions of economists are about the future of the economy?

Very accurate	4%
Somewhat accurate	39%
Somewhat inaccurate	24%
Very inaccurate	10%
Not sure	22%

12. Do you think improving the economy is...

Something the president can do a lot about	46%
Something the president can do a little about	37%
Something that is that mostly beyond the president's control	17%

13. Which President do you think deserves more of the credit for the current state of the American economy?

President Trump	27%
President Biden	42%
Neither one	16%
Not sure	15%

14. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of the following?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Janet Yellen	12%	17%	13%	16%	41%
Jerome Powell	7%	17%	13%	9%	54%
Steve Mnuchin	8%	18%	17%	21%	37%
The Federal Reserve	9%	34%	21%	13%	22%
The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)	11%	24%	17%	11%	38%
Elizabeth Warren	19%	19%	13%	28%	21%
Banks	7%	33%	28%	15%	17%

15. How long do you think it will take until the economy has recovered all the ground lost during the pandemic?

Has already recovered	4%
Less than a year	7%
About a year	16%
Two years	23%
More than two years	37%
The economy will never recover	12%

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

Very closely	29%
Somewhat closely	42%
Not very closely	20%
Not following at all	9%

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

Yes, a family member	13%
Yes, a close friend	23%
No	62%
Prefer not to say	4%

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

Yes, me	13%
Yes, a family member	22%
Yes, a close friend	20%
No	48%
Prefer not to say	3%

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

Yes, me	8%
Yes, a family member	30%
Yes, a close friend	34%
No	35%
Prefer not to say	3%

20. 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	31%
Not too worried	30%
Not worried at all	21%

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

Always	45%
Most of the time	24%
Some of the time	20%
Never	10%

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

The pandemic is going to get worse	13%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic	15%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us	48%
Not sure	23%

23. How much do you trust medical advice from each of the following officials?

	Trust a lot	Trust somewhat	Neither trust nor distrust	Distrust somewhat	Distrust a lot	Not sure
Joe Biden	24%	18%	14%	8%	31%	5%
Donald Trump	16%	14%	17%	7%	41%	5%
Anthony Fauci	28%	17%	14%	10%	23%	9%
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	25%	27%	14%	13%	15%	5%
World Health Organization (WHO)	21%	25%	15%	9%	24%	7%
Your doctor	40%	31%	14%	5%	3%	7%
Online sources	5%	19%	33%	19%	14%	9%

24. 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	47%
I have started the vaccination process, but need another shot	11%
I plan to get vaccinated	11%
I will not get vaccinated	17%
I'm not sure about getting vaccinated	14%

25. How safe, or unsafe, do you think the (MANUFACTURER) vaccine IS?

	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Don't know
Pfizer-BioNtech	35%	21%	10%	10%	23%
Oxford-AstraZeneca	14%	21%	14%	11%	40%
Moderna	35%	23%	11%	11%	21%
Johnson & Johnson	18%	26%	18%	16%	21%

26. The U.S. recently announced support for a proposal to waive intellectual-property protections for COVID-19 vaccines, joining an effort to increase global supply and access to the vaccines. Do you think this is a good decision or a bad decision?

Good decision	66%
Bad decision	34%

27. Which of do you think is a greater risk: possibly contracting COVID-19, or possibly having a bad reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine?

Possibly contracting COVID-19	57%
Possibly having a bad reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine	43%

28. Do you think the following statements are true or not true?

	Definitely true	Probably true	Probably not true	Definitely not true
Vaccines have been shown to cause autism	7%	19%	35%	39%
The COVID-19 vaccine can cause infertility	6%	20%	40%	34%
The U.S. government is rolling out the COVID-19 vaccine without adequate testing	18%	24%	29%	28%
The U.S. government is using the COVID-19 vaccine to microchip the population	7%	18%	28%	47%
The COVID-19 vaccine can alter a recipient's DNA	7%	19%	32%	42%

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

Strongly approve	30%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	24%
Not sure	11%

30. When do you think it will be safe to resume normal life activities?

It is safe right now	22%
By July 2021	8%
By September 2021	14%
By December 2021	11%
2022 or later	28%
Not sure	18%

31. Do you plan on traveling anywhere this summer?

Yes	37%
No	42%
Not sure	21%

32. Do you plan on traveling in any of the following ways? Select all that apply

Among those who plan on traveling over the summer

Flying	37%
Driving in a car	71%
Taking a train	10%
Taking a bus	10%
Going on a cruise ship	9%
None of the above	1%

33. Do you plan to travel within the U.S., or outside the U.S.?

Among those who plan on traveling over the summer

Within the U.S.	79%
Outside the U.S.	9%
Both	11%
Neither	1%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Ron DeSantis	24%	12%	11%	22%	32%
Gavin Newsom	9%	18%	13%	26%	35%
Ted Cruz	18%	19%	14%	33%	16%
Gretchen Whitmer	12%	16%	12%	21%	39%
Caitlyn Jenner	6%	17%	26%	31%	20%
Liz Cheney	9%	22%	18%	23%	27%
Elise Stefanik	11%	12%	10%	15%	52%

35. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	62%	28%	7%	3%
Immigration	48%	33%	13%	6%
Climate change and the environment	41%	27%	18%	14%
Foreign policy	40%	42%	13%	6%
National Security	61%	27%	8%	4%
Education	56%	30%	10%	4%
Health care	62%	26%	9%	3%
Taxes and government spending	54%	32%	10%	3%
Abortion	39%	30%	20%	11%
Civil rights	52%	30%	12%	6%
Civil liberties	52%	31%	11%	5%
Guns	49%	29%	14%	8%
Crime	57%	31%	9%	3%
Criminal justice reform	45%	35%	15%	5%

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

Jobs and the economy	15%
Immigration	9%
Climate change and the environment	11%
Foreign policy	1%
National Security	9%
Education	5%
Health care	19%
Taxes and government spending	9%
Abortion	3%
Civil rights	6%
Civil liberties	3%
Guns	4%
Crime	3%
Criminal justice reform	3%

37. 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	33%	18%	12%	32%	6%
Kamala Harris	26%	20%	11%	34%	10%
Nancy Pelosi	18%	21%	13%	37%	10%
Kevin McCarthy	10%	19%	15%	25%	31%
Mitch McConnell	7%	20%	20%	37%	16%
Chuck Schumer	13%	22%	13%	31%	21%
Donald Trump	26%	17%	11%	40%	7%

38. 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	19%	24%	15%	32%	10%
The Republican Party	13%	23%	21%	32%	11%

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

Strongly approve	27%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	9%
Strongly disapprove	30%
Not sure	9%

40. 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	24%	26%	12%	29%	10%
Education	21%	24%	13%	26%	16%
Health care	23%	23%	16%	25%	13%
Abortion	13%	20%	11%	28%	28%

41. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal	29%
Liberal	22%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	15%

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

A lot	29%
Some	20%
Not much	14%
Doesn't care at all	29%
Not sure	7%

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

Like a lot	27%
Like somewhat	17%
Neither like nor dislike	20%
Dislike somewhat	8%
Dislike a lot	21%
Not sure	8%

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

Very strong	24%
Somewhat strong	31%
Somewhat weak	13%
Very weak	32%

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

Honest and trustworthy	46%
Not honest and trustworthy	38%
Not sure	16%

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

Confident	43%
Uneasy	43%
Not sure	14%

47. Do you think Joe Biden...

Says what he believes	39%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	45%
Not sure	16%

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

Yes	31%
No	45%
Not sure	24%

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

Optimistic	43%
Pessimistic	39%
Not sure	18%

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

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	16%
Neither approve nor disapprove	16%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	30%
Not sure	12%

51. 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	18%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	13%

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

Strongly approve	13%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	32%
Not sure	21%

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

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	18%

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

Strongly approve	10%
Somewhat approve	29%
Somewhat disapprove	27%
Strongly disapprove	13%
Not sure	21%

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

Very liberal	7%
Liberal	12%
Moderate	28%
Conservative	22%
Very conservative	10%
Not sure	21%

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

Getting better	28%
About the same	30%
Getting worse	30%
Not sure	11%

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

Higher	25%
About the same	26%
Lower	20%
Not sure	29%

58. 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	45%
No	55%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	21%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	46%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	25%
Not sure	8%

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

More jobs	37%
The same amount of jobs	28%
Fewer jobs	18%
Not sure	18%

61. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	13%
Somewhat worried	26%
Not very worried	61%

62. 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.	24%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	36%
Not very hard	27%
Not sure	12%

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

Very happy	28%
Happy	38%
Neither happy nor unhappy	25%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	3%

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

Very liberal	11%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	29%
Conservative	20%
Very conservative	12%
Not sure	11%

65. Are you registered to vote?	
Registered	76%
Not registered	24%
66. 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%
67. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?	
Democrat	35%
Republican	25%
Independent	27%
Other	4%
Not sure	10%
68. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?	
Strong Democrat	24%
Not very strong Democrat	11%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	16%
Lean Republican	9%
Not very strong Republican	8%
Strong Republican	16%
Not sure	7%
69. Are you... ?	
Male	48%
Female	52%
70. Respondent age by category	
Under 30	20%
30-44	23%
45-64	34%
65+	22%
71. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?	
White	67%
Black	13%
Hispanic	12%
Other	7%

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

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

73. What is your marital status?

Married	50%
Separated	2%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	6%
Never married	27%
Domestic / civil partnership	4%

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

Yes	27%
No	73%

75. Calculated from respondent's state of residence

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

76. What is your gender?

Man	48%
Woman	50%
Non-binary	1%
Other	1%

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

Under \$50K	41%
\$50-100K	25%
\$100K or more	23%
Prefer not to say	11%

78. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	37%
Somewhat important	27%
Not too important	16%
Not at all important	19%

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

More than once a week	8%
Once a week	18%
Once or twice a month	9%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	21%
Never	28%
Don't know	4%

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

Yes	35%
No	65%

81. 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	13%
A few times a week	12%
Once a week	6%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	14%
Never	18%
Don't know	6%

82. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	27%
Roman Catholic	20%
Mormon	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	4%
Nothing in particular	24%
Something else	9%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	May 8 - 11, 2021
Target population	US Adult Population
Sampling method	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.
Weighting	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, and both 2016 and 2020 Presidential votes (or non-votes). The weights range from 0.362 to 3.204, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.356.
Number of respondents	1500 1204 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 2.7% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	39 questions not reported.