

# The Economist/YouGov Poll

September 2 - 5, 2023 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens  
 Conducted September 2 - 5, 2023  
 Margin of Error ±3.3%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	23%
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
Ron DeSantis	15%	21%	10%	36%	18%
Donald Trump	22%	18%	11%	47%	2%
Dianne Feinstein	4%	14%	16%	32%	33%
Bernie Sanders	18%	27%	13%	31%	11%

## 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	18%	23%	12%	43%	4%
Kamala Harris	13%	23%	12%	43%	10%
Mitch McConnell	3%	13%	23%	42%	19%

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

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	71%	27%	1%	1%
Immigration	46%	37%	13%	4%
Climate change and the environment	43%	27%	16%	14%
Foreign policy	42%	44%	11%	3%
National Security	62%	30%	6%	1%
Education	61%	31%	6%	2%
Health care	68%	27%	3%	2%
Taxes and government spending	61%	32%	5%	1%
Abortion	46%	26%	19%	9%
Civil rights	53%	33%	10%	4%
Civil liberties	56%	33%	7%	4%
Guns	54%	29%	11%	6%

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Crime	64%	27%	7%	2%
Criminal justice reform	48%	36%	12%	5%
Inflation/prices	77%	19%	4%	1%

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

Inflation/prices	23%
Health care	12%
Jobs and the economy	12%
Climate change and the environment	10%
Immigration	6%
National Security	6%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Abortion	6%
Civil rights	5%
Guns	5%
Education	4%
Civil liberties	2%
Crime	2%
Criminal justice reform	1%
Foreign policy	1%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	25%
<b>Approve</b>	<b>41%</b>
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>53%</b>
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%	<b>41%</b>	13%	38%	<b>52%</b>	7%
Immigration	9%	23%	<b>32%</b>	13%	42%	<b>55%</b>	13%
Climate change and the environment	14%	25%	<b>39%</b>	13%	34%	<b>47%</b>	14%
Education	14%	25%	<b>39%</b>	13%	33%	<b>46%</b>	15%
Health care	17%	24%	<b>41%</b>	14%	32%	<b>46%</b>	13%
Civil rights	14%	26%	<b>40%</b>	13%	31%	<b>44%</b>	16%
Civil liberties	13%	25%	<b>38%</b>	13%	32%	<b>45%</b>	17%
Crime	10%	24%	<b>35%</b>	11%	39%	<b>51%</b>	15%
Inflation/prices	12%	20%	<b>33%</b>	13%	47%	<b>60%</b>	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	12%
Neither approve nor disapprove	17%
Somewhat disapprove	26%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	8%

9. 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	16%
Strongly disapprove	31%
Not sure	15%

10. 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%

11. 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 .....	43%
The Republican Party candidate .....	42%
Other .....	2%
Not sure .....	11%
I would not vote .....	2%

12. 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 .....	7%
Somewhat approve .....	22%
Somewhat disapprove .....	15%
Strongly disapprove .....	26%
Not sure .....	30%

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

Strongly approve .....	9%
Somewhat approve .....	21%
Somewhat disapprove .....	14%
Strongly disapprove .....	30%
Not sure .....	26%

14. 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 .....	15%
Somewhat disapprove .....	21%
Strongly disapprove .....	38%
Not sure .....	22%

15. 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 .....	10%
Somewhat approve .....	17%
Somewhat disapprove .....	10%
Strongly disapprove .....	20%
Not sure .....	42%

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

Very liberal	3%
Liberal	6%
Moderate	30%
Conservative	20%
Very conservative	23%
Not sure	18%

17. 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	14%	27%	<b>41%</b>	15%	36%	<b>50%</b>	9%
Republicans in Congress	9%	26%	<b>35%</b>	21%	35%	<b>56%</b>	9%

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

Excellent	5%
Good	18%
Fair	26%
Poor	48%
Don't know	3%

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

Getting better	16%
About the same	24%
Getting worse	54%
Not sure	6%

20. 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	38%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	46%
Not sure	3%

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

Full-time .....	38%
Part-time .....	11%
Temporarily laid off .....	0%
Unemployed .....	8%
Retired .....	20%
Permanently disabled .....	8%
Homemaker .....	8%
Student .....	5%
Other .....	2%

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

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

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

*Asked of students*

Full-time job .....	12%
Part-time job .....	27%
No job outside of school .....	62%

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

Unemployment .....	4%
Inflation .....	53%
Both equal .....	38%
Not sure .....	5%

**25. 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 .....	11%
Equally positive and negative .....	25%
Mostly negative .....	46%
Not heard much news about the economy at all .....	18%

**26. Do you think the economy is growing or shrinking?**

Growing .....	18%
Staying about the same .....	23%
Shrinking .....	41%
Not sure .....	18%

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

Yes	45%
No	28%
Not sure	27%

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

Very likely	4%
Somewhat likely	16%
Not very likely	15%
Not at all likely	4%
Not sure	16%
Not asked - Already in a recession	45%

