

The Economist/YouGov Poll

August 20 - 23, 2022 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted August 20 - 23, 2022
 Margin of Error ±2.8%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	25%
Off on the wrong track	63%
Not sure	12%

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

Excellent	5%
Good	19%
Excellent / Good	24%
Fair	27%
Poor	45%
Fair / Poor	72%
Don't know	5%

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

Unemployment	7%
Inflation	61%
Both equal	28%
Not sure	4%

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

A higher rate of inflation	41%
The same rate of inflation	22%
A lower rate of inflation	20%
Not sure	17%

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

Higher gas prices	35%
The same gas prices	24%
Lower gas prices	29%
Not sure	12%

6. Do you think the economy is shrinking or growing?

Growing	17%
Shrinking	46%
Staying about the same	21%
Not sure	16%

7. Do you believe the United States is currently in an economic recession?

Yes	58%
No	22%
Not sure	21%

8. Which of the following do you think is the best indicator of an economic recession?

The stock market index	7%
The unemployment rate and job reports	11%
The prices of goods and services you buy	40%
Your personal finances	5%
Whether the economy is shrinking or growing	23%
Don't know	13%

9. How likely do you think it is that there will be an economic recession during the next twelve months?

Asked of those who do not think we are currently in an economic recession

Very likely	7%
Somewhat likely	37%
Not very likely	26%
Not at all likely	5%
Not sure	24%

10. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)?

Very favorable	8%
Somewhat favorable	24%
Somewhat unfavorable	26%
Very unfavorable	26%
Don't know	16%

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling foreign policy?

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	22%
Approve	38%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Disapprove	50%
Not sure	12%

12. How much, if anything, have you heard about relations between China and Taiwan?

A lot	31%
A little	46%
Nothing at all	23%

13. Which is more important for the U.S.?

- To take a strong stand so that China does not take over Taiwan by force50%
- For the US to maintain good relations with China24%
- Not sure26%

14. In the future, if an armed conflict were to arise between China and Taiwan, do you think that the U.S. should or should not help protect Taiwan militarily from China or do you not know enough about the topic to say?

- U.S. should help protect Taiwan with military force36%
- U.S. should not help protect Taiwan with military force21%
- Do not know enough about the topic to say43%

15. Compared to five years ago, would you say there is a greater chance, a lesser chance, or about the same chance of...

	Greater	Less	About the same	Don't know
A new Cold War	55%	11%	20%	14%
A nuclear war	44%	14%	29%	13%

16. In the war between Russia and Ukraine, who do you think is currently winning?

- Russia25%
- Ukraine18%
- Neither39%
- Not sure18%

17. Who is more likely to be the eventual winner of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine?

- Russia33%
- Ukraine24%
- Equally likely14%
- Not sure29%

18. In terms of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, do you think the U.S. government's response...

- Should be tougher36%
- Should be less tough13%
- Is about right27%
- Not sure24%

19. How likely do you think it is that a nuclear power accident will occur in Ukraine because of the Russian invasion?

- Very likely16%
- Somewhat likely43%
- Not very likely15%
- Not likely at all4%
- Not sure22%

20. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about attacks at the Russian-controlled nuclear power plant in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine, Europe's largest nuclear plant?

A lot	17%
A little	49%
Nothing at all	35%

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

	Very favorable	Some-what favorable	Favorable	Some-what unfavorable	Very unfavor-able	Unfavor-able	Don't know
Liz Cheney	13%	21%	34%	14%	27%	41%	25%
Christopher Wray	6%	13%	19%	10%	16%	26%	55%
Sarah Palin	15%	22%	37%	14%	31%	45%	18%
Lisa Murkowski	6%	15%	21%	14%	17%	31%	48%
Mehmet Oz (Dr. Oz)	11%	25%	36%	16%	28%	44%	20%
John Fetterman	13%	12%	25%	8%	12%	20%	56%
Rudy Giuliani	13%	18%	31%	13%	36%	49%	20%
Ron DeSantis	25%	12%	37%	8%	27%	35%	27%
Allen Weisselberg	4%	8%	12%	10%	17%	27%	61%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavor-able	Don't know
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)	22%	28%	15%	22%	13%
Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)	18%	31%	17%	17%	18%
Your local police	35%	33%	13%	10%	9%
Your state police	32%	33%	15%	9%	11%
County sheriffs	28%	34%	15%	9%	14%
United States Capitol Police	25%	27%	14%	12%	21%
Border Patrol	31%	29%	16%	10%	14%
Secret Service	21%	36%	17%	9%	18%
Coast Guard	46%	31%	6%	4%	13%
Army	43%	33%	8%	5%	11%
Navy	46%	31%	7%	5%	11%
Marines	48%	29%	7%	5%	11%
Air Force	48%	30%	7%	4%	12%
Space Force	21%	24%	9%	9%	36%

23. Do you support or oppose the Presidential Records Act, which establishes that official presidential documents and classified materials must be preserved and given to the National Archives when a president leaves office?

