

The Economist/YouGov Poll
January 8 - 10, 2023 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted January 8 - 10, 2023
 Margin of Error ±3.4%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	28%
Off on the wrong track	59%
Not sure	13%

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

Excellent	7%
Good	20%
Excellent / Good	28%
Fair	31%
Poor	37%
Fair / Poor	68%
Don't know	4%

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

Unemployment	6%
Inflation	56%
Both equal	33%
Not sure	6%

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

Growing	22%
Staying about the same	29%
Shrinking	36%
Not sure	12%

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

Yes	51%
No	26%
Not sure	23%

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

Very likely	4%
Somewhat likely	21%
Not very likely	10%
Not at all likely	2%
Not sure	11%
Not asked - Already in a recession	51%

7. 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	9%
Equally positive and negative	31%
Mostly negative	48%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	12%

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

The stock market index	8%
The unemployment rate and job reports	14%
The prices of goods and services you buy	56%
Your personal finances	12%
Don't know	11%

9. How important is the issue of what happens in the stock market to you?

Very important	25%
Somewhat important	39%
Not very important	23%
Unimportant	13%

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

Very serious	20%
Somewhat serious	39%
A minor problem	24%
Not a problem	10%
Not sure	6%

11. Are the number of jobs in the United States...

Increasing	33%
Staying the same	44%
Decreasing	23%

12. In your opinion, has the job market in the United States recovered from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Fully recovered	19%
Only partially recovered	63%
Not recovered at all	18%

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

Higher gas prices	44%
The same gas prices	25%
Lower gas prices	13%
Not sure	17%

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

A higher rate of inflation	42%
The same rate of inflation	28%
A lower rate of inflation	15%
Not sure	15%

15. How much have you felt the impact of high inflation in your own life?

A lot	53%
A little	41%
Not at all	6%

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

Higher interest rates	50%
The same interest rates	24%
Lower interest rates	7%
Not sure	19%

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

More jobs	21%
The same amount of jobs	41%
Fewer jobs	23%
Not sure	16%

18. Do you think you will have a job next month?

Yes	41%
No	7%
Not sure	6%
Not asked - Not employed	46%

19. Will you have enough money to pay this month's bills?

Definitely	44%
Probably	31%
Probably not	12%
Definitely not	7%
Not sure	6%

20. Do you consider the following country to be an ally or an enemy of the United States?

	Ally	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy	Not sure
Russia	4%	6%	28%	51%	11%
China	5%	14%	32%	38%	12%
Ukraine	30%	44%	9%	5%	13%
Brazil	9%	43%	15%	3%	31%

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

Russia	15%
Ukraine	31%
Neither	34%
Not sure	20%

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

Russia	18%
Ukraine	35%
Equally likely	16%
Not sure	31%

23. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about the rise in COVID cases in China?

A lot	30%
A little	48%
Nothing at all	22%

24. Do you think that the current COVID restrictions in China are...

Too strict	32%
About right	39%
Not strict enough	29%

25. Do you think that the current COVID restrictions in the United States are...

Too strict	19%
About right	56%
Not strict enough	25%

26. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about the U.S. tightening travel restrictions on people entering the U.S. from China due to concerns about the spread of COVID?

A lot	21%
A little	47%
Nothing at all	33%

27. The Biden administration recently began requiring travelers from China to present negative COVID tests before entering the United States. Do you approve or disapprove of this policy?

Strongly approve	57%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	6%
Strongly disapprove	5%
Not sure	9%

28. Regardless of whether or not the virus responsible for COVID-19 was created or naturally mutated, do you believe it is true or false that a laboratory in China was the origin of the virus?

Definitely true	28%
Probably true	34%
Probably false	13%
Definitely false	6%
Not sure	19%

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

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

30. Which of these best describes your situation with respect to getting vaccinated against COVID-19?

I have been vaccinated with one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine but am not fully vaccinated ..	6%
I have been fully vaccinated (such as with both doses of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine) but HAVE NOT received a booster shot	23%
I have been fully vaccinated (such as with both doses of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine) AND have received at least one booster shot	43%
I have not been vaccinated	22%
Prefer not to say	6%

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

Increasing	31%
Not changing	25%
Decreasing	23%
Not sure	22%

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

The pandemic is going to get worse	15%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic	9%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us	57%
Not sure	19%

33. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about a new sub-variant of COVID-19 spreading in the United States?

A lot	17%
A little	58%
Nothing at all	25%

34. Taking into consideration the risk of contracting it and the seriousness of the illness, how worried are you personally about someone in your household experiencing COVID-19?

Very worried	14%
Somewhat worried	34%
Not too worried	29%
Not worried at all	23%

35. Overall, do you think having an increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities makes the U.S. a better place or a worse place to live, or doesn't make much difference either way?

