

The Economist/YouGov Poll

June 3 - 6, 2023 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted June 3 - 6, 2023
 Margin of Error ±2.8%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	24%
Off on the wrong track	64%
Not sure	12%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Bernie Sanders	19%	24%	15%	32%	10%
Dianne Feinstein	5%	15%	16%	31%	33%
Chris Christie	3%	15%	28%	28%	25%
Mitch McConnell	4%	16%	22%	39%	19%
Chuck Grassley	7%	12%	13%	22%	47%
Ron DeSantis	16%	20%	11%	38%	15%
Donald Trump	21%	17%	11%	46%	4%

3. 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	20%	23%	13%	40%	4%
Kamala Harris	16%	22%	11%	42%	8%

4. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	69%	26%	4%	1%
Immigration	49%	35%	11%	5%
Climate change and the environment	44%	26%	16%	14%
Foreign policy	41%	43%	13%	3%
National Security	64%	27%	7%	2%
Education	61%	29%	8%	2%
Health care	69%	23%	6%	1%
Taxes and government spending	61%	31%	6%	2%
Abortion	47%	27%	17%	9%
Civil rights	56%	27%	11%	5%

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Civil liberties	57%	30%	10%	4%
Guns	56%	26%	13%	5%
Crime	62%	28%	8%	2%
Criminal justice reform	49%	35%	11%	5%
Inflation/prices	73%	22%	4%	1%

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

Inflation/prices	17%
Health care	12%
Jobs and the economy	12%
Climate change and the environment	10%
Immigration	8%
Guns	7%
Taxes and government spending	6%
National Security	6%
Civil rights	6%
Abortion	5%
Education	4%
Civil liberties	3%
Crime	3%
Foreign policy	1%
Criminal justice reform	1%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	25%
Approve	42%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Disapprove	53%
Not sure	6%

7. 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	18%	23%	41%	15%	36%	51%	8%
Immigration	8%	24%	33%	17%	40%	57%	10%
Education	14%	26%	40%	14%	31%	46%	14%
Health care	17%	25%	42%	17%	29%	46%	12%
Civil rights	16%	25%	41%	15%	29%	44%	15%
Civil liberties	13%	26%	40%	14%	30%	43%	17%
Crime	11%	24%	35%	16%	37%	53%	12%
Inflation/prices	13%	20%	33%	14%	46%	60%	8%

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

Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	13%
Neither approve nor disapprove	17%
Somewhat disapprove	26%
Strongly disapprove	32%
Not sure	7%

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

Strongly approve	10%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	31%
Not sure	12%

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

Very liberal	2%
Liberal	7%
Moderate	31%
Conservative	22%
Very conservative	20%
Not sure	17%

11. If you had to choose, would you rather have a member of Congress who...

Compromises to get things done.	61%
Sticks to their principles, no matter what.	39%

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

Excellent	4%
Good	17%
Excellent / Good	22%
Fair	32%
Poor	42%
Fair / Poor	74%
Don't know	4%

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

Getting better	16%
About the same	24%
Getting worse	52%
Not sure	7%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	11%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	41%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	44%
Not sure	5%

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

Full-time	32%
Part-time	11%
Temporarily laid off	1%
Unemployed	11%
Retired	22%
Permanently disabled	8%
Homemaker	8%
Student	6%
Other	2%

16. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student	6%
Part-time student	6%
Not a student	88%

17. Do you have a job outside of school?

Asked of students

Full-time job	6%
Part-time job	34%
No job outside of school	61%

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

Unemployment	6%
Inflation	53%
Both equal	36%
Not sure	5%

19. 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	29%
Mostly negative	48%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	14%

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

Growing	20%
Staying about the same	24%
Shrinking	41%
Not sure	16%

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

Yes	50%
No	28%
Not sure	22%

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

Very likely	4%
Somewhat likely	18%
Not very likely	13%
Not at all likely	3%
Not sure	13%
Not asked - Already in a recession	50%

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

The stock market index	6%
The unemployment rate and job reports	16%
The prices of goods and services you buy	54%
Your personal finances	11%
Don't know	13%

24. How important is the issue of what happens in the stock market to you?	
Very important	21%
Somewhat important	39%
Not very important	26%
Unimportant	14%
25. How serious a problem is unemployment in the U.S.?	
Very serious	22%
Somewhat serious	37%
A minor problem	25%
Not a problem	11%
Not sure	6%
26. Since last month, has the unemployment rate increased, decreased, or stayed the same?	
Increased	22%
Stayed the same	26%
Decreased	23%
Don't know	29%
27. Are the number of jobs in the United States...	
Increasing	37%
Staying the same	38%
Decreasing	26%
28. Six months from now do you think there will be...	
Higher gas prices	53%
The same gas prices	22%
Lower gas prices	10%
Not sure	15%
29. Six months from now do you think there will be...	
A higher rate of inflation	46%
The same rate of inflation	25%
A lower rate of inflation	14%
Not sure	15%
30. How much have you felt the impact of high inflation in your own life?	
A lot	55%
A little	39%
Not at all	5%

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

Definitely	38%
Probably	34%
Probably not	14%
Definitely not	7%
Not sure	7%

32. How worried are you about losing your job?

Asked of those currently employed

Very worried	14%
Somewhat worried	31%
Not very worried	55%

33. 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?

