

The Economist/YouGov Poll

May 22 - 25, 2021 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens
Conducted May 22 - 25, 2021
Margin of Error ±2.9%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	43%
Off on the wrong track	47%
Not sure	10%

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

Excellent	7%
Good	28%
Fair	33%
Poor	27%
Don't know	5%

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

Very closely	35%
Somewhat closely	42%
Not very closely	16%
Not following at all	7%

4. 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	21%
No	65%
Prefer not to say	3%

5. 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	30%
Not too worried	32%
Not worried at all	20%

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

Always	42%
Most of the time	23%
Some of the time	22%
Never	13%

7. 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	12%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us	57%
Not sure	18%

8. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)?

Very favorable	19%
Somewhat favorable	33%
Somewhat unfavorable	20%
Very unfavorable	16%
Don't know	12%

9. 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	25%	18%	14%	9%	30%	4%
Donald Trump	17%	14%	15%	10%	41%	4%
Anthony Fauci	27%	18%	14%	10%	22%	9%
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	22%	29%	15%	14%	15%	5%
Your doctor	41%	32%	13%	5%	3%	6%

10. 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	54%
I have started the vaccination process, but need another shot	10%
I plan to get vaccinated	9%
I will not get vaccinated	16%
I'm not sure about getting vaccinated	11%

11. 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%

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

Strongly approve	30%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	23%
Not sure	10%

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

It is safe right now	24%
By July 2021	12%
By September 2021	16%
By December 2021	10%
2022 or later	21%
Not sure	17%

14. When do you think the world will return to normal?

The world has already returned to normal	6%
By July 2021	8%
By September 2021	11%
By December 2021	10%
2022 or later	35%
Not sure	30%

15. Do you think it is likely or unlikely that 70% of Americans will get at least one vaccination shot by July 4th, 2021?

Very likely	16%
Somewhat likely	34%
Not very likely	27%
Not likely at all	9%
Not sure	14%

16. Would YOU wear a mask while...?

	Yes	No	Not sure
Socializing outdoors	38%	52%	10%
Socializing indoors with vaccinated people	37%	54%	9%
Socializing indoors with unvaccinated people	58%	31%	11%
Traveling by plane	71%	22%	7%
Going on a cruise ship	62%	26%	11%
Eating at a restaurant	47%	44%	8%

17. Do you approve or disapprove of each of the following re-opening at full capacity?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Not sure
Stores and other businesses	40%	32%	15%	6%	6%
Schools	40%	26%	17%	11%	7%
Restaurants and bars	36%	29%	18%	11%	6%
Offices	38%	31%	17%	7%	6%

18. In your opinion, which of the following institutions should be allowed to require masks? Check all that apply.

Privately owned businesses	56%
K-12 schools	54%
Colleges and Universities	55%
Cities and local governments	52%
State governments	47%
Nobody should be allowed to require masks	22%

19. Last week several states, including Texas and Iowa, signed laws prohibiting mask mandates in schools and businesses. Do you approve of these laws that forbid mask mandates by schools and businesses, or should schools and businesses be permitted to require masks?

Schools and businesses SHOULD be allowed to require masks	65%
Schools and businesses SHOULD NOT be allowed to require masks	35%

20. Do you have any children currently in K-12 schools (kindergarten through 12th grade)?

Yes	30%
No	70%

21. Do you have any children currently in K-12 schools (kindergarten through 12th grade) under the age of 12?

Asked of parents of school-age children

Yes	75%
No	25%

22. Do you have any children currently in K-12 schools (kindergarten through 12th grade) over the age of 12?

Asked of parents of school-age children

Yes	66%
No	34%

23. Which of the following best describes your children's situation regarding COVID-19 vaccines?

Asked of parents of school-age children

My children have received all the injections required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19	24%
My children have started the vaccination process, but need another shot	17%
I plan to get my children vaccinated	23%
I will not get my children vaccinated	17%
I'm not sure about getting my children vaccinated	18%

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

Yes, me	12%
Yes, a family member	18%
Yes, a close friend	17%
No	54%
Prefer not to say	2%

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

Yes, me	9%
Yes, a family member	28%
Yes, a close friend	29%
No	41%
Prefer not to say	2%

26. Do you consider Memorial Day to be the unofficial start of the summer?

Yes	65%
No	21%
Not sure	14%

27. What do you, personally, plan to do on the Memorial Day weekend and holiday? Select all that apply.

Stay home/relax	32%
Family/family get-together	22%
Cookout/barbecue/picnic	21%
Work	10%
Travel	4%
Camping/hiking	5%
Fishing	5%
Visit gravesites	9%
Local event/parade	5%
Home improvements/repairs	10%
Household chores	16%
Yard work/landscaping	14%
Graduation parties	2%
Birthday party	3%
Church/religious observances	11%
Beach	5%
Golf	2%
Watch sports	9%
Watch TV (not sports)	19%
Nothing/No plans	16%
Air travel	2%
Something else	6%
Not sure	9%
None of these	7%