A better place to live	43%
A worse place to live	17%
Doesn't make much difference	27%
Not sure	13%

36. Do you think race relations in the United States are generally...

Good	51%
Bad	49%

37. How big a problem is racism in our society today?

A big problem	31%
Somewhat of a problem	36%
A small problem	23%
Not a problem	10%

38. Since the 1960s, do you think race relations in the United States have...

Gotten better	47%
Stayed about the same	31%
Gotten worse	22%

39. Under Joe Biden's presidency, do you think race relations in the United States have...

Gotten better	18%
Stayed about the same	49%
Gotten worse	33%

40. Do you think the "I Have a Dream Speech" (given by Martin Luther King Jr. in 1963) is still relevant today to people of your generation, or do you think it does not matter much to people of your generation today?

It is still relevant 69%
 It doesn't matter 31%

41. How much of Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of racial equality has been realized today?

A great deal of it 15%
 Quite a bit 26%
 Only some 34%
 Very little 12%
 Not much at all 4%
 Not sure 9%

42. Do you feel that demonstrations and protests are necessary today in order to achieve racial equality?

Yes, protests are necessary to achieve racial equality 36%
 No, protests don't make significant progress toward racial equality 48%
 No, we have already achieved racial equality 16%

43. Do you think that Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday should be a federal holiday?

Yes 55%
 No 24%
 Not sure 21%

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

	Very favorable	Some-what favorable	Favorable	Some-what unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
Steve Scalise	12%	16%	28%	13%	14%	28%	44%
Jim Jordan	19%	12%	32%	7%	20%	27%	41%
Paul Ryan	10%	19%	29%	19%	20%	40%	32%
John Boehner	6%	18%	24%	20%	16%	36%	40%
Matt Gaetz	11%	16%	27%	8%	27%	35%	38%
Lauren Boebert	9%	12%	21%	10%	26%	36%	43%
George Santos	7%	12%	20%	12%	32%	44%	37%
Elise Stefanik	8%	12%	20%	9%	13%	23%	57%
Marjorie Taylor Greene	11%	15%	26%	9%	32%	41%	33%
Nancy Pelosi	19%	21%	40%	10%	36%	46%	14%

45. Do you approve or disapprove of the election of Kevin McCarthy as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	21%
Not sure	26%

46. Do you think Kevin McCarthy should have been elected as the leader of the Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives, or do you think it should be some other Republican?

Kevin McCarthy	27%
Some other Republican	13%
Not sure	34%
Don't care	26%

47. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Republicans who opposed Kevin McCarthy in the election for Speaker of the House?

Very favorable	12%
Somewhat favorable	19%
Somewhat unfavorable	15%
Very unfavorable	20%
Don't know	33%

48. Do you think the Republicans who voted against Kevin McCarthy in the election for Speaker of the House did so mostly...?

Because they have serious concerns about McCarthy	26%
To cause trouble for Republican leaders in the House	7%
To leverage their votes into more power for themselves	38%
Not sure	29%

49. Will Kevin McCarthy be able to serve effectively as Speaker?

Yes	25%
No	33%
Not sure	42%

50. Would you say the current U.S. House of Representatives is...

Very liberal	4%
Liberal	10%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	24%
Very conservative	11%
Not sure	25%

51. Would you say the current U.S. Senate is...

Very liberal	10%
Liberal	20%
Moderate	31%
Conservative	10%
Very conservative	4%
Not sure	25%

52. Do you think Democrats are more divided or more united than usual, or are they about the same?

More united	30%
More divided	17%
About the same as usual	38%
Not sure	15%

53. Do you think Republicans are more divided or more united than usual, or are they about the same?

More united	11%
More divided	47%
About the same as usual	28%
Not sure	15%

54. How common do you think it is for politicians to lie about their background and work experience to get elected?

Very common	32%
Somewhat common	37%
Not very common	16%
Not common at all	3%
Not sure	12%

55. How much have you heard about George Santos lying about his background and work experience while running for office in New York in 2022?

A lot	35%
A little	37%
Nothing at all	28%

56. George Santos recently admitted that he lied about parts of his background and work experience while campaigning for Congress. Given this, do you think...?

	Yes	No	Not sure
The House Ethics Committee should investigate Santos	62%	16%	22%
Santos should be denied a committee assignment by the Speaker of the House	58%	16%	25%
Santos should resign from Congress	55%	20%	26%
Santos should be prosecuted for fraud in the U.S.	46%	23%	31%
Congress should vote to remove Santos from his office	52%	22%	26%

57. Brazil has reopened a fraud charge against Santos, who allegedly cashed stolen checks when he lived there. Do you think Santos should be extradited to Brazil to face those charges?