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

The stock market index	4%
The unemployment rate and job reports	14%
The prices of goods and services you buy	58%
Your personal finances	10%
Don't know	14%

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

Very serious	22%
Somewhat serious	38%
A minor problem	25%
Not a problem	7%
Not sure	8%

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

Increased	25%
Stayed the same	27%
Decreased	17%
Don't know	31%

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

Increasing	32%
Staying the same	43%
Decreasing	25%

**33. Six months from now do you think there will be...**

Higher gas prices .....	57%
The same gas prices .....	18%
Lower gas prices .....	6%
Not sure .....	19%

**34. Six months from now do you think there will be...**

A higher rate of inflation .....	47%
The same rate of inflation .....	22%
A lower rate of inflation .....	13%
Not sure .....	18%

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

A lot .....	57%
A little .....	38%
Not at all .....	5%

**36. How worried are you about losing your job?**

*Asked of those currently employed*

Very worried .....	9%
Somewhat worried .....	33%
Not very worried .....	58%

**37. 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. ....	39%
Not very hard .....	22%
Not sure .....	9%

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

*Asked of those currently employed*

Very happy .....	28%
Happy .....	39%
Neither happy nor unhappy .....	24%
Unhappy .....	6%
Very unhappy .....	3%



39. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the Catholic Church?

Very favorable .....	11%
Somewhat favorable .....	26%
Somewhat unfavorable .....	23%
Very unfavorable .....	20%
Don't know .....	19%

40. Would you say the Catholic Church in the United States is...

Very liberal .....	5%
Liberal .....	9%
Moderate .....	24%
Conservative .....	21%
Very conservative .....	18%
Not sure .....	24%

41. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Pope Francis?

Very favorable .....	12%
Somewhat favorable .....	31%
Somewhat unfavorable .....	14%
Very unfavorable .....	12%
Don't know .....	31%

42. Would you say Pope Francis is...

Very liberal .....	11%
Liberal .....	15%
Moderate .....	28%
Conservative .....	11%
Very conservative .....	4%
Not sure .....	31%

43. Would you say Pope Francis is...

Too liberal .....	19%
About right .....	32%
Too conservative .....	9%
Not sure .....	40%

44. Has Pope Francis made you think...?

More positively about the Catholic Church .....	16%
No differently about the Catholic Church .....	42%
Less positively about the Catholic Church .....	16%
Don't know .....	27%

45. Do you think the Pope should take an active part in world affairs when he thinks he can help, or should he stay out of world affairs?

Should take an active part .....	36%
Should stay out .....	34%
Not sure .....	30%

46. Do you think the Pope should take an active part in the domestic affairs of the United States when he thinks he can help, or should he stay out of U.S. domestic affairs?

Should take an active part .....	25%
Should stay out .....	46%
Not sure .....	29%

47. Do you think old age helps U.S. elected officials to have the experience and wisdom to do a good job or hurts them by making it more difficult to do the work required by their positions?

Old age helps elected officials to have the experience and wisdom to do a good job .....	12%
Old age hurts elected officials by making it more difficult to do the work their positions require .....	52%
Old age has no impact on how well an elected official does their job .....	18%
Not sure .....	18%

48. Should there be a maximum age for someone in the U.S. to serve as...?

	Yes	No	Not sure
President	76%	14%	11%
A senator	73%	16%	12%
A member of Congress	72%	17%	11%

49. Some have proposed mandatory mental-competency tests for politicians over 75 years old with results released to the public. Would you support or oppose such tests?

Strongly support .....	52%
Somewhat support .....	24%
Somewhat oppose .....	8%
Strongly oppose .....	5%
Not sure .....	11%

50. How much of an effect do you think Joe Biden's health and age would have on his ability to fulfill his duties as President, if he were re-elected in 2024?

Severely limit his ability to do the job .....	57%
Have little effect on his ability to do the job .....	23%
Have no effect at all .....	6%
Not sure .....	14%

51. How much of an effect do you think Donald Trump's health and age would have on his ability to fulfill his duties as President, if he were elected in 2024?

Severely limit his ability to do the job .....	30%
Have little effect on his ability to do the job .....	33%
Have no effect at all .....	20%
Not sure .....	17%

52. 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	35%	33%	10%	22%
Dianne Feinstein	56%	10%	3%	31%
Mitch McConnell	59%	15%	4%	22%

53. Compared to other wealthy countries, do you think that the U.S. has a better or worse health care system?

Better .....	20%
About the same .....	18%
Worse .....	51%
Not sure .....	11%

54. Compared to other wealthy countries, do you think that people in the U.S. spend more or less on prescription drugs?

More .....	75%
About the same .....	12%
Less .....	3%
Not sure .....	10%

55. Do you support or oppose allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices directly with prescription-drug manufacturers?

Strongly support .....	42%
Somewhat support .....	26%
Somewhat oppose .....	5%
Strongly oppose .....	3%
Not sure .....	24%

56. Recently enacted legislation allows Medicare to negotiate drug prices directly with prescription-drug manufacturers. How likely do you think it is that will result in lower drug costs for you personally?

