

The Economist/YouGov Poll

September 3 - 6, 2022 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted September 3 - 6, 2022
 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. How would you describe the current state of the American economy?

Excellent	6%
Good	16%
Excellent / Good	22%
Fair	30%
Poor	44%
Fair / Poor	74%
Don't know	4%

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

Unemployment	5%
Inflation	59%
Both equal	32%
Not sure	4%

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

Growing	20%
Shrinking	45%
Staying about the same	20%
Not sure	15%

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

Yes	59%
No	21%
Not sure	20%

6. Which of the following do you think is the best indicator of an economic recession?

The stock market index	6%
The unemployment rate and job reports	11%
The prices of goods and services you buy	45%
Your personal finances	6%
Whether the economy is shrinking or growing	20%
Don't know	11%

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

Asked of those who do not think we are currently in an economic recession

Very likely	9%
Somewhat likely	39%
Not very likely	21%
Not at all likely	5%
Not sure	25%

8. 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	26%
Mostly negative	53%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	13%

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

Asked of a randomly assigned half-sample

The stock market index	9%
The unemployment rate and job reports	15%
The prices of goods and services you buy	54%
Your personal finances	12%
Don't know	10%

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

Very important	23%
Somewhat important	39%
Not very important	24%
Unimportant	14%

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

Very serious	23%
Somewhat serious	36%
A minor problem	24%
Not a problem	10%
Not sure	6%

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

Increased	22%
Stayed the same	28%
Decreased	24%
Don't know	26%

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

Increasing	41%
Staying the same	38%
Decreasing	21%

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

Higher gas prices	37%
The same gas prices	20%
Lower gas prices	26%
Not sure	17%

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

A higher rate of inflation	42%
The same rate of inflation	22%
A lower rate of inflation	19%
Not sure	17%

16. How important is the issue of inflation/prices to you?

Very important	64%
Somewhat important	28%
Not very important	6%
Unimportant	2%

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

A lot	57%
A little	37%
Not at all	5%

18. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling foreign policy?

Strongly approve	18%
Somewhat approve	20%
Approve	38%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Disapprove	50%
Not sure	12%

19. 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%	30%	53%	10%
China	4%	11%	36%	39%	11%
Iran	2%	7%	28%	46%	17%

20. Do you think that people who wish to express dissent in China are able to do so freely, without pushback from the government?

Yes	14%
No	67%
Not sure	19%

21. How much have you heard in the news about...

	A lot	A little	Nothing at all
Relations between China and Taiwan	36%	37%	27%
Relations between China, Russia, and Iran	22%	48%	29%
Relations between China and Hong Kong	19%	42%	39%
The treatment of Uyghur people in China by the Chinese government	19%	38%	43%
COVID-19 lockdowns in Chinese cities	25%	48%	27%

22. Do you think the way the Chinese government has treated the following people qualifies as a human rights violation?

	Yes, it does	No, it does not	Not sure
People in Taiwan	40%	19%	41%
People in Hong Kong	41%	15%	44%
Uyghur people in China	53%	8%	39%
People in Chinese cities under COVID-19 lockdown	41%	21%	37%

23. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news about the United Nations Human Rights Office's report condemning China's treatment of Uyghurs and saying China may have committed 'crimes against humanity'?

A lot	12%
A little	38%
Nothing at all	50%

24. Generally speaking, do you think nuclear power plants are safe or not safe?

Safe	44%
Not safe	35%
Not sure	21%

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

Russia	21%
Ukraine	18%
Neither	43%
Not sure	18%

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

Russia	29%
Ukraine	25%
Equally likely	13%
Not sure	32%

27. In terms of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, do you think the U.S. government's response...

Should be tougher	34%
Should be less tough	14%
Is about right	28%
Not sure	24%

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

Increasing military aid to Ukraine	33%
Decreasing military aid to Ukraine	21%
Maintaining the same amount of military aid to Ukraine	28%
Not sure	18%

29. How likely do you think it is that a nuclear power accident will occur in Ukraine because of the Russian invasion?

Very likely	18%
Somewhat likely	44%
Not very likely	13%
Not likely at all	4%
Not sure	21%

30. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news about the Russian takeover of a nuclear power plant in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine, Europe's largest nuclear plant?

A lot	22%
A little	44%
Nothing at all	34%

31. 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
Vladimir Putin	4%	8%	12%	14%	65%	79%	10%
Volodymyr Zelensky	29%	22%	51%	9%	10%	19%	29%
Mikhail Gorbachev	13%	30%	43%	14%	12%	26%	30%
Serena Williams	34%	30%	64%	11%	7%	18%	17%

32. Have you seen the FBI photo of the classified documents they recovered in their search of former President Trump's office in Mar-A-Lago?

