The Economist/YouGov Poll
September 30 - October 3, 2023 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens

YouGov®

Sample	1500 U.S. Adult citizens
Conducted	September 30 - October 3, 2023
Margin of Error	±3.5%

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

Generally headed in the right direction 22%
Off on the wrong track 67%
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
Ron DeSantis	13%	21%	12%	36%	17%
Donald Trump	23%	17%	9%	48%	3%
Tom Emmer	3%	7%	8%	7%	75%
Matt Gaetz	7%	12%	9%	30%	42%
Robert Menendez	3%	7%	14%	30%	46%
Dianne Feinstein	12%	19%	13%	22%	33%

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
Fran Drescher	13%	30%	11%	7%	38%
Shawn Fain	4%	8%	7%	7%	74%
Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.	14%	33%	14%	19%	20%
Eric Trump	13%	14%	12%	36%	25%
Donald Trump Jr.	17%	16%	10%	42%	15%

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
Joe Biden	21%	22%	11%	43%	4%
Kamala Harris	17%	21%	10%	41%	10%
Kevin McCarthy	6%	20%	19%	27%	27%
Mitch McConnell	4%	15%	22%	39%	20%
Chuck Schumer	12%	16%	12%	31%	29%
Hakeem Jeffries	12%	12%	7%	19%	50%

5. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	74%	23%	3%	1%
Immigration	55%	29%	12%	4%
Climate change and the environment	47%	24%	16%	13%
Foreign policy	46%	40%	11%	2%
National Security	66%	27%	5%	2%
Education	63%	30%	6%	2%
Health care	73%	22%	5%	1%
Taxes and government spending	64%	31%	5%	1%
Abortion	49%	27%	15%	8%
Civil rights	58%	30%	9%	3%
Civil liberties	55%	33%	10%	2%
Guns	59%	25%	11%	5%
Crime	65%	27%	6%	2%
Criminal justice reform	47%	36%	13%	4%
Inflation/prices	76%	20%	3%	1%

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

Inflation/prices	23%
Health care	11%
Jobs and the economy	10%
Climate change and the environment	9%
Immigration	9%
Abortion	5%
Taxes and government spending	5%
Crime	5%
Guns	5%
Civil rights	5%
National Security	4%
Education	4%
Civil liberties	3%
Criminal justice reform	1%
Foreign policy	0%

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

Strongly approve 17%
Somewhat approve 22%
Approve **40%**
Somewhat disapprove 13%
Strongly disapprove 42%
Disapprove **55%**
Not sure 5%

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

	Strongly approve	Some-what approve	Approve	Some-what disap-prove	Strongly disap-prove	Disap-prove	No opinion
Jobs and the economy	19%	22%	**41%**	12%	39%	**51%**	8%
Health care	16%	24%	**40%**	14%	32%	**46%**	14%
Crime	12%	22%	**34%**	13%	38%	**51%**	15%
Criminal justice reform	10%	23%	**33%**	13%	34%	**48%**	19%
Inflation/prices	12%	20%	**33%**	17%	45%	**61%**	6%

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

Strongly approve 3%
Somewhat approve 11%
Neither approve nor disapprove 16%
Somewhat disapprove 26%
Strongly disapprove 36%
Not sure 9%

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 18%
Strongly disapprove 31%
Not sure 14%

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

The Democratic Party candidate 43%
The Republican Party candidate 42%
Not sure 13%
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	44%
The Republican Party candidate	43%
Other	1%
Not sure	10%
I would not vote	2%

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

	Very favorable	Some- what favorable	Favorable	Some- what unfavor- able	Very unfa- vorable	Unfavor- able	Don't know
Democrats in Congress	16%	25%	**41%**	15%	37%	**51%**	8%
Republicans in Congress	9%	24%	**33%**	20%	40%	**59%**	8%

14. 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	6%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	24%
Not sure	28%

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

Strongly approve	11%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	28%
Not sure	27%

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

Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	17%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	22%

17. 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 12%
Somewhat approve 14%
Somewhat disapprove 10%
Strongly disapprove 21%
Not sure 44%

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

Very liberal 3%
Liberal 5%
Moderate 30%
Conservative 21%
Very conservative 23%
Not sure 18%

19. If the Republican presidential primary in your state were held today, who would you vote for?
Asked of Republicans and Independents who lean Republican