Yes	52%
No	20%
Not sure	29%

58. Since 1972, almost all Republican and Democratic presidential nominees have released their income tax returns. How important do you think it is that candidates make their tax returns public?

Very important	39%
Somewhat important	30%
Not very important	18%
Not important at all	14%

59. Should the congressional committees have the authority to require a current president to release tax returns to them?

Yes	50%
No	31%
Not sure	20%

60. Should congressional committees have the authority to require a former president to release tax returns to them?

Yes	43%
No	36%
Not sure	20%

61. How much have you heard in the news about six years of former President Donald Trump's tax returns being released?

A lot	39%
A little	43%
Nothing at all	17%

62. Do you agree or disagree with the six years of Trump tax returns being released?

Strongly agree	35%
Somewhat agree	20%
Somewhat disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	18%
Not sure	15%

63. When do you think abortion should be legal?

- Abortion should always be legal. There should be no restrictions on abortion. 29%
- Abortion should be legal, but with some restrictions (such as for minors or late-term abortions).
 29%
- Abortion should only be legal in special circumstances, such as when the life of the mother is in
 danger. 29%
- Abortion should be illegal. It should never be allowed. 13%

64. Do you personally know anyone who has had an abortion? Check all that apply.

- Yes, me 7%
- Yes, a family member 20%
- Yes, a close friend 23%
- Yes, an acquaintance 20%
- No 39%
- Prefer not to say 9%

65. Based on what you know, how safe is medication abortion, which is a pill that can be taken to end an early stage pregnancy? Medication abortion is different from emergency contraceptive pills.

- Very safe 21%
- Somewhat safe 24%
- Not very safe 8%
- Not safe at all 8%
- Not sure 39%

66. Based on what you know, how safe is surgical abortion (performed in a clinic or a hospital)?

- Very safe 28%
- Somewhat safe 33%
- Not very safe 11%
- Not safe at all 7%
- Not sure 22%

67. Which method of abortion do you think is most common in the U.S.?

- Medication abortion 20%
- Surgical abortion 31%
- About the same 19%
- Not sure 30%

68. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about the United States Department of Justice legal opinion saying the U.S. Postal Service can continue delivering medication abortion pills through the mail, even in states with abortion restrictions?

- A lot 10%
- A little 34%
- Nothing at all 56%

69. Do you support or oppose a new Justice Department legal opinion saying the U.S. Postal Service can continue delivering medication abortion pills through the mail, even in states with abortion restrictions?

Strongly support	31%
Somewhat support	18%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	18%
Not sure	22%

70. Would you support or oppose...

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure
Dropping remaining Food and Drug Administration (FDA) restrictions on providing pills that are used in medication abortions	21%	17%	12%	19%	31%
States being allowed to ban doctors from prescribing certain drugs that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)?	11%	14%	16%	35%	24%

71. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	62%	30%	5%	3%
Immigration	48%	33%	13%	6%
Climate change and the environment	41%	27%	16%	16%
Foreign policy	39%	43%	13%	5%
National Security	62%	27%	9%	2%
Education	57%	31%	8%	3%
Health care	64%	26%	6%	4%
Taxes and government spending	59%	33%	7%	2%
Abortion	46%	29%	17%	8%
Civil rights	52%	30%	12%	6%
Civil liberties	52%	32%	11%	5%
Guns	54%	29%	11%	6%
Crime	62%	28%	8%	2%
Criminal justice reform	46%	36%	13%	5%
Inflation/prices	68%	24%	5%	2%

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

Inflation/prices	21%
Health care	14%
Jobs and the economy	10%
Climate change and the environment	9%
Immigration	8%
Abortion	6%
Guns	6%
National Security	5%
Education	5%
Taxes and government spending	5%
Civil rights	4%
Crime	2%
Civil liberties	2%
Criminal justice reform	1%
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	25%	23%	47%	11%	36%	47%	6%
Kamala Harris	17%	25%	42%	10%	35%	46%	13%
Kevin McCarthy	10%	22%	32%	17%	26%	43%	25%
Mitch McConnell	7%	18%	24%	22%	35%	56%	19%
Chuck Schumer	14%	21%	35%	12%	29%	41%	24%
Hakeem Jeffries	15%	17%	32%	12%	15%	27%	41%
Donald Trump	19%	19%	38%	13%	42%	55%	7%

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

	Very favorable	Some-what favorable	Favorable	Some-what unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	22%	22%	44%	13%	34%	46%	9%
The Republican Party	14%	27%	41%	18%	32%	50%	9%

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

Strongly approve	19%
Somewhat approve	28%
Approve	47%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Disapprove	45%
Not sure	7%

