

The Economist/YouGov Poll

February 4 - 7, 2023 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted February 4 - 7, 2023
 Margin of Error ±3.2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	31%
Off on the wrong track	57%
Not sure	12%

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

Excellent	8%
Good	19%
Excellent / Good	27%
Fair	29%
Poor	39%
Fair / Poor	68%
Don't know	4%

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

Unemployment	7%
Inflation	54%
Both equal	32%
Not sure	7%

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

Growing	22%
Staying about the same	27%
Shrinking	37%
Not sure	14%

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

Yes	52%
No	28%
Not sure	19%

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

Very likely	5%
Somewhat likely	16%
Not very likely	11%
Not at all likely	4%
Not sure	12%
Not asked - Already in a recession	52%

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	13%
Equally positive and negative	27%
Mostly negative	46%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	13%

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	16%
The prices of goods and services you buy	53%
Your personal finances	11%
Don't know	12%

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

Very important	24%
Somewhat important	39%
Not very important	24%
Unimportant	13%

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

Very serious	22%
Somewhat serious	36%
A minor problem	23%
Not a problem	11%
Not sure	8%

11. Since last month, has the unemployment rate increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

Increased	15%
Stayed the same	26%
Decreased	35%
Don't know	24%

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

Increasing	40%
Staying the same	36%
Decreasing	24%

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

Higher gas prices	50%
The same gas prices	20%
Lower gas prices	13%
Not sure	17%

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

A higher rate of inflation	43%
The same rate of inflation	23%
A lower rate of inflation	16%
Not sure	18%

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

A lot	54%
A little	37%
Not at all	8%

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

Higher interest rates	50%
The same interest rates	21%
Lower interest rates	7%
Not sure	21%

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

More jobs	24%
The same amount of jobs	36%
Fewer jobs	22%
Not sure	19%

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

Yes	42%
No	6%
Not sure	6%
Not asked - Not employed	46%

19. Are you a federal employee?

Yes	6%
No	45%
Not sure	3%
Not asked - Not employed	46%

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	3%	5%	26%	52%	13%
Ukraine	26%	43%	9%	6%	17%
China	5%	8%	30%	42%	15%
Taiwan	23%	38%	7%	3%	29%
Philippines	17%	41%	9%	3%	29%

21. How much have you heard in the news recently about a high-altitude surveillance balloon that belongs to China flying over the U.S.?

A lot	48%
A little	38%
Nothing at all	14%

22. China has said the high-altitude surveillance balloon that was flying over the U.S. was a civilian airship that was being used for weather research and got unintentionally blown off course. Do you believe this explanation is true or not true?

True	14%
Not true	60%
Not sure	26%

23. The U.S. government shot down the surveillance balloon. Was this the right or wrong decision?

Right decision	74%
Wrong decision	7%
Not sure	19%

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

Russia	18%
Ukraine	24%
Neither	38%
Not sure	19%

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

Russia	25%
Ukraine	28%
Equally likely	15%
Not sure	32%

26. Do you want Joe Biden to run for president again in 2024?

Yes	28%
No	55%
Not sure	17%

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

Yes	33%
No	52%
Not sure	15%

28. If you had to choose, who would you most prefer to be the Republican nominee for President in 2024?

Donald Trump	26%
Ron DeSantis	18%
Ted Cruz	3%
Marco Rubio	4%
Nikki Haley	7%
Mike Pence	8%
Other	8%
Not sure	27%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Andy Reid	13%	20%	8%	3%	56%
Nick Sirianni	8%	15%	6%	3%	68%
Jalen Hurts	13%	19%	8%	3%	57%
Patrick Mahomes	18%	29%	9%	4%	40%
Tom Brady	16%	33%	19%	12%	21%
Rihanna	19%	30%	14%	11%	26%

30. Will you watch the Super Bowl this year?

Definitely watch	23%
Probably watch	27%
Probably not watch	14%
Definitely not watch	24%
Not sure	12%