Very likely	11%
Somewhat likely	30%
Not very likely	23%
Not likely at all	12%
Not sure	24%

57. Do you think that allowing the government to negotiate drug prices directly with prescription-drug manufacturers, will result in...?

	Will have this effect	Will NOT have this effect	Not sure
Lower costs of prescription drugs	45%	22%	32%
Shortages of prescription drugs	28%	33%	39%
Increased transparency in drug pricing	39%	26%	35%
Decreased profits for pharmaceutical companies	36%	31%	33%

58. Do you personally know anyone who uses insulin? Check all that apply.

Yes, me	5%
Yes, a family member	19%
Yes, a close friend	12%
Yes, an acquaintance	9%
No	59%
Prefer not to say	2%

59. Do you support or oppose a law that sets limits on how much companies can charge people for insulin?

Strongly support	55%
Somewhat support	22%
Somewhat oppose	4%
Strongly oppose	6%
Not sure	12%

60. Which of the following drugs, if any, have you ever been prescribed? Select all that apply.

Eliquis .....	3%
Jardiance .....	3%
Xarelto .....	2%
Januvia .....	3%
Farxiga .....	2%
Entresto .....	1%
Enbrel .....	2%
Imbruvica .....	1%
Stelara .....	2%
Fiasp / NovoLog .....	2%
None of the above .....	80%
Not sure .....	8%

61. Have you ever received a prescription for a medication and not filled it because you could not afford to pay for the drug?

Yes .....	34%
No .....	62%
Prefer not to say .....	4%

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

The world's climate is changing as a result of human activity .....	54%
The world's climate is changing but NOT because of human activity .....	28%
The world's climate is NOT changing .....	7%
Not sure .....	11%

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

Yes, I have .....	50%
No, I have not .....	25%
Not sure .....	18%
The climate is not changing .....	7%

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

Yes, I will .....	10%
No, I will not .....	17%
Not sure .....	16%
I have already felt the effect of climate change .....	50%
The climate is not changing .....	7%

65. How much, if anything, have you heard recently about Hurricane Idalia hitting the southern United States?

A lot .....	45%
A little .....	47%
Nothing at all .....	8%

66. How responsible, if at all, do you think climate change is for the extent of recent hurricanes?

Entirely responsible .....	9%
Mostly responsible .....	23%
Somewhat responsible .....	27%
Not at all responsible .....	20%
Not sure .....	13%
The climate is not changing .....	7%

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

Very liberal .....	10%
Liberal .....	15%
Moderate .....	34%
Conservative .....	19%
Very conservative .....	14%
Not sure .....	10%

68. Are you registered to vote?

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

69. 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%

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

Democrat .....	33%
Republican .....	31%
Independent .....	24%
Other .....	4%
Not sure .....	8%

**71. Political Party Identification**

*Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification*

Strong Democrat .....	22%
Not very strong Democrat .....	11%
Lean Democrat .....	9%
Independent .....	17%
Lean Republican .....	7%
Not very strong Republican .....	12%
Strong Republican .....	19%
Not sure .....	3%
Don't know .....	0%

**72. Are you... ?**

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

**73. Respondent age by category**

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

**74. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?**

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

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

HS or less .....	36%
Some college .....	29%
College grad .....	22%
Postgrad .....	12%

**76. What is your marital status?**

Married .....	43%
Separated .....	2%
Divorced .....	11%
Widowed .....	5%
Never married .....	34%
Domestic / civil partnership .....	5%

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

Yes .....	22%
No .....	78%

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

*Calculated from respondent's state of residence*

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

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

Under \$50K .....	40%
\$50-100K .....	27%
\$100K or more .....	22%
Prefer not to say .....	11%

80. How important is religion in your life?

Very important .....	36%
Somewhat important .....	24%
Not too important .....	16%
Not at all important .....	23%

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

More than once a week .....	7%
Once a week .....	15%
Once or twice a month .....	7%
A few times a year .....	11%
Seldom .....	23%
Never .....	34%
Don't know .....	3%

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

Yes .....	29%
No .....	71%



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

Several times a day .....	25%
Once a day .....	14%
A few times a week .....	12%
Once a week .....	4%
A few times a month .....	7%
Seldom .....	13%
Never .....	22%
Don't know .....	4%

84. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant .....	29%
Roman Catholic .....	19%
Mormon .....	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox .....	1%
Jewish .....	3%
Muslim .....	3%
Buddhist .....	0%
Hindu .....	0%
Atheist .....	7%
Agnostic .....	6%
Nothing in particular .....	23%
Something else .....	8%

# ***The Economist/YouGov Poll***

**September 2 - 5, 2023 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens**



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	September 2 - 5, 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 0.059 to 6.533, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.846.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1500 1329 (Registered voters)
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3.3% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.1% (Registered voters)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	40 questions not reported.