Strongly support	43%
Somewhat support	24%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	5%
Not sure	19%

24. In January, the National Archives retrieved 15 boxes of presidential records that former President Trump took with him to his private residence from the White House when his term ended. Do you approve or disapprove of the former president taking these records?

Strongly approve	14%
Somewhat approve	15%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	42%
Not sure	18%

25. At the referral of the National Archives, the Justice Department began investigating former President Trump for possibly violating the Presidential Records Act. Do you approve or disapprove of the Justice Department investigation taking place?

Strongly approve	42%
Somewhat approve	14%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	20%
Not sure	14%

26. Do you think the FBI executing a search warrant of former President Trump's private home is more a serious attempt to find out what really happened or more politically motivated?

A serious attempt to find out what really happened	40%
Politically motivated	35%
Equally motivated by both of these	14%
Not sure	11%

27. Do you think the probable cause affidavit used to secure a search of former President Trump's private home should be released to the public?

Released to the public in its entirety	44%
Released to the public with significant redactions	23%
Should not be released at all	15%
Not sure	17%

28. If in the documents that former President Trump took with him to his private residence, there are documents related to nuclear weapons, would you approve or disapprove of his actions?

Strongly approve	10%
Somewhat approve	10%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	45%
Not sure	21%

29. Do you think former President Trump will face any criminal charges for his handling of classified documents?

Yes	25%
No	40%
Not sure	34%

30. Do you think former President Trump should face any criminal charges for his handling of classified documents?

Yes	48%
No	34%
Not sure	18%

31. How much have you heard about threats that have been made against the federal judge in Florida who approved the search warrant that allowed the FBI to raid former President Trump's Mar-a-Lago property?

A lot	17%
A little	41%
Nothing at all	42%

32. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about Allen Weisselberg, a former top executive at the Trump Organization, pleading guilty to conspiring with the company to carry out a long-running tax scheme?

A lot	16%
A little	39%
Nothing at all	45%

33. Last year, a grand jury charged the Trump Organization with conspiring to help top executives cheat on their taxes by not reporting compensation like free use of apartments and cars, payments of school tuition or reimbursement for personal expenses. Do you approve or disapprove of the charges against the Trump Organization?

Strongly approve	39%
Somewhat approve	14%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	14%
Not sure	22%

34. Do you think the indictment of the Trump Organization is more a serious attempt to find out what really happened or more politically motivated?

A serious attempt to find out what really happened	35%
Politically motivated	35%
Equally motivated by both of these	17%
Not sure	13%

35. President Donald Trump was impeached by the U.S. House of Representatives for the first time in December 2019. How much do you remember hearing about this impeachment?

A lot	48%
A little	37%
Nothing at all	15%

36. Do you think it was justified or unjustified for the U.S. House of Representatives to impeach President Donald Trump for withholding military aid to Ukraine while urging Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to investigate allegations of corruption against the Biden family?

Impeachment was justified	43%
Impeachment was not justified	38%
Not sure	19%

37. President Donald Trump was impeached by the U.S. House of Representatives for the second time in January 2021. How much do you remember hearing about this impeachment?

A lot	45%
A little	38%
Nothing at all	17%

38. Do you think it was justified or unjustified for the U.S. House of Representatives to impeach Donald Trump for his actions during the takeover of the Capitol?

Impeachment was justified	47%
Impeachment was not justified	37%
Not sure	16%

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

Very closely	22%
Somewhat closely	43%
Not very closely	24%
Not following at all	11%

40. Whether or not you tested positive, do you think you may have contracted COVID-19 at any time since the pandemic began?

Definitely contracted COVID-19	31%
Probably contracted COVID-19	15%
Probably did not contract COVID-19	16%
Definitely did not contract COVID-19	29%
Not sure	10%

41. 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	14%
Somewhat worried	29%
Not too worried	30%
Not worried at all	26%

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

Always	16%
Most of the time	15%
Some of the time	26%
Never	44%

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

The worst part of the pandemic is behind us	59%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic	9%
The pandemic is going to get worse	12%
Not sure	20%

44. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling the government's response to COVID-19?

Strongly approve	20%
Somewhat approve	25%
Approve	45%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	28%
Disapprove	42%
Not sure	14%

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

Very favorable	18%
Somewhat favorable	30%
Somewhat unfavorable	14%
Very unfavorable	24%
Don't know	13%

46. How much do you trust medical advice from the CDC?

Trust a lot	20%
Trust somewhat	25%
Neither trust nor distrust	15%
Distrust somewhat	11%
Distrust a lot	21%
Not sure	8%

47. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the CDC is handling the COVID-19 pandemic?