31. What is your favorite part of the Super Bowl broadcast?

Asked of those who say they definitely or probably will watch the Super Bowl

The actual game itself	55%
The halftime show	18%
The commercials	22%
Not sure	4%

32. Which of the following, if any, best describes your plans for watching the Super Bowl?

Watch at home on my own or with other members of my household	51%
Host friends/family at my home	9%
Join friends/family at someone else's home	19%
Watch someplace else (e.g., restaurant, bar)	6%
Attend in person	4%
I'm not sure, but I do plan to watch	11%

33. Which team do you think is most likely to win the Super Bowl this year?

Kansas City Chiefs	31%
Philadelphia Eagles	31%
Don't know	38%

34. Which team do you want to win the Super Bowl this year?

Kansas City Chiefs	30%
Philadelphia Eagles	27%
Don't care	43%

35. Did you watch any of last year's Super Bowl, in which the Cincinnati Bengals played the Los Angeles Rams?

Yes	42%
No	47%
Not sure	11%

36. Are you the parent or guardian of one or more children in grades K-12?

Yes	72%
No	28%

37. How much authority should the following group of people have over the history curriculum for K-12 students in your state?

	A lot	A little	None at all
Parents	50%	34%	16%
Teachers	49%	35%	15%
School administrators	35%	46%	19%
The state Governor	18%	43%	39%
The state legislature	20%	47%	34%
The state board of education	41%	44%	15%
The U.S. Department of Education	39%	40%	21%

38. Are you familiar with Advanced Placement (AP) classes in high school?

Yes	63%
No	26%
Not sure	11%

39. Have you ever taken any Advanced Placement (AP) courses?

Yes	28%
No	67%
Can't remember	5%

40. Are Advanced Placement (AP) classes more of a good or a bad thing to have available to students?

Asked of people who are familiar with AP classes

Good thing	85%
Bad thing	6%
Not sure	9%

41. Do K-12 public schools today teach too much or too little about the history of Black Americans?

Too much	14%
About the right amount	29%
Too little	33%
Not sure	24%

42. When you were in K-12 school, did you learn too much or too little about the history of Black Americans?

Too much	7%
About the right amount	41%
Too little	37%
Not sure	13%
I did not attend school in the U.S.	2%

43. Do you support or oppose high schools offering Advanced Placement classes for African American studies?

Strongly support	32%
Somewhat support	24%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	13%
Not sure	21%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
Ron DeSantis	25%	19%	44%	9%	26%	35%	21%
Nikki Haley	12%	23%	35%	15%	15%	30%	34%
Mike Pence	13%	26%	39%	22%	24%	46%	15%
Ted Cruz	18%	24%	42%	11%	30%	40%	17%
Marco Rubio	13%	26%	39%	14%	22%	36%	24%

45. How much have you heard in the news recently about the debt ceiling?

A lot	33%
A little	41%
Nothing at all	26%

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

A lot	22%
A little	41%
Not at all	37%

47. As you may know, the limit on the country’s overall liabilities, including the federal deficit and other government debts, is called the debt ceiling. In order for the U.S. Treasury to incur debt above the ceiling, Congress needs to vote to raise the ceiling, which it has done regularly in the past. Congress is currently considering whether to raise the debt ceiling, since the current limit has been reached. What is your opinion?

Congress should raise the debt ceiling	36%
Congress should not raise the debt ceiling	36%
Not sure	28%

48. How well do you understand what the effects would be if Congress is not able to come to an agreement over raising the debt ceiling?

Very well	20%
Somewhat well	35%
Not very well	20%
Not at all	9%
Not sure	16%

49. Would you support or oppose shutting down the government if a deal cannot be reached on the debt ceiling?

Strongly support	15%
Somewhat support	20%
Somewhat oppose	16%
Strongly oppose	27%
Not sure	22%

50. If the debt ceiling is not raised and the U.S. defaults on its debts, would you consider that...

A crisis	30%
A major problem but not a crisis	39%
A minor problem	11%
Not a problem	4%
Not sure	16%

51. How much have you heard about the idea of the U.S. government minting a \$1 trillion platinum coin to attempt to avoid defaulting on debts?

