

# The Economist/YouGov Poll

September 17 - 19, 2023 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens  
 Conducted September 17 - 19, 2023  
 Margin of Error ±3.2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	21%
Off on the wrong track	65%
Not sure	14%

## 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
Joe Biden	19%	24%	11%	42%	4%
Kamala Harris	14%	22%	11%	44%	9%

## 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
Ron DeSantis	15%	21%	12%	36%	16%
Donald Trump	22%	19%	11%	45%	3%
Mitt Romney	5%	24%	24%	27%	19%
Elon Musk	15%	28%	15%	30%	12%
Hunter Biden	3%	9%	20%	49%	19%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Kim Jong-un	2%	4%	8%	70%	16%
Xi Jinping	1%	4%	12%	49%	34%

## 5. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	73%	23%	3%	1%
Immigration	54%	30%	14%	2%
Climate change and the environment	45%	25%	15%	15%
Foreign policy	43%	43%	11%	3%

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National Security	65%	27%	6%	1%
Education	65%	26%	6%	3%
Health care	69%	25%	3%	2%
Taxes and government spending	63%	31%	5%	1%
Abortion	51%	26%	14%	9%
Civil rights	58%	29%	9%	5%
Civil liberties	57%	31%	9%	3%
Guns	55%	26%	13%	6%
Crime	62%	31%	6%	1%
Criminal justice reform	45%	36%	14%	6%
Inflation/prices	76%	20%	3%	1%

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

Inflation/prices	24%
Health care	9%
Climate change and the environment	9%
Jobs and the economy	9%
Immigration	7%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Guns	6%
Abortion	6%
Civil rights	6%
National Security	5%
Education	4%
Crime	4%
Civil liberties	3%
Criminal justice reform	1%
Foreign policy	1%

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

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	24%
<b>Approve</b>	<b>41%</b>
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>55%</b>
Not sure	4%

8. 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%	20%	<b>40%</b>	14%	40%	<b>53%</b>	7%
Immigration	9%	22%	<b>31%</b>	16%	43%	<b>58%</b>	11%
Foreign policy	17%	21%	<b>39%</b>	11%	38%	<b>49%</b>	13%
National Security	19%	21%	<b>40%</b>	11%	37%	<b>48%</b>	12%
Education	15%	23%	<b>38%</b>	14%	34%	<b>48%</b>	14%
Crime	10%	22%	<b>33%</b>	15%	39%	<b>54%</b>	13%
Criminal justice reform	10%	20%	<b>30%</b>	17%	36%	<b>53%</b>	17%
Inflation/prices	12%	21%	<b>33%</b>	12%	48%	<b>60%</b>	7%

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

Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	12%
Neither approve nor disapprove	16%
Somewhat disapprove	27%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	8%

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

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	31%
Not sure	12%

11. If the election for president were held today, who would you vote for?

*Asked of registered voters*

The Democratic Party candidate	40%
The Republican Party candidate	42%
Not sure	15%
I would not vote	2%

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

*Asked of registered voters*

The Democratic Party candidate	41%
The Republican Party candidate	43%
Other	1%
Not sure	12%
I would not vote	2%

13. 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 .....	8%
Somewhat approve .....	24%
Somewhat disapprove .....	14%
Strongly disapprove .....	29%
Not sure .....	26%

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

Strongly approve .....	10%
Somewhat approve .....	20%
Somewhat disapprove .....	13%
Strongly disapprove .....	32%
Not sure .....	26%

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

Strongly approve .....	4%
Somewhat approve .....	14%
Somewhat disapprove .....	20%
Strongly disapprove .....	39%
Not sure .....	23%

16. 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 .....	11%
Somewhat approve .....	16%
Somewhat disapprove .....	11%
Strongly disapprove .....	21%
Not sure .....	41%

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

Very liberal .....	3%
Liberal .....	6%
Moderate .....	28%
Conservative .....	23%
Very conservative .....	22%
Not sure .....	18%

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

Excellent .....	6%
Good .....	16%
Fair .....	29%
Poor .....	45%
Don't know .....	5%

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

Getting better .....	16%
About the same .....	22%
Getting worse .....	55%
Not sure .....	7%

**20. Would you say that you and your family are...**

Better off financially than you were a year ago .....	12%
About the same financially as you were a year ago .....	39%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	45%
Not sure .....	3%

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

Full-time .....	35%
Part-time .....	11%
Temporarily laid off .....	1%
Unemployed .....	9%
Retired .....	24%
Permanently disabled .....	7%
Homemaker .....	7%
Student .....	4%
Other .....	1%