28. Do you think the United States made a mistake sending troops to fight in the following wars?

	Yes	No	Not sure
World War I	17%	62%	21%
World War II	14%	68%	18%
Korea	26%	44%	29%
Vietnam	48%	28%	25%
Desert Shield/Desert Storm	30%	44%	25%
Afghanistan	36%	39%	25%
Iraq	43%	33%	25%

29. Do you personally know anyone who lost their life while serving in the military?

Yes	31%
No	64%
Not sure	5%

30. Thinking about U.S. policies toward the Middle East, how important a goal should it be to help protect Israel?

Very important	39%
Somewhat important	27%
Not too important	11%
Not at all important goal	7%
Not sure	16%

31. Which side in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict do you think the US government favors?

The Israeli side	39%
Treats both sides equally	20%
The Palestinian side	13%
Not sure	29%

32. In the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, are your sympathies more with...?

The Israelis	35%
About equal	26%
The Palestinians	15%
Not sure	25%

33. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Benjamin Netanyahu?

Very favorable	17%
Somewhat favorable	20%
Somewhat unfavorable	12%
Very unfavorable	16%
Don't know	36%

34. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling Israel?

Strongly approve	11%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	25%
No opinion	23%

35. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news about escalating violence in Israel and the Palestinian territory?

A lot	42%
A little	42%
Nothing at all	16%

36. Who do you blame for the recent escalation of violence in Israel and the Palestinian territory?

Israel	18%
The Palestinians	31%
Both	26%
Not sure	26%

37. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news about a ceasefire in Israel and the Palestinian territory?

A lot	26%
A little	49%
Nothing at all	26%

38. Last Friday, the Israeli government and Hamas, the de facto governing authority of the Palestinian territory of Gaza, agreed to a ceasefire. Do you think the ceasefire is a good thing or a bad thing for each of the following people?

	Good thing	Bad thing	Not sure
Israelis	62%	13%	25%
Palestinians	66%	10%	23%
The Israeli government	60%	14%	26%
Hamas	58%	12%	30%
The U.S.	62%	10%	28%

39. Do you believe the ceasefire in Israel and the Palestinian territory will last for one year?

Yes	26%
No	74%

40. Do you believe the ceasefire in Israel and the Palestinian territory will last for one month?

Yes	42%
No	58%

41. Do you believe the ceasefire in Israel and the Palestinian territory will last permanently?	
Yes	57%
No	43%
42. How long do you believe the ceasefire in Israel and the Palestinian territory will last?	
Less than one month	43%
Between one month and one year	31%
More than one year	11%
Permanently	15%
43. Do you think the United States has a responsibility to help maintain the ceasefire in Israel and the Palestinian territory, or not?	
Has responsibility	38%
Does not have responsibility	32%
Not sure	31%
44. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the people who took over the Capitol on January 6th?	
Very favorable	8%
Somewhat favorable	12%
Somewhat unfavorable	15%
Very unfavorable	49%
Don't know	16%
45. Do you feel like the Trump supporters who took over the Capitol building to stop Congressional proceedings represent most supporters of Donald Trump or not?	
They represent most Trump supporters	42%
They do not represent most Trump supporters	42%
Not sure	16%
46. How much responsibility does President Trump have for the takeover of the Capitol?	
A lot	39%
Some	12%
A little	12%
None	28%
Not sure	9%
47. Do you think it is right for Trump supporters to be prosecuted over their participation in the takeover of the Capitol building?	
Yes	59%
No	25%
Not sure	16%

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
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	15%	19%	11%	33%	21%
Bernie Sanders	19%	26%	13%	29%	13%
Joe Manchin	5%	22%	21%	12%	40%
Ted Cruz	19%	21%	11%	30%	19%
Josh Hawley	12%	14%	11%	23%	40%
Mitt Romney	8%	27%	21%	26%	18%
Liz Cheney	10%	25%	18%	23%	24%
Marjorie Taylor Greene	13%	15%	9%	28%	34%
Rudy Giuliani	16%	22%	11%	33%	19%

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

A lot	32%
A little	48%
Nothing at all	20%

50. Last Wednesday, the House voted to approve legislation to establish an independent commission to investigate the takeover of the Capitol on January 6th. Do you approve or disapprove of this decision?

Strongly approve	36%
Somewhat approve	20%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	19%
Not sure	14%

51. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	67%	25%	4%	4%
Immigration	49%	32%	13%	6%
Climate change and the environment	43%	28%	14%	15%
Foreign policy	41%	39%	14%	5%
National Security	65%	25%	7%	4%
Education	61%	28%	8%	4%
Health care	64%	25%	8%	3%
Taxes and government spending	58%	30%	8%	3%
Abortion	43%	28%	19%	11%
Civil rights	57%	28%	11%	5%
Civil liberties	56%	29%	9%	5%

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Guns	53%	27%	12%	9%
Crime	60%	27%	9%	3%
Criminal justice reform	50%	31%	13%	6%

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

Jobs and the economy	16%
Immigration	9%
Climate change and the environment	12%
Foreign policy	2%
National Security	8%
Education	6%
Health care	16%
Taxes and government spending	7%
Abortion	5%
Civil rights	7%
Civil liberties	3%
Guns	5%
Crime	3%
Criminal justice reform	3%

