

The Economist/YouGov Poll

January 29 - 31, 2023 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted January 29 - 31, 2023
 Margin of Error ±3.2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	25%
Off on the wrong track	62%
Not sure	13%

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

Excellent	4%
Good	19%
Excellent / Good	23%
Fair	30%
Poor	43%
Fair / Poor	73%
Don't know	4%

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

Unemployment	4%
Inflation	55%
Both equal	36%
Not sure	5%

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

Growing	19%
Staying about the same	24%
Shrinking	41%
Not sure	16%

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

Yes	53%
No	24%
Not sure	23%

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

Very likely	4%
Somewhat likely	20%
Not very likely	9%
Not at all likely	1%
Not sure	12%
Not asked - Already in a recession	53%

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

Higher gas prices	52%
The same gas prices	23%
Lower gas prices	9%
Not sure	15%

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

A higher rate of inflation	47%
The same rate of inflation	25%
A lower rate of inflation	14%
Not sure	14%

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

A lot	53%
A little	42%
Not at all	5%

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

Higher interest rates	52%
The same interest rates	22%
Lower interest rates	6%
Not sure	20%

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

More jobs	15%
The same amount of jobs	38%
Fewer jobs	31%
Not sure	16%

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

Yes	41%
No	4%
Not sure	6%
Not asked - Not employed	48%

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

	Ally	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy	Not sure
Russia	4%	4%	27%	54%	12%
Ukraine	33%	40%	7%	4%	16%
Germany	37%	34%	7%	3%	19%

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

Russia	21%
Ukraine	25%
Neither	34%
Not sure	21%

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

Russia	22%
Ukraine	31%
Equally likely	14%
Not sure	33%

16. Do you favor or oppose the U.S. providing Ukraine with the following things?

	Favor	Oppose	Not sure
Food and medical assistance	77%	12%	12%
Financial support	47%	31%	22%
Tanks	52%	27%	21%
Patriot missile defense system	48%	28%	24%
Fighter Jets	43%	32%	26%
Long range missiles	42%	35%	24%
U.S. Troops	21%	56%	23%

17. How serious a matter is it for a President to take classified documents with them after leaving office?

Very serious	49%
Somewhat serious	27%
Not very serious	9%
Not serious at all	3%
Don't Know	12%

18. Do you think Joe Biden intentionally took classified documents when he left the White House?

Yes	43%
No	31%
Not sure	26%

19. Has Joe Biden cooperated in returning documents?

Yes	43%
No	20%
Not sure	37%

20. Do you think Donald Trump intentionally took classified documents when he left the White House?

Yes56%
No21%
Not sure23%

21. Has Donald Trump cooperated in returning documents?

Yes26%
No46%
Not sure28%

22. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about a lawyer for former Vice President Mike Pence discovering documents marked as classified at Pence's Indiana home?

A lot21%
A little52%
Nothing at all27%

23. Do you think Mike Pence intentionally took classified documents when he left the White House?

Yes25%
No37%
Not sure38%

24. Has Mike Pence cooperated in returning documents?

Yes46%
No10%
Not sure44%

25. Do you think Joe Biden and Donald Trump taking classified documents with them was about the same and should be treated similarly, or was one a more serious offense than the other?

About the same37%
One was a more serious offense than the other46%
Not sure17%

26. Whose taking of secret documents was a more serious offense?

Joe Biden17%
Donald Trump29%
About the same37%
Not sure17%

27. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about Donald Trump being allowed to post on Facebook and Instagram again?

A lot20%
A little52%
Nothing at all27%

28. Do you support or oppose Donald Trump being allowed to post on Facebook and Instagram again?

Strongly support	31%
Somewhat support	17%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	27%
Not sure	15%

29. Do you support or oppose Facebook's decision to suspend Donald Trump's account after January 6, 2021?

Strongly support	35%
Somewhat support	11%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	29%
Not sure	14%

30. 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	22%	15%	38%	9%	29%	38%	25%
Mike Pence	11%	27%	38%	21%	24%	46%	16%

31. How much have you heard about a bill proposed by Republicans in the House of Representatives called "The Fair Tax Act"?

A lot	12%
A little	42%
Nothing at all	46%

32. The Fair Tax Act would abolish the IRS and replace all taxes with a 23% national sales tax. Do you favor or oppose The Fair Tax Act?

