

# The Economist/YouGov Poll

October 9 - 12, 2021 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1500 U.S. Adult citizens  
Conducted October 9 - 12, 2021  
Margin of Error ±3%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	26%
Off on the wrong track	58%
Not sure	16%

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

Excellent	4%
Good	18%
Fair	34%
Poor	38%
Don't know	7%

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

Unemployment	16%
Inflation	30%
Both equal	45%
Not sure	8%

## 4. 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	7%
Equally positive and negative	26%
Mostly negative	49%
Not heard much news about the economy at all	18%

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

Very serious	34%
Somewhat serious	40%
A minor problem	14%
Not a problem	4%
Not sure	8%

## 6. How serious a problem is unemployment in your LOCAL community?

Very serious	19%
Somewhat serious	34%
A minor problem	22%
Not a problem	10%
Not sure	16%

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

The stock market index .....	6%
The unemployment rate and job reports .....	21%
The prices of goods and services you buy .....	50%
Your personal finances .....	9%
Don't know .....	15%

8. What is the current unemployment rate in the U.S.? Please tell us the percentage of adults who want to work that are currently unemployed and looking for a job. If you don't know, please make your best guess.

Less than 4% .....	2%
Between 4% and 5% .....	18%
Between 5% and 6% .....	10%
Between 6% and 7% .....	7%
Between 5% and 7% .....	0%
Between 7% and 8% .....	8%
Greater than 8% .....	0%
Between 8% and 10% .....	7%
Between 10% and 12% .....	6%
Between 12% and 15% .....	6%
Greater than 15% .....	8%
Not sure .....	27%

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

Increased .....	21%
Stayed the same .....	28%
Decreased .....	26%
Don't know .....	25%

10. How good of a job do you think the national unemployment rate does explaining the actual health of the national economy?

Very good .....	3%
Good .....	15%
Fair .....	33%
Poor .....	20%
Very poor .....	11%
Don't know .....	17%

11. The government releases unemployment numbers on the first Friday of the month. Do you think the government numbers are accurate or do you think there are more unemployed people or fewer unemployed people?

More unemployed people .....	53%
The government numbers are accurate .....	17%
Fewer unemployed people .....	7%
Don't know .....	23%

<b>12. Do you think improving the economy is...</b>	
Something the president can do a lot about .....	47%
Something the president can do a little about .....	36%
Something that is that mostly beyond the president's control .....	18%
<b>13. Which President do you think is more responsible for the current state of the American economy?</b>	
President Trump .....	26%
President Biden .....	46%
Neither one .....	14%
Not sure .....	14%
<b>14. How long do you think it will take until the economy has recovered all the ground lost during the pandemic?</b>	
Has already recovered .....	3%
Less than a year .....	4%
About a year .....	14%
Two years .....	21%
More than two years .....	57%
<b>15. How closely are you following the news about COVID-19?</b>	
Very closely .....	26%
Somewhat closely .....	44%
Not very closely .....	21%
Not following at all .....	9%
<b>16. Do you personally know anyone who... [has died due to complications from covid-19]? Check all that apply.</b>	
Yes, a family member .....	13%
Yes, a close friend .....	21%
No .....	64%
Prefer not to say .....	4%
<b>17. Taking into consideration both your risk of contracting it and the seriousness of the illness, how worried are you personally about experiencing COVID-19?</b>	
Very worried .....	15%
Somewhat worried .....	37%
Not too worried .....	29%
Not worried at all .....	19%
<b>18. In the past seven days, how often have you worn a mask on your face when outside your home?</b>	
Always .....	35%
Most of the time .....	21%
Some of the time .....	24%
Never .....	20%

19. Do you think the number of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is...

Increasing .....	26%
Not changing .....	16%
Decreasing .....	41%
Not sure .....	17%

20. Do you think the number of cases of COVID-19 in the community where you live is...

Increasing .....	20%
Not changing .....	20%
Decreasing .....	38%
Not sure .....	22%

21. Looking at the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S., do you believe that...

The pandemic is going to get worse .....	21%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic .....	13%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us .....	38%
Not sure .....	27%

22. How would you describe your personal situation regarding COVID-19 vaccines?

I have received all the injections required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 .....	63%
I have started the vaccination process, but need another shot .....	5%
I plan to get vaccinated .....	6%
I will not get vaccinated .....	18%
I'm not sure about getting vaccinated .....	9%

23. Which vaccine did you receive?  
*Among people who have been vaccinated*

Pfizer-BioNtech .....	50%
Moderna .....	39%
Oxford-AstraZeneca .....	1%
Johnson & Johnson .....	10%

24. Do you think students in K-12 schools should be required to wear masks in school?

Should .....	56%
Should not .....	32%
Not sure .....	13%

25. Do you think students age 12 and up should be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19?

Should .....	50%
Should not .....	35%
Not sure .....	15%

26. In general, how safe are vaccines given to children for diseases like measles, mumps, and rubella?

Very safe .....	56%
Somewhat safe .....	30%
Not very safe .....	8%
Not safe at all .....	6%

27. Do you think parents should be required to have their children vaccinated against infectious diseases?

Yes .....	60%
No .....	23%
Not sure .....	17%

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling COVID-19?

Strongly approve .....	23%
Somewhat approve .....	22%
Somewhat disapprove .....	12%
Strongly disapprove .....	34%
Not sure .....	10%

29. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about President Joe Biden announcing a vaccine mandate?

A lot .....	40%
A little .....	46%
Nothing at all .....	15%

30. President Joe Biden announced