53. 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	29%	22%	10%	33%	6%
Kamala Harris	25%	22%	12%	33%	9%
Nancy Pelosi	17%	23%	12%	38%	10%
Kevin McCarthy	9%	22%	14%	26%	29%
Mitch McConnell	7%	24%	17%	35%	18%
Chuck Schumer	13%	23%	11%	31%	21%
Donald Trump	25%	18%	11%	39%	7%

54. 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	20%	25%	12%	35%	9%
The Republican Party	12%	26%	18%	34%	10%

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

Strongly approve	27%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	29%
Not sure	8%

56. 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%	28%	9%
Immigration	16%	27%	13%	33%	12%
Foreign policy	17%	25%	14%	28%	15%
Guns	14%	21%	16%	31%	18%

57. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal	28%
Liberal	23%
Moderate	24%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	4%
Not sure	16%

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

A lot	30%
Some	22%
Not much	11%
Doesn't care at all	30%
Not sure	7%

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

Like a lot	28%
Like somewhat	18%
Neither like nor dislike	17%
Dislike somewhat	9%
Dislike a lot	21%
Not sure	7%

60. Would you say Joe Biden is a strong or a weak leader?	
Very strong	22%
Somewhat strong	31%
Somewhat weak	14%
Very weak	33%
61. Do you think Joe Biden is honest and trustworthy, or not?	
Honest and trustworthy	46%
Not honest and trustworthy	39%
Not sure	16%
62. Are you confident in Joe Biden's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?	
Confident	42%
Uneasy	42%
Not sure	16%
63. Do you think Joe Biden...	
Says what he believes	40%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	44%
Not sure	16%
64. Do you think that Joe Biden will be able to bring the country together as President?	
Yes	30%
No	46%
Not sure	24%
65. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the next four years with Joe Biden as President?	
Optimistic	46%
Pessimistic	39%
Not sure	15%
66. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?	
Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	15%
Neither approve nor disapprove	16%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	30%
Not sure	10%

67. 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	25%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Not sure	12%

68. 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	26%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	31%
Not sure	21%

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

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	18%

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

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

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

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	13%
Moderate	28%
Conservative	20%
Very conservative	10%
Not sure	22%

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

Getting better	34%
About the same	24%
Getting worse	32%
Not sure	10%

73. Do you think the stock market will be higher or lower 12 months from now?	
Higher	23%
About the same	25%
Lower	25%
Not sure	27%
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?	
Yes	46%
No	54%
75. 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	47%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	25%
Not sure	7%
76. Six months from now do you think there will be...	
More jobs	35%
The same amount of jobs	27%
Fewer jobs	20%
Not sure	17%
77. How worried are you about losing your job?	
Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	29%
Not very worried	59%
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?	
Very hard – I would probably have to take a pay cut.	25%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	36%
Not very hard	28%
Not sure	11%
79. How happy would you say you are with your current job?	
Very happy	27%
Happy	38%
Neither happy nor unhappy	24%
Unhappy	7%
Very unhappy	3%

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

Very liberal	12%
Liberal	15%
Moderate	31%
Conservative	18%
Very conservative	14%
Not sure	11%

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	36%
Republican	25%
Independent	28%
Other	3%
Not sure	8%

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

Strong Democrat	25%
Not very strong Democrat	11%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	16%
Lean Republican	9%
Not very strong Republican	10%
Strong Republican	16%
Not sure	6%

85. Are you...?

Male	48%
Female	52%

86. Respondent age by category	
Under 30	20%
30-44	23%
45-64	34%
65+	22%
87. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?	
White	67%
Black	13%
Hispanic	12%
Other	7%
88. What is the highest level of education you have completed?	
HS or less	37%
Some college	29%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	12%
89. What is your marital status?	
Married	52%
Separated	3%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	6%
Never married	24%
Domestic / civil partnership	4%
90. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?	
Yes	29%
No	71%
91. Calculated from respondent's state of residence	
Northeast	17%
Midwest	22%
South	38%
West	23%
92. What is your gender?	
Man	48%
Woman	50%
Non-binary	1%
Other	0%

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

Under \$50K	41%
\$50-100K	25%
\$100K or more	24%
Prefer not to say	10%

94. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	38%
Somewhat important	26%
Not too important	17%
Not at all important	19%

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

More than once a week	11%
Once a week	19%
Once or twice a month	7%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	22%
Never	26%
Don't know	4%

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

Yes	34%
No	66%

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

Several times a day	28%
Once a day	14%
A few times a week	13%
Once a week	5%
A few times a month	5%
Seldom	15%
Never	16%
Don't know	4%

98. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	29%
Roman Catholic	16%
Mormon	3%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	2%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	3%
Buddhist	2%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	4%
Nothing in particular	23%
Something else	10%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	May 22 - 25, 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 0.082 to 5.221, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.565.
Number of respondents	1500 1248 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 2.9% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.1% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	39 questions not reported.