Strongly favor	11%
Somewhat favor	16%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	30%
Not sure	30%

33. Who do you think would benefit most from the Fair Tax Act?

Rich people	42%
Middle class people	8%
Poor people	6%
All people about equally	17%
Not sure	27%

34. Who do you think would be hurt the most by the Fair Tax Act?

Rich people	8%
Middle class people	15%
Poor people	41%
All people about equally	10%
Not sure	25%

35. What comes closest to your opinion?

A 23% sales tax would bring in at least as much revenue as the income tax does now ...	22%
The sales tax rate would need to be higher to make up for the loss of revenue from the income tax	23%
Not sure	55%

36. Currently, Social Security taxes are paid on earnings up to . Would you support or oppose lifting that cap so that Social Security taxes are paid on all earnings, not just earnings under \$160,000?

Strongly support	32%
Somewhat support	22%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	9%
Not sure	29%

37. How serious of a problem do you think a lack of competition is among major tech companies in the U.S.?

Very serious	27%
Somewhat serious	34%
Not very serious	13%
Not at all serious	3%
Not sure	23%

38. Do you think that Google has a monopoly on internet advertising?

Yes	51%
No	22%
Not sure	27%

39. Do you approve or disapprove of the U.S. Department of Justice suing Google for monopolizing digital advertising technologies?

Approve	41%
Disapprove	19%
Not sure	40%

40. Which is more important?

The right of people to own guns	17%
Protecting people from gun violence	39%
Both are equally important	40%
Not sure	4%

41. Do you or does anyone in your household own a gun?

Personally own a gun	22%
Don't personally own a gun, but someone in the household owns a gun	14%
No one in the household owns a gun	55%
Not sure	8%

42. In general, do you feel the laws covering the sale of handguns should be made more strict than they are now?

Make gun laws more strict	58%
No change	23%
Make gun laws less strict	11%
Not sure	8%

43. Do you think that stricter gun laws would or would not have prevented any of the recent mass shootings?

Would have	39%
Would not have	42%
Not sure	20%

44. Do you think that states with stricter gun laws generally have higher or lower rates of gun violence than states with less strict gun laws?

Higher rates of gun violence	27%
Lower rates of gun violence	29%
No difference	21%
Not sure	23%

45. How much of a problem do you think it is that people are able to purchase guns in states with lenient gun laws and bring them to states with stricter gun laws where they would not have been able to purchase them?

Very serious problem	39%
Somewhat serious problem	22%
Not very serious problem	13%
Not at problem	10%
Not sure	15%

46. Do you favor or oppose any of the following?

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	Not sure
Banning semi-automatic weapons	43%	14%	8%	22%	13%
Banning the sale of magazine clips for semi-automatic weapons that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition	46%	13%	9%	19%	13%
Requiring criminal and mental background checks for all those buying guns, including at gun shows and private sales	59%	17%	6%	9%	9%
Creating red flag laws that allow a court to temporarily remove guns from people that are believed to pose a danger to themselves or others	50%	18%	8%	13%	12%
Establishing stricter requirements regulating the storage of guns in homes	43%	18%	10%	16%	13%
Establishing a tax on ammunition and guns that is used to finance violence prevention and school safety efforts	39%	17%	9%	20%	16%
Limiting who can be issued a license to carry concealed weapons	45%	18%	10%	15%	12%
Allowing cities to designate certain areas as 'gun free zones'	34%	15%	12%	22%	17%
Allowing private citizens to sue gun dealers who break the law	40%	19%	8%	14%	19%
Holding the gun owner responsible for crimes committed with their guns, even if the gun owner doesn't commit a crime themselves	29%	20%	15%	22%	14%

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

A lot	46%
A little	36%
Nothing at all	17%

48. Have you watched any of the released videos from Memphis police officers' body cameras that shows Tyre Nichols being beaten by police officers?

Yes	43%
No	49%
Not sure	8%

49. Tyre Nichols was hospitalized after five 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	8%
Not justified	71%
Not sure	20%

50. The 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	7%
Not sure	22%

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

Will be found guilty	60%
Will NOT be found guilty	8%
Not sure	33%

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

Should be found guilty	69%
Should NOT be found guilty	6%
Not sure	24%

53. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	65%	28%	4%	2%
Immigration	48%	33%	14%	5%
Climate change and the environment	41%	27%	16%	17%
Foreign policy	39%	42%	15%	4%
National Security	62%	28%	6%	4%
Education	58%	31%	7%	4%
Health care	65%	27%	4%	4%
Taxes and government spending	61%	30%	7%	2%
Abortion	48%	26%	15%	11%
Civil rights	57%	26%	11%	5%
Civil liberties	53%	34%	9%	4%
Guns	54%	29%	12%	5%
Crime	63%	28%	6%	2%
Criminal justice reform	49%	34%	12%	6%
Inflation/prices	73%	21%	4%	2%

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

Inflation/prices	20%
Health care	11%
Jobs and the economy	11%
Climate change and the environment	10%
Immigration	9%
Guns	6%
National Security	6%
Abortion	6%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Civil rights	5%
Education	5%
Crime	5%
Criminal justice reform	2%
Civil liberties	1%
Foreign policy	1%