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	30%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	25%
Not sure	13%

48. Since the beginning of 2021, do you think this country has become more or less politically divided?

Much more divided	48%
Somewhat more divided	19%
About the same	17%
Somewhat less divided	6%
Much less divided	3%
Not sure	8%

49. Since the beginning of 2021, do you think political violence in this country has increased or decreased?

Increased a lot	38%
Increased a little	26%
Stayed the same	17%
Decreased a little	5%
Decreased a lot	3%
Not sure	11%

50. Looking ahead to the next few years, do you think the amount of political division in this country is more likely to increase or decrease?

Increase a lot	39%
Increase a little	22%
Stay the same	15%
Decrease a little	5%
Decrease a lot	2%
Not sure	16%

51. Looking ahead to the next few years, do you think the amount of political violence in this country is more likely to increase or decrease?

Increase a lot	36%
Increase a little	24%
Stay the same	16%
Decrease a little	6%
Decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	16%

52. Looking ahead to the next 10 years, how likely do you think it is that there will be a civil war in this country?

Very likely	14%
Somewhat likely	29%
Not very likely	24%
Not likely at all	11%
Not sure	22%

53. How much have you heard about a new Food and Drug Administration (FDA) rule that will allow people to purchase hearing aids without prescriptions?

A lot	12%
A little	39%
Nothing at all	49%

54. Do you support or oppose the new Food and Drug Administration (FDA) rule that will allow people to purchase hearing aids without prescriptions?

Strongly support	46%
Somewhat support	24%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	4%
Not sure	19%

55. Do you personally know someone who uses hearing aids? Select all that apply

Yes, me	8%
Yes, a family member	27%
Yes, a close friend	16%
Yes, an acquaintance	16%
No	40%
Prefer not to say	4%

56. How often do you have difficulty hearing?

Very often	9%
Somewhat often	21%
Not very often	34%
Never	37%

57. How concerned are you about water shortages in your local area?

Very concerned	16%
Somewhat concerned	26%
Not very concerned	33%
Not concerned at all	26%

58. Some states have recently implemented water restrictions to address shortages due to ongoing droughts. If a drought were to occur in your area, how willing would you be to reduce your water usage?

Very willing	49%
Somewhat willing	30%
Not very willing	7%
Not willing at all	6%
Not sure	8%

59. On the subject of climate change do you think:

The world's climate is changing as a result of human activity	53%
The world's climate is changing but NOT because of human activity	25%
The world's climate is NOT changing	8%
Not sure	14%

60. Would you say that you personally have felt the effects of climate change, or not?

Yes, I have	47%
No, I have not	24%
Not sure	21%
The climate is not changing	8%

61. Do you think that you personally will feel the effects of climate change in your lifetime, or not?

Yes, I will	12%
No, I will not	16%
Not sure	17%
Have already felt the effect of climate change	47%
The climate is not changing	8%

62. Do you think recent droughts are primarily the result of climate change or do these kinds of events just happen from time to time?

Result of climate change	44%
Just happen from time to time	34%
Not sure	14%
The climate is not changing	8%

63. How much attention have you been paying to the 2022 congressional elections?

A lot	31%
A little	40%
None at all	29%

64. Compared to voting in previous Congressional election years, are you more or less enthusiastic about voting in this year's election?

More enthusiastic	32%
Less enthusiastic	18%
About the same	39%
Not sure	11%

65. What is your preference for the outcome of this year's elections for the U.S. Senate?

Senate controlled by Democrats	37%
Senate controlled by Republicans	33%
Senate evenly divided between both parties	12%
No preference	18%

66. What do you expect will be the outcome of this year's elections for the U.S. Senate?

Democrats win majority in the Senate	26%
Republicans win majority in the Senate	29%
Senate remains evenly divided between both parties	14%
Not sure	31%

67. What is your preference for the outcome of this year's elections for the U.S. House of Representatives?

House controlled by Democrats	37%
House controlled by Republicans	35%
House evenly divided between both parties	11%
No preference	17%

68. What do you expect will be the outcome of this year's elections for the U.S. House of Representatives?

Democrats retain majority in the House	25%
Republicans win majority in the House	35%
House becomes evenly divided between both parties	11%
Not sure	29%

69. Do you want President Biden to run for president again in 2024?

Yes	20%
No	56%
Not sure	24%

70. Do you want Donald Trump to run for president again in 2024?

Yes	27%
No	56%
Not sure	16%

71. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	64%	28%	6%	2%
Immigration	46%	32%	17%	6%
Climate change and the environment	45%	26%	14%	15%
Foreign policy	40%	42%	13%	5%
National Security	60%	28%	9%	3%
Education	59%	28%	9%	4%
Health care	65%	24%	7%	4%
Taxes and government spending	58%	31%	8%	3%
Abortion	47%	25%	17%	10%
Civil rights	55%	27%	12%	6%
Civil liberties	56%	29%	10%	5%
Guns	54%	24%	13%	9%
Crime	61%	28%	7%	4%
Criminal justice reform	48%	34%	12%	6%
Inflation/prices	74%	20%	5%	2%