Donald Trump 58%
Ron DeSantis 13%
Nikki Haley 7%
Mike Pence 3%
Chris Christie 1%
Tim Scott 2%
Vivek Ramaswamy 4%
Asa Hutchinson 0%
Doug Burgum 1%
Will Hurd 0%
Larry Elder 0%
Someone else 1%
Not sure 7%
I would not vote 3%

20. If the Republican presidential primary in your state were held today and [favored candidate] was not on the ballot, who would you vote for?
Asked of Republicans and Independents who lean Republican

Donald Trump	8%
Ron DeSantis	30%
Nikki Haley	8%
Mike Pence	5%
Chris Christie	2%
Tim Scott	6%
Vivek Ramaswamy	10%
Asa Hutchinson	1%
Doug Burgum	1%
Will Hurd	0%
Larry Elder	1%
Someone else	1%
Not sure	13%
I would not vote	4%
Not asked - did not pick a first-choice candidate	11%

21. As you may know, a Republican presidential primary debate took place on Wednesday, September 27. Did you watch this debate?

I watched the entire debate	8%
I watched part of it	10%
I watched clips or highlights of the debate	18%
I read or watched news stories analyzing the debate	24%
I haven't heard anything about it	40%

22. Which candidate do you think did the best job — or won — the debate?
Asked of those who watched at least clips of the debate or read or watched news stories analyzing the debate

Mike Pence	4%
Ron DeSantis	13%
Nikki Haley	13%
Tim Scott	2%
Chris Christie	5%
Vivek Ramaswamy	4%
Doug Burgum	2%
None of them	34%
Not sure	24%

23. Are there any other candidates whom you think did well in the debate? Select all that apply.
Asked of those who watched at least clips of the debate or read or watched news stories analyzing the debate. Candidates who 'won' the debate were coded to have done well.

Mike Pence	12%
Ron DeSantis	25%
Nikki Haley	29%
Tim Scott	10%
Chris Christie	14%
Vivek Ramaswamy	13%
Doug Burgum	5%
None of the above	24%
Not sure	22%

24. Which candidates do you think did poorly in the debate? Select all that apply.
Asked of those who watched at least clips of the debate or read or watched news stories analyzing the debate

Mike Pence	32%
Ron DeSantis	24%
Nikki Haley	14%
Tim Scott	17%
Chris Christie	29%
Vivek Ramaswamy	26%
Doug Burgum	15%
None of the above	8%
Not sure	31%

25. Donald Trump chose not to participate in the second 2024 Republican primary debate. Do you think Trump should have participated in the second debate, or should not have?

Should have participated	39%
Should not have participated	36%
Not sure	25%

26. Do you think Trump should or should not participate in future Republican primary debates?

Should participate	45%
Should not participate	32%
Not sure	23%

27. Did you watch Donald Trump's speech to union workers in Detroit on Wednesday, September 27 — the same night as the second Republican debate?

I watched the entire speech	4%
I watched part of it	9%
I watched clips or highlights of the speech	15%
I read or watched news stories analyzing the speech	22%
I haven't heard anything about it	50%

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

Getting better 16%
About the same 23%
Getting worse 56%
Not sure 5%

29. 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 42%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago 42%
Not sure 3%

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

Full-time 36%
Part-time 11%
Temporarily laid off 1%
Unemployed 10%
Retired 24%
Permanently disabled 7%
Homemaker 6%
Student 5%
Other 2%

31. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Full-time student 5%
Part-time student 4%
Not a student 91%

32. Do you have a job outside of school?
Asked of students

Full-time job 2%
Part-time job 15%
No job outside of school 84%

33. How common do you think it is in the U.S. for companies to misreport the value of their properties on official documents to obtain favorable loans and tax benefits?

Very common 28%
Somewhat common 36%
Somewhat uncommon 9%
Very uncommon 6%
Not sure 22%

34. Do you believe Donald Trump misreported the value of his properties on official documents to obtain favorable loans and tax benefits, or not?