A lot	8%
A little	28%
Nothing at all	64%

52. If Congress does not raise the debt ceiling, would you support or oppose the minting of a \$1 trillion platinum coin to attempt to avoid the U.S. defaulting on debts?

Strongly support	10%
Somewhat support	18%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	17%
Not sure	43%

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

The world's climate is changing as a result of human activity	51%
The world's climate is changing but NOT because of human activity	30%
The world's climate is NOT changing	7%
Not sure	12%

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

Yes, I have	48%
No, I have not	26%
Not sure	18%
The climate is not changing	7%

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

Yes, I will	11%
No, I will not	18%
Not sure	15%
I have already felt the effect of climate change	48%
The climate is not changing	7%

56. Do you think recent severe weather events such as the polar vortex are primarily the result of climate change or do these kinds of events just happen from time to time?

Result of climate change	42%
Just happen from time to time	37%
Not sure	18%
The climate is not changing	3%

57. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about the death of Tyre Nichols after a traffic stop by police officers in Memphis, Tennessee?

A lot	49%
A little	35%
Nothing at all	16%

58. Have you watched any of the released videos from the Memphis Police Department that show Tyre Nichols being beaten by police officers?

Yes	48%
No	43%
Not sure	9%

59. Tyre Nichols was hospitalized after police officers arrested him after a traffic stop. Nichols later died in the hospital due to injuries sustained during his arrest. Do you think the Memphis police were justified or not justified in the amount of force they used on Tyre Nichols?

Justified	12%
Not justified	70%
Not sure	18%

60. Five Memphis police officers involved in the death of Tyre Nichols have been fired and indicted on charges including second-degree murder and kidnapping. Do you think the five former police officers ...

Should have been indicted	72%
Should not have been indicted	9%
Not sure	19%

61. Do you think the five former police officers will be found guilty?

Will be found guilty	62%
Will NOT be found guilty	10%
Not sure	28%

62. Do you think the five former police officers should be found guilty?

Should be found guilty	70%
Should NOT be found guilty	7%
Not sure	23%

63. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	63%	27%	6%	3%
Immigration	49%	31%	14%	6%
Climate change and the environment	41%	26%	17%	16%
Foreign policy	40%	40%	15%	5%

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National Security	64%	24%	8%	4%
Education	58%	29%	8%	5%
Health care	65%	25%	6%	5%
Taxes and government spending	59%	29%	8%	4%
Abortion	45%	26%	16%	13%
Civil rights	54%	27%	11%	8%
Civil liberties	54%	28%	11%	7%
Guns	53%	24%	12%	10%
Crime	60%	28%	8%	4%
Criminal justice reform	48%	33%	13%	7%
Inflation/prices	72%	18%	5%	4%

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

Inflation/prices	21%
Health care	12%
Jobs and the economy	11%
Climate change and the environment	9%
Education	7%
Immigration	7%
National Security	7%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Civil rights	5%
Guns	4%
Abortion	4%
Civil liberties	3%
Crime	2%
Criminal justice reform	1%
Foreign policy	1%

65. 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%	23%	43%	13%	38%	51%	6%
Kamala Harris	15%	23%	38%	11%	40%	51%	10%
Kevin McCarthy	9%	25%	34%	16%	25%	40%	25%
Mitch McConnell	6%	17%	22%	21%	35%	57%	21%
Chuck Schumer	10%	23%	34%	14%	29%	43%	23%
Hakeem Jeffries	13%	17%	31%	9%	20%	29%	40%
Donald Trump	25%	19%	45%	9%	40%	48%	7%