55. Which would you say is a more important issue for you?

The conflict in Ukraine	8%
[Most important issue selected above]	92%

56. 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	19%	25%	44%	12%	38%	50%	6%
Kamala Harris	15%	25%	40%	11%	39%	50%	10%
Kevin McCarthy	9%	21%	30%	13%	29%	42%	28%
Mitch McConnell	4%	16%	21%	20%	37%	57%	22%
Chuck Schumer	12%	21%	33%	11%	31%	41%	25%
Hakeem Jeffries	13%	14%	27%	11%	17%	28%	45%
Donald Trump	23%	17%	40%	9%	45%	54%	7%

57. 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%	25%	42%	13%	34%	47%	10%
The Republican Party	14%	26%	40%	15%	35%	50%	10%

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

Strongly approve	16%
Somewhat approve	26%
Approve	41%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Disapprove	52%
Not sure	7%

59. 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	17%	23%	40%	15%	35%	49%	11%
Immigration	10%	24%	33%	15%	38%	53%	14%
Foreign policy	17%	22%	39%	15%	31%	46%	15%
Guns	10%	22%	31%	18%	35%	53%	16%
Crime	10%	21%	30%	16%	37%	53%	16%
Criminal justice reform	8%	24%	33%	16%	31%	46%	21%
Inflation/prices	12%	19%	31%	16%	43%	58%	10%

60. How much do you think Joe Biden cares about the needs and problems of people like you?

A lot	18%
Some	24%
Not much	15%
Doesn't care at all	34%
Not sure	8%

61. Do you think Joe Biden is honest and trustworthy, or not?

Honest and trustworthy	37%
Not honest and trustworthy	46%
Not sure	17%

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

Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	13%
Neither approve nor disapprove	20%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	28%
Not sure	12%

63. 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	16%	24%	40%	15%	33%	49%	12%
Republicans in Congress	10%	26%	36%	17%	35%	52%	12%

64. 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	10%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	26%
Not sure	31%

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

Strongly approve	13%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	27%
Not sure	28%

66. 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	17%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	32%
Not sure	28%

67. 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	16%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	16%
Not sure	44%

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

Strongly approve	10%
Somewhat approve	26%
Somewhat disapprove	18%
Strongly disapprove	24%
Not sure	22%

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

Very liberal	3%
Liberal	7%
Moderate	27%
Conservative	21%
Very conservative	20%
Not sure	22%

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

Getting better	13%
About the same	24%
Getting worse	52%
Not sure	10%

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

Higher	20%
About the same	23%
Lower	25%
Not sure	32%

72. 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	40%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	39%
Not sure	8%

73. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	6%
Somewhat worried	34%
Not very worried	60%

74. 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.	25%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	38%
Not very hard	24%
Not sure	14%

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

Very happy	25%
Happy	37%
Neither happy nor unhappy	30%
Unhappy	5%
Very unhappy	3%

76. 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	42%
Some of the time	25%
Only now and then	14%
Hardly at all	12%
Don't know	6%

77. 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%

78. Do you identify as a MAGA Republican?

Asked of Republicans

Yes	39%
No	42%
Not sure	20%

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

Very liberal	9%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	29%
Conservative	19%
Very conservative	12%
Not sure	12%

80. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	73%
Not registered	27%

81. 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%

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

Democrats	34%
Independents	35%
Republicans	31%

83. 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	16%
Lean Republican	7%
Not very strong Republican	12%
Strong Republican	19%
Not sure	6%
Don't know	0%

84. Are you... ?

Male	48%
Female	52%

85. Respondent age by category

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

86. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

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

88. What is your marital status?

Married	45%
Separated	1%
Divorced	12%
Widowed	7%
Never married	30%
Domestic / civil partnership	5%

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

Yes	21%
No	79%

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

Calculated from respondent's state of residence

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

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

Under \$50K	40%
\$50-100K	28%
\$100K or more	19%
Prefer not to say	13%

92. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	38%
Somewhat important	25%
Not too important	14%
Not at all important	23%

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

More than once a week	9%
Once a week	19%
Once or twice a month	6%
A few times a year	11%
Seldom	20%
Never	32%
Don't know	3%

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

Yes	33%
No	67%

95. 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	13%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	5%
Seldom	13%
Never	20%
Don't know	5%

96. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	27%
Roman Catholic	22%
Mormon	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	2%
Buddhist	2%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	23%
Something else	9%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	January 29 - 31, 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 0.086 to 6.552, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.774.
Number of respondents	1500 1319 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 3.2% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	54 questions not reported.