Trump did	49%
Trump did not	18%
Not sure	32%

35. Do you think the Trump Organization has done more to benefit or harm New York State?

Done more to benefit New York	30%
Done more to harm New York	35%
Equally benefited and harmed	10%
Not sure	25%

36. How much have you heard about recent bribery charges against Senator Robert Menendez of New Jersey?

A lot	21%
A little	41%
Nothing at all	38%

37. Do you think Senator Menendez should or should not resign from Congress?

Should resign	54%
Should not resign	7%
Not sure	39%

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

Very favorable	22%
Somewhat favorable	32%
Somewhat unfavorable	19%
Very unfavorable	11%
Don't know	17%

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

The United Auto Workers	52%
General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis	19%
Not sure	29%

40. Who do you think Joe Biden sides with more in this strike?

The United Auto Workers	48%
General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis	16%
Not sure	35%

41. Who do you think Donald Trump sides with more in this strike?

The United Auto Workers 22%
General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis 38%
Not sure 40%

42. Which political party do you think is more likely to side with the United Auto Workers over General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis in the recent strike?

The Democratic Party 46%
The Republican Party 14%
Both equally 13%
Not sure 26%

43. Movie and television actors who belong to the SAG-AFTRA labor union recently went on strike against studios and streaming services over disputes regarding pay, working conditions, and the use of artificial intelligence. Which are you more inclined to side with in this strike?

SAG-AFTRA 47%
Studios and streaming services 16%
Not sure 37%

44. Do you personally know anyone who is a federal employee? Select all that apply.

Yes, me 2%
Yes, a family member 11%
Yes, a close friend 9%
Yes, an acquaintance 13%
No 64%
Not sure 6%

45. How much have you heard about Congress passing a 45-day funding bill to avert a federal government shutdown?

A lot 24%
A little 50%
Nothing at all 25%

46. Do you approve or disapprove of Congress passing a 45-day funding bill to avert a federal government shutdown?

Strongly approve 21%
Somewhat approve 35%
Somewhat disapprove 11%
Strongly disapprove 10%
Not sure 23%

47. In the future, do you think government shutdowns will be normal politics or do you think shutdowns will be unusual?

Government shutdown will become normal politics 54%

Government shutdown will be unusual 19%

Not sure 27%

48. Who do you think is most responsible for Congress reaching an agreement over federal spending in time to avoid a shutdown of the federal government?

President Biden 7%

Democrats in Congress 19%

Republicans in Congress 21%

Everyone equally 29%

Not sure 23%

49. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the following people handled the risk of a federal government shutdown?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Not sure
Joe Biden	19%	17%	7%	35%	22%
Chuck Schumer	12%	16%	12%	27%	33%
Kevin McCarthy	8%	22%	14%	23%	33%

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

Very liberal 12%

Liberal 14%

Moderate 33%

Conservative 18%

Very conservative 14%

Not sure 10%

51. Are you registered to vote?

Registered 73%

Not registered 27%

52. 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%

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

Democrat	35%
Republican	31%
Independent	24%
Other	4%
Not sure	7%

54. Political Party Identification
Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	22%
Not very strong Democrat	14%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	18%
Lean Republican	6%
Not very strong Republican	10%
Strong Republican	20%
Not sure	3%
Don't know	0%

55. Are you. . . ?

Male	49%
Female	51%

56. Respondent age by category

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

57. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	67%
Black	13%
Hispanic	13%
Other	8%

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

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

59. What is your marital status?

Married	45%
Separated	2%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	5%
Never married	31%
Domestic / civil partnership	6%

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

Yes	22%
No	78%

61. In what region of the country do you reside?
Calculated from respondent's state of residence

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

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

Under $50K	42%
$50-100K	28%
$100K or more	19%
Prefer not to say	11%

63. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	41%
Somewhat important	23%
Not too important	15%
Not at all important	20%

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

More than once a week	9%
Once a week	17%
Once or twice a month	7%
A few times a year	11%
Seldom	21%
Never	32%
Don't know	3%

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

Yes	31%
No	69%

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

Several times a day	27%
Once a day	14%
A few times a week	12%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	7%
Seldom	15%
Never	19%
Don't know	4%

67. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	30%
Roman Catholic	20%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	3%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	7%
Nothing in particular	22%
Something else	7%

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Sponsorship	*The Economist*
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	September 30 - October 3, 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 0.074 to 6.558, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.936.
Number of respondents	1500 1368 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	$\pm$ 3.5% (adjusted for weighting) $\pm$ 3% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	38 questions not reported.