Asked of those currently employed

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.	38%
Not very hard	24%
Not sure	9%

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

Asked of those currently employed

Very happy	26%
Happy	34%
Neither happy nor unhappy	26%
Unhappy	7%
Very unhappy	7%

35. How much attention have you been paying to debates around the debt ceiling?

A lot	31%
A little	46%
None at all	23%

36. Who is more responsible for the agreement recently reached on raising the debt ceiling?

Joe Biden	26%
Republicans in the House	19%
Both equally	44%
Neither	12%

37. President Joe Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy recently reached an agreement to raise the debt ceiling, averting a potential default. The agreement includes provisions for military veteran care, utilization of unspent COVID-19 relief funds, IRS funding cuts, we expanded work-for-benefits requirements, energy-project-approval reforms, and the early termination of student-loan relief measures. Do you approve or disapprove of the debt ceiling agreement that was reached?

Strongly approve	10%
Somewhat approve	37%
Somewhat disapprove	18%
Strongly disapprove	14%
Not sure	20%

38. In general, do you think immigration makes the U.S. better off or worse off?

Better off	31%
Does not make much difference	18%
Worse off	36%
Not sure	14%

39. Do you think the federal government should increase or decrease the level of LEGAL immigration into the United States?

Increase LEGAL immigration	34%
Not change the level of LEGAL immigration	30%
Decrease LEGAL immigration	23%
Not sure	13%

40. The U.S. Constitution says that all persons born in the U.S. are citizens, regardless of whether their parents were here legally. Should the U.S. continue to provide citizenship to all who are born here?

Yes	60%
No	25%
Not sure	15%

41. How much of an effect do you think Joe Biden's health and age have on his ability to fulfill his duties as President?

Severely limit his ability to do the job	45%
Have little effect on his ability to do the job	34%
Have no effect at all	11%
Not sure	10%

42. How much of an effect do you think the following person's health and age have on their ability to fulfill their duties in the Senate?

	Severely limit their ability to do the job	Have little effect on their ability to do the job	Have no effect at all	Not sure
Bernie Sanders	26%	38%	18%	18%
Dianne Feinstein	50%	14%	6%	30%
Mitch McConnell	28%	35%	12%	25%
Chuck Grassley	18%	26%	10%	47%

43. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news about American journalist Evan Gershkovich being detained in Russia on espionage charges after allegedly attempting to obtain classified information?

A lot	9%
A little	49%
Nothing at all	42%

44. Do you think that Evan Gershkovich is being treated fairly or unfairly by the Russian justice system?

Fairly	8%
Unfairly	45%
Not sure	47%

45. Do you think the U.S. government should be doing more or less than it currently is to secure Evan Gershkovich's release from Russia?

Should be doing more	37%
Doing about the right amount	20%
Should be doing less	3%
Not sure	40%

46. How serious a matter is it for a president to take classified documents with them after leaving office?

Very serious	45%
Somewhat serious	27%
Not very serious	10%
Not serious at all	5%
Don't Know	13%

47. 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	8%
Somewhat approve	13%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	47%
Not sure	16%

48. Do you think Donald Trump intentionally took classified documents when he left the White House?

Yes	56%
No	21%
Not sure	24%

49. Has Donald Trump cooperated in returning documents?

Yes	30%
No	42%
Not sure	28%

50. Do you think Donald Trump should face any criminal charges for his handling of classified documents?

Yes	49%
No	35%
Not sure	16%

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

Very liberal	11%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	31%
Conservative	21%
Very conservative	12%
Not sure	9%

52. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	85%
Not registered	15%

53. 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%

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

Democrat	34%
Independent	35%
Republican	31%

55. Political Party Identification

Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	22%
Not very strong Democrat	12%
Lean Democrat	7%
Independent	17%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	12%
Strong Republican	19%
Not sure	3%
Don't know	0%

56. Are you... ?

Male	49%
Female	51%

57. Respondent age by category

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

58. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

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

60. What is your marital status?

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

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

Yes	19%
No	81%

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

Calculated from respondent's state of residence

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

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

Under \$50K	43%
\$50-100K	26%
\$100K or more	19%
Prefer not to say	12%

64. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	36%
Somewhat important	25%
Not too important	16%
Not at all important	23%

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

More than once a week	7%
Once a week	17%
Once or twice a month	7%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	21%
Never	32%
Don't know	4%

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

Yes	30%
No	70%

67. 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	12%
A few times a week	12%
Once a week	4%
A few times a month	7%
Seldom	13%
Never	21%
Don't know	5%

68. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	29%
Roman Catholic	18%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	2%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	25%
Something else	9%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	June 3 - 6, 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 November 1, 2022, and is weighted to the estimated distribution at that time (33% Democratic, 31% Republican). The weights range from 0.257 to 4.222, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.471.
Number of respondents	1500 1315 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 2.8% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	39 questions not reported.