66. 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	18%	23%	41%	15%	34%	49%	10%
The Republican Party	16%	26%	42%	19%	29%	48%	10%

67. 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	36%
Disapprove	50%
Not sure	8%

68. 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	20%	23%	42%	13%	33%	46%	12%
Climate change and the environment	14%	27%	40%	15%	29%	44%	16%
National Security	17%	24%	41%	14%	32%	46%	13%
Taxes and government spending	15%	21%	36%	15%	36%	52%	12%
Inflation/prices	14%	19%	33%	15%	41%	55%	12%

69. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal	30%
Liberal	20%
Moderate	23%
Conservative	7%
Very conservative	4%
Not sure	16%

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

Like a lot	19%
Like somewhat	18%
Neither like nor dislike	20%
Dislike somewhat	9%
Dislike a lot	24%
Not sure	9%

71. 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	18%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	25%
Not sure	14%

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

	Very favorable	Some-what favorable	Favorable	Some-what unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
Democrats in Congress	17%	25%	42%	15%	31%	46%	12%
Republicans in Congress	12%	26%	38%	21%	29%	50%	13%

73. 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	12%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	21%
Not sure	30%

74. 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	22%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	26%
Not sure	27%

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

Strongly approve	7%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	28%
Not sure	27%

76. 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	14%
Somewhat approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	16%
Not sure	40%

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

Strongly approve	13%
Somewhat approve	28%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	22%
Not sure	20%

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

Very liberal	5%
Liberal	11%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	16%
Very conservative	20%
Not sure	21%

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

Getting better	17%
About the same	25%
Getting worse	46%
Not sure	12%

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

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

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	17%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	34%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	39%
Not sure	9%

82. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	6%
Somewhat worried	29%
Not very worried	65%

83. 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.	27%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	31%
Not very hard	26%
Not sure	16%

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

Very happy	24%
Happy	43%
Neither happy nor unhappy	24%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	3%

85. 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	39%
Some of the time	26%
Only now and then	17%
Hardly at all	11%
Don't know	7%

86. 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%

87. Do you identify as a MAGA Republican?
Asked of Republicans

Yes	36%
No	49%
Not sure	16%

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

Very liberal	11%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	21%
Very conservative	12%
Not sure	13%

89. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	73%
Not registered	27%

90. 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%

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

Democrats	33%
Independents	35%
Republicans	31%

92. Political Party Identification

Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	23%
Not very strong Democrat	11%
Lean Democrat	7%
Independent	17%
Lean Republican	7%
Not very strong Republican	13%
Strong Republican	19%
Not sure	5%
Don't know	0%

93. Are you...?

Male	48%
Female	52%

94. Respondent age by category	
Under 30	21%
30-44	24%
45-64	33%
65+	22%
95. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?	
White	67%
Black	13%
Hispanic	13%
Other	7%
96. What is the highest level of education you have completed?	
HS or less	36%
Some college	29%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	13%
97. What is your marital status?	
Married	47%
Separated	2%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	5%
Never married	30%
Domestic / civil partnership	6%
98. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?	
Yes	25%
No	75%
99. 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%
100. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?	
Under \$50K	40%
\$50-100K	27%
\$100K or more	21%
Prefer not to say	13%

101. How important is religion in your life?	
Very important	37%
Somewhat important	26%
Not too important	15%
Not at all important	21%
102. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?	
More than once a week	11%
Once a week	18%
Once or twice a month	7%
A few times a year	11%
Seldom	20%
Never	29%
Don't know	5%
103. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?	
Yes	34%
No	66%
104. 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	12%
A few times a week	15%
Once a week	4%
A few times a month	5%
Seldom	14%
Never	17%
Don't know	6%
105. What is your present religion, if any?	
Protestant	27%
Roman Catholic	19%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	2%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	4%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	21%
Something else	10%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	February 4 - 7, 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 6.509, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.793.
Number of respondents	1500 1294 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 3.2% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.1% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	55 questions not reported.