Yes	51%
No	40%
Not sure	8%

33. Do you think the FBI executing a search warrant of former President Trump's private home was justified?

Justified	48%
Not justified	35%
Not sure	17%

34. Do you think former President Trump will face any criminal charges for how he handled classified documents after leaving office?

Yes	29%
No	39%
Not sure	32%

35. Do you think former President Trump should face any criminal charges for how he handled classified documents after leaving office?

Yes	46%
No	37%
Not sure	17%

36. Do you think that the following statements regarding the FBI's execution of a search warrant at former President Trump's home are true or not true?

	Definitely true	Probably true	Probably false	Definitely false	Not sure
Former President Trump was keeping sensitive national security documents at his home in Mar-a-Lago	35%	21%	14%	14%	16%
The FBI planted classified documents at former President Trump's home in Mar-a-Lago	9%	21%	15%	37%	18%

continued on the next page ...

continued from previous page

Former President Trump lied about having classified documents at his home in Mar-a-Lago	35%	16%	15%	16%	18%
Former President Trump had declassified any documents he had at Mar-A-Lago before he left the White House	15%	22%	13%	25%	24%

37. Are we safer from terrorist attacks now than we were in 2001?

Much more safe	9%
Somewhat more safe	22%
About the same	28%
Somewhat less safe	12%
Much less safe	18%
Not sure	12%

38. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? "It may be necessary to curb traditional civil liberties in order to protect this country more effectively against terrorism"

Strongly agree	9%
Somewhat agree	20%
Somewhat disagree	18%
Strongly disagree	31%
Not sure	22%

39. To what extent, if at all, do you think the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center changed the United States?

Changed the U.S. completely	50%
Changed the U.S. a little	33%
Did not change very much	8%
Did not really change the U.S. at all	3%
Don't know	7%

40. To what extent, if at all, do you think the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center changed the way you live your daily life?

Changed my daily life completely	11%
Changed my daily life a little	31%
Did not change very much	30%
Did not really change my life at all	19%
Don't know	8%

41. When do you think abortion should be legal?

Abortion should always be legal. There should be no restrictions on abortion.	30%
Abortion should be legal, but with some restrictions (such as for minors or late-term abortions).	30%
Abortion should only be legal in special circumstances, such as when the life of the mother is in danger.	30%
Abortion should be illegal. It should never be allowed.	11%

42. Would you support or oppose your state’s constitution including protections for abortion?

Strongly support	37%
Somewhat support	17%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	20%
Not sure	16%

43. Do you approve or disapprove of the Supreme Court’s ruling that there is no constitutional right to an abortion?

Strongly approve	26%
Somewhat approve	12%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Not sure	11%

44. How much attention have you been paying to the 2022 congressional elections?

A lot	34%
A little	39%
None at all	27%

45. Compared to voting in previous Congressional election years, are you more or less enthusiastic about voting in this year’s election?

More enthusiastic	37%
Less enthusiastic	16%
About the same	34%
Not sure	12%

46. What is your preference for the outcome of this year’s elections for the U.S. Senate?

Senate controlled by Democrats	36%
Senate controlled by Republicans	34%
Senate evenly divided between both parties	14%
No preference	16%

47. What do you expect will be the outcome of this year's elections for the U.S. Senate?

Democrats win majority in the Senate	27%
Republicans win majority in the Senate	29%
Senate remains evenly divided between both parties	13%
Not sure	30%

48. What is your preference for the outcome of this year's elections for the U.S. House of Representatives?

House controlled by Democrats	36%
House controlled by Republicans	35%
House evenly divided between both parties	13%
No preference	16%

49. What do you expect will be the outcome of this year's elections for the U.S. House of Representatives?

Democrats retain majority in the House	27%
Republicans win majority in the House	32%
House becomes evenly divided between both parties	11%
Not sure	30%

50. Do you want President Biden to run for president again in 2024?

Yes	23%
No	58%
Not sure	20%

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

Yes	30%
No	57%
Not sure	13%

52. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	65%	29%	4%	2%
Immigration	43%	35%	16%	6%
Climate change and the environment	42%	26%	16%	16%
Foreign policy	38%	46%	12%	5%
National Security	61%	30%	7%	2%
Education	59%	29%	8%	4%
Health care	65%	27%	6%	2%
Taxes and government spending	58%	33%	7%	2%
Abortion	45%	30%	16%	9%
Civil rights	58%	28%	10%	4%
Civil liberties	56%	31%	8%	5%

continued on the next page ...

continued from previous page

Guns	52%	29%	12%	8%
Crime	62%	29%	7%	3%
Criminal justice reform	46%	35%	13%	6%
Inflation/prices	72%	21%	4%	2%