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

Inflation/prices	22%
Health care	11%
Climate change and the environment	11%
Jobs and the economy	10%
Abortion	6%
Immigration	6%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Civil rights	6%
Education	5%
National Security	5%
Crime	4%
Guns	4%
Civil liberties	2%
Criminal justice reform	2%
Foreign policy	1%

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

	Very favorable	Some-what favorable	Favorable	Some-what unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
Joe Biden	21%	22%	43%	12%	39%	51%	6%
Kamala Harris	16%	21%	37%	13%	39%	52%	11%
Donald Trump	21%	18%	39%	12%	44%	56%	6%

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

	Very favorable	Some-what favorable	Favorable	Some-what unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	19%	23%	42%	16%	34%	50%	9%
The Republican Party	13%	23%	36%	19%	37%	56%	9%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	25%
Approve	41%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Disapprove	51%
Not sure	8%

76. 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	17%	23%	15%	33%	12%
Climate change and the environment	18%	23%	14%	30%	16%
National Security	17%	24%	12%	32%	15%
Taxes and government spending	14%	22%	14%	37%	13%

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

Very strong	14%
Somewhat strong	26%
Somewhat weak	22%
Very weak	39%

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

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	15%
Neither approve nor disapprove	15%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	33%
Not sure	12%

79. 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	14%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Not sure	16%

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

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	33%
Not sure	22%

81. 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	15%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Not sure	21%

82. 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	9%
Somewhat approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	30%
Not sure	28%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	29%
Not sure	16%

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

Very liberal	3%
Liberal	8%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	20%
Very conservative	23%
Not sure	20%

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

Getting better	13%
About the same	23%
Getting worse	52%
Not sure	12%

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

Higher	21%
About the same	26%
Lower	24%
Not sure	29%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	13%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	34%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	45%
Not sure	7%

88. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	28%
Not very worried	60%

89. 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.	29%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	31%
Not very hard	24%
Not sure	16%

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

Very happy	26%
Happy	38%
Neither happy nor unhappy	26%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	4%

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

Very liberal	11%
Liberal	14%
Moderate	33%
Conservative	18%
Very conservative	11%
Not sure	12%

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

Joe Biden	35%
Donald Trump	32%
Other	1%
Did not vote for President	33%

93. How likely is it that you will vote in the 2022 congressional elections in November?

Definitely will vote	53%
Probably will vote	12%
Maybe will vote	10%
Probably will not vote	6%
Definitely will not vote	10%
Don't know	8%

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

Asked of those who are registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	44%
The Republican Party candidate	39%
Other	1%
Not sure	10%
I would not vote	7%

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

Democrats	34%
Independents	40%
Republicans	26%

96. Political Party Identification

Strong Democrat	22%
Not very strong Democrat	12%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	19%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	9%
Strong Republican	17%
Not sure	5%
Don't know	0%

97. Would you say that Joe Biden legitimately won the 2020 election, or not?

Biden legitimately won the election	65%
Biden did NOT legitimately win the election	35%

98.

Democrats Under 30	8%
Independents Under 30	10%
Republicans Under 30	3%
Democrats 30-44	10%
Independents 30-44	10%
Republicans 30-44	4%
Democrats 45-64	9%
Independents 45-64	14%
Republicans 45-64	9%
Democrats 65+	7%
Independents 65+	7%
Republicans 65+	9%

99.

Male Democrats	15%
Female Democrats	19%
Male Independents	22%
Female Independents	19%
Male Republicans	11%
Female Republicans	14%

100. Are you... ?

Male	49%
Female	51%

101. Respondent age by category

Under 30	21%
30-44	24%
45-64	33%
65+	22%

102. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

HS or less	36%
Some college	29%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	13%

104. What is your marital status?

Married	44%
Separated	2%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	5%
Never married	33%
Domestic / civil partnership	5%

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

Yes	22%
No	78%

106. In what region of the country do you reside?

Calculated from respondent's state of residence

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

107.

Blue State	37%
Red State	50%
Purple State	13%

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

Urban	34%
Suburb	33%
Rural/Other	33%

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

Under \$50K	44%
\$50-100K	25%
\$100K or more	19%
Prefer not to say	12%

110. 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	42%
No	58%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	August 20 - 23, 2022
Target population	U.S. Citizens, age 18 and over
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 0.171 to 4.109, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.451.
Number of respondents	1500 1318 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 2.8% (adjusted for weighting) ± 2.9% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	47 questions not reported.