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

	Strongly approve	Some-what approve	Approve	Some-what disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Disapprove	No opinion
Jobs and the economy	19%	26%	45%	14%	30%	45%	10%
Climate change and the environment	16%	28%	44%	14%	27%	41%	15%
National Security	20%	25%	45%	13%	29%	42%	13%
Taxes and government spending	16%	24%	40%	12%	37%	49%	11%
Inflation/prices	14%	22%	36%	15%	39%	53%	10%

77. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal	28%
Liberal	21%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	6%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	15%

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

Like a lot	22%
Like somewhat	18%
Neither like nor dislike	19%
Dislike somewhat	8%
Dislike a lot	22%
Not sure	10%

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

Strongly approve	5%
Somewhat approve	14%
Neither approve nor disapprove	18%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	29%
Not sure	13%

80. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following groups in Congress?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
Democrats in Congress	18%	23%	41%	16%	32%	48%	11%
Republicans in Congress	10%	23%	33%	23%	32%	55%	12%

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

Strongly approve	10%
Somewhat approve	17%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	21%
Not sure	42%

82. 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	20%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	26%
Not sure	27%

83. 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	19%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	29%
Not sure	27%

84. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Hakeem Jeffries is handling his job as Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	16%
Somewhat disapprove	9%
Strongly disapprove	14%
Not sure	45%

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

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	29%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	20%
Not sure	20%

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

Very liberal	4%
Liberal	7%
Moderate	25%
Conservative	22%
Very conservative	20%
Not sure	22%

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

Getting better	16%
About the same	27%
Getting worse	46%
Not sure	11%

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

Higher	19%
About the same	29%
Lower	24%
Not sure	28%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	16%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	40%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	35%
Not sure	9%

90. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	11%
Somewhat worried	24%
Not very worried	65%

91. 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.	26%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	35%
Not very hard	28%
Not sure	11%

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

Very happy	26%
Happy	40%
Neither happy nor unhappy	24%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	4%

93. Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election going on or not. Others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in government and public affairs ...

Most of the time	41%
Some of the time	26%
Only now and then	16%
Hardly at all	11%
Don't know	6%

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

Biden legitimately won the election	63%
Biden did NOT legitimately win the election	37%

95. Do you identify as a MAGA Republican?

Asked of Republicans

Yes	35%
No	48%
Not sure	17%

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

Very liberal	10%
Liberal	15%
Moderate	33%
Conservative	19%
Very conservative	12%
Not sure	12%

97. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	73%
Not registered	27%

98. 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	32%

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

Democrats	34%
Independents	36%
Republicans	30%

100. Political Party Identification

Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	23%
Not very strong Democrat	11%
Lean Democrat	6%
Independent	15%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	12%
Strong Republican	18%
Not sure	6%
Don't know	0%

101. Are you...?

Male	48%
Female	52%

102. Respondent age by category	
Under 30	21%
30-44	24%
45-64	32%
65+	22%
103. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?	
White	67%
Black	13%
Hispanic	13%
Other	8%
104. What is the highest level of education you have completed?	
HS or less	36%
Some college	29%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	13%
105. What is your marital status?	
Married	46%
Separated	3%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	5%
Never married	30%
Domestic / civil partnership	6%
106. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?	
Yes	25%
No	75%
107. In what region of the country do you reside?	
<i>Calculated from respondent's state of residence</i>	
Northeast	17%
Midwest	22%
South	38%
West	23%
108. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?	
Under \$50K	40%
\$50-100K	28%
\$100K or more	22%
Prefer not to say	11%

109. How important is religion in your life?	
Very important	37%
Somewhat important	24%
Not too important	16%
Not at all important	23%
110. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?	
More than once a week	8%
Once a week	19%
Once or twice a month	7%
A few times a year	10%
Seldom	20%
Never	32%
Don't know	4%
111. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?	
Yes	32%
No	68%
112. People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?	
Several times a day	26%
Once a day	16%
A few times a week	10%
Once a week	4%
A few times a month	5%
Seldom	14%
Never	19%
Don't know	6%
113. What is your present religion, if any?	
Protestant	24%
Roman Catholic	22%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	2%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	2%
Buddhist	2%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	25%
Something else	9%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	January 8 - 10, 2023
Target population	U.S. Citizens, age 18 and over
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in panel to be representative of adult U.S. citizens.
Weighting	The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, education, 2020 election turnout and Presidential vote, baseline party identification, and current voter registration status. Demographic weighting targets come from the 2019 American Community Survey. Baseline party identification is the respondent's most recent answer given prior to June 1, 2022, and is weighted to the estimated distribution at that time (34% Democratic, 31% Republican). The weights range from 0.051 to 6.544, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.895.
Number of respondents	1500 1356 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 3.4% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	53 questions not reported.