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

Inflation/prices	21%
Climate change and the environment	12%
Health care	11%
Jobs and the economy	8%
Taxes and government spending	7%
Abortion	6%
Civil rights	6%
Immigration	6%
Education	5%
Guns	5%
National Security	5%
Crime	3%
Civil liberties	3%
Foreign policy	1%
Criminal justice reform	1%

54. 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	24%	22%	46%	11%	40%	51%	4%
Kamala Harris	16%	23%	39%	12%	39%	51%	10%
Donald Trump	21%	20%	41%	10%	44%	54%	4%

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

	Very favorable	Some-what favorable	Favorable	Some-what unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	20%	23%	43%	14%	34%	48%	9%
The Republican Party	13%	26%	39%	18%	34%	52%	9%

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

Strongly approve	18%
Somewhat approve	23%
Approve	41%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Disapprove	51%
Not sure	7%

57. 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%	24%	42%	13%	35%	48%	10%
Climate change and the environment	18%	25%	43%	12%	30%	42%	15%
National Security	18%	25%	43%	12%	32%	44%	13%
Taxes and government spending	14%	22%	36%	14%	39%	53%	11%

58. Would you say Joe Biden is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	14%
Somewhat strong	27%
Somewhat weak	20%
Very weak	40%

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

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	13%
Neither approve nor disapprove	17%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	32%
Not sure	12%

60. Do you have a favorable or 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	18%	23%	41%	14%	34%	48%	11%
Republicans in Congress	10%	23%	33%	21%	34%	55%	11%

61. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Nancy Pelosi is handling her job as the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	16%

62. 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	20%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	31%
Not sure	25%

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

Strongly approve	5%
Somewhat approve	16%
Somewhat disapprove	18%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	22%

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

Strongly approve	9%
Somewhat approve	17%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	29%
Not sure	31%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	15%
Strongly disapprove	30%
Not sure	16%

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

Very liberal	5%
Liberal	6%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	22%
Very conservative	24%
Not sure	17%

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

Getting better	15%
About the same	24%
Getting worse	51%
Not sure	10%

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

Higher	18%
About the same	23%
Lower	29%
Not sure	30%

69. 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	35%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	46%
Not sure	7%

70. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	11%
Somewhat worried	29%
Not very worried	60%

71. 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.	24%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	36%
Not very hard	26%
Not sure	14%

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

Very happy	28%
Happy	35%
Neither happy nor unhappy	25%
Unhappy	8%
Very unhappy	3%

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

Very liberal	12%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	32%
Conservative	18%
Very conservative	11%
Not sure	11%

74. 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%

75. How likely is it that you will vote in the 2022 congressional elections in November?

Definitely will vote	55%
Probably will vote	12%
Maybe will vote	11%
Probably will not vote	6%
Definitely will not vote	10%
Don't know	7%

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

Asked of those who are registered voters

The Democratic Party candidate	44%
The Republican Party candidate	38%
Other	1%
Not sure	12%
I would not vote	5%

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

Democrat	36%
Independent	40%
Republican	25%

78. Political Party Identification

Strong Democrat	23%
Not very strong Democrat	13%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	18%
Lean Republican	9%
Not very strong Republican	8%
Strong Republican	17%
Not sure	4%
Don't know	0%

79. 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%

80. How would you describe your own political viewpoint on social issues?

Very liberal	15%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	30%
Conservative	17%
Very conservative	11%
Not sure	10%

81. How would you describe your own political viewpoint on economic issues?

Very liberal	10%
Liberal	15%
Moderate	30%
Conservative	21%
Very conservative	11%
Not sure	12%

82. Are you... ?

Male	49%
Female	51%

83. Respondent age by category

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

84. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

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

86. What is your marital status?

Married	44%
Separated	3%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	6%
Never married	31%
Domestic / civil partnership	5%

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

Yes	21%
No	79%

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

Calculated from respondent's state of residence

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

89. How would you describe the place where you live?

Urban	29%
Suburb	35%
Rural/Other	36%

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

Under \$50K	42%
\$50-100K	29%
\$100K or more	19%
Prefer not to say	9%

91. Do you personally (or jointly with a spouse), have any money invested in the stock market right now, either in an individual stock or in a mutual fund?

Yes42%
 No58%

Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	September 3 - 6, 2022
Target population	U.S. Citizens, age 18 and over
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by gender, age, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2018 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2018 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement.
Weighting	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, and both 2016 and 2020 Presidential votes (or non-votes). The weights range from 0.283 to 4.102, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.473.
Number of respondents	1500 1337 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 2.8% (adjusted for weighting) ± 2.9% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	62 questions not reported.