**22. Are you currently enrolled as a student?**

Full-time student .....	6%
Part-time student .....	3%
Not a student .....	91%

**23. Do you have a job outside of school?**

*Asked of students*

Full-time job .....	9%
Part-time job .....	17%
No job outside of school .....	74%

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

Unemployment .....	3%
Inflation .....	56%
Both equal .....	36%
Not sure .....	4%

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

A higher rate of inflation .....	49%
The same rate of inflation .....	19%
A lower rate of inflation .....	14%
Not sure .....	18%

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

A lot .....	58%
A little .....	38%
Not at all .....	4%

27. Which party do you think has a more effective plan to reduce inflation?

Democratic Party .....	26%
Republican Party .....	32%
Neither party .....	26%
Not sure .....	15%

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

	Ally	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy	Not sure
Russia	2%	3%	22%	60%	12%
Ukraine	31%	38%	8%	5%	18%
China	3%	7%	30%	44%	15%
North Korea	2%	3%	19%	60%	16%
India	10%	42%	11%	3%	33%
Mexico	19%	37%	19%	6%	19%
Romania	9%	28%	9%	2%	51%
Libya	2%	9%	29%	17%	44%
Morocco	5%	28%	12%	3%	53%

29. Do you think the United Nations is doing a good job or a poor job in trying to solve the problems it has had to face?

Good job .....	19%
Poor job .....	47%
Not sure .....	34%

30. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Vladimir Putin?

Very favorable .....	3%
Somewhat favorable .....	7%
Somewhat unfavorable .....	14%
Very unfavorable .....	66%
Don't know .....	11%

31. A year from now, do you think Vladimir Putin will still be the president of Russia?

Yes .....	49%
No .....	17%
Not sure .....	35%

32. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Volodymyr Zelensky?

Very favorable .....	26%
Somewhat favorable .....	25%
Somewhat unfavorable .....	11%
Very unfavorable .....	13%
Don't know .....	26%

33. A year from now, do you think Volodymyr Zelensky will still be the president of Ukraine?

Yes .....	49%
No .....	11%
Not sure .....	40%

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

Russia .....	17%
Ukraine .....	25%
Neither .....	39%
Not sure .....	19%

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

Russia .....	23%
Ukraine .....	28%
Equally likely .....	15%
Not sure .....	34%

36. Do you favor the U.S. increasing, decreasing, or maintaining the same amount of military aid to Ukraine?

Increasing military aid to Ukraine .....	25%
Decreasing military aid to Ukraine .....	30%
Maintaining the same amount of military aid to Ukraine .....	27%
Not sure .....	18%

37. How much have you heard about SpaceX CEO Elon Musk allegedly interfering with a Ukrainian military operation by limiting their access to the Starlink satellite network?

A lot	14%
A little	39%
Nothing at all	47%

38. Overall, do you think Elon Musk and his companies have helped or hurt Ukraine in its fight against Russia?

Helped a lot	7%
Helped a little	12%
Had no effect	12%
Hurt a little	11%
Hurt a lot	12%
Not sure	46%

39. Do you support or oppose the U.S. military partnering with SpaceX and funding its provision of Starlink internet services in Ukraine?

Strongly support	13%
Somewhat support	24%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	14%
Not sure	39%

40. In recent decades, do you think the frequency of major natural disasters occurring globally has...?

Increased a lot	38%
Increased a little	25%
Stayed the same	24%
Decreased a little	3%
Decreased a lot	1%
Not sure	10%

41. Do you think the United States should or should not provide humanitarian aid in countries that have experienced major natural disasters?

Should provide aid	65%
Should not provide aid	14%
Not sure	21%

42. How much have you heard about the following recent events?

	A lot	A little	Nothing at all
Flooding in Libya	25%	42%	34%
An earthquake in Morocco	31%	45%	24%
Wildfires on Maui	63%	27%	10%



43. Do you think the U.S. government should or should not provide humanitarian aid for the following recent events?

	Should provide aid	Should not provide aid	Not sure
Flooding in Libya	54%	22%	24%
An earthquake in Morocco	59%	20%	21%
Wildfires on Maui	85%	6%	9%

44. How responsible, if at all, do you think climate change is for the increased frequency of major natural disasters?

*Among people who believe the frequency of natural disasters has increased globally in recent decades*

Entirely responsible	22%
Mostly responsible	36%
Somewhat responsible	27%
Not at all responsible	10%
Not sure	5%

45. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of labor unions?

Very favorable	21%
Somewhat favorable	28%
Somewhat unfavorable	18%
Very unfavorable	15%
Don't know	19%

46. When there is a contract dispute, do you normally favor union workers or company management?

Union workers	48%
Company management	16%
Not sure	36%

47. How much have you heard in the news recently about the United Auto Workers' strike against General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis?

A lot	28%
A little	46%
Nothing at all	26%

48. The United Auto Workers, the union that represents auto workers, is now on strike against General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis over disputes regarding pay. Which side are you more inclined to sympathize with in this strike?

The United Auto Workers	50%
General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis	20%
Not sure	29%

49. Who do you think President Joe Biden sympathizes with more in this strike?

The United Auto Workers .....	44%
General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis .....	18%
Not sure .....	38%

50. What kind of impact do you think the strike will have on the U.S. economy?

Major impact .....	39%
Minor impact .....	46%
Not much of an impact at all .....	15%

51. To what extent, if at all, do you think the following has financially benefited from their positions in government while in office?

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	Not at all	Not sure
Donald Trump	40%	14%	14%	22%	11%
Barack Obama	45%	24%	12%	6%	12%
George W. Bush	26%	37%	15%	5%	16%
Joe Biden	43%	21%	15%	9%	12%

52. Do you think that Joe Biden has personally profited from his son Hunter Biden's business dealings?

Yes .....	46%
No .....	31%
Not sure .....	23%

53. Do you think that Hunter Biden has personally profited from his father Joe Biden's positions in government?

Yes .....	67%
No .....	12%
Not sure .....	22%

54. How much have you heard about Hunter Biden being indicted for lying about his drug use when purchasing a handgun in 2018?

A lot .....	37%
A little .....	46%
Nothing at all .....	18%

55. Do you approve or disapprove of Hunter Biden being indicted on charges related to his purchase of a handgun in 2018?

Strongly approve .....	41%
Somewhat approve .....	20%
Somewhat disapprove .....	11%
Strongly disapprove .....	8%
Not sure .....	21%

56. Has the Justice Department investigation into Hunter Biden been fair or unfair?

Fair .....	38%
Unfair .....	25%
Not sure .....	37%

57. How much have you heard about the House of Representatives opening an impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden?

A lot .....	31%
A little .....	47%
Nothing at all .....	22%

58. Do you approve or disapprove of the House of Representatives opening an impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden?

Strongly approve .....	33%
Somewhat approve .....	12%
Somewhat disapprove .....	10%
Strongly disapprove .....	30%
Not sure .....	15%

59. Do you think the House of Representatives opening an impeachment inquiry into Joe Biden is...?

A serious attempt to find out what really happened .....	30%
A politically-motivated attempt to embarrass Joe Biden .....	35%
Equally motivated by both of these .....	21%
Not sure .....	14%

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

Very liberal .....	10%
Liberal .....	14%
Moderate .....	32%
Conservative .....	19%
Very conservative .....	15%
Not sure .....	10%

61. Are you registered to vote?

Registered .....	73%
Not registered .....	27%

62. 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%

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

Democrat .....	34%
Republican .....	30%
Independent .....	25%
Other .....	3%
Not sure .....	8%

64. 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 .....	7%
Not very strong Republican .....	11%
Strong Republican .....	20%
Not sure .....	4%
Don't know .....	0%

65. Are you... ?

Male .....	49%
Female .....	51%

66. Respondent age by category

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

67. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

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

69. What is your marital status?

Married .....	41%
Separated .....	2%
Divorced .....	12%
Widowed .....	6%
Never married .....	33%
Domestic / civil partnership .....	6%

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

Yes .....	21%
No .....	79%

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

*Calculated from respondent's state of residence*

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

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

Under \$50K .....	42%
\$50-100K .....	28%
\$100K or more .....	20%
Prefer not to say .....	11%

73. How important is religion in your life?

Very important .....	37%
Somewhat important .....	23%
Not too important .....	14%
Not at all important .....	25%

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

More than once a week .....	7%
Once a week .....	16%
Once or twice a month .....	6%
A few times a year .....	9%
Seldom .....	21%
Never .....	37%
Don't know .....	3%

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

Yes .....	27%
No .....	73%

76. 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 .....	13%
A few times a week .....	11%
Once a week .....	3%
A few times a month .....	6%
Seldom .....	13%
Never .....	23%
Don't know .....	4%

77. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant .....	28%
Roman Catholic .....	19%
Mormon .....	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox .....	0%
Jewish .....	3%
Muslim .....	2%
Buddhist .....	1%
Hindu .....	1%
Atheist .....	8%
Agnostic .....	6%
Nothing in particular .....	24%
Something else .....	8%

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<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	September 17 - 19, 2023
<b>Target population</b>	U.S. Citizens, age 18 and over
<b>Sampling method</b>	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in panel to be representative of adult U.S. citizens.
<b>Weighting</b>	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 0.072 to 6.503, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.754.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1500 1303 (Registered voters)
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3.2% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3% (Registered voters)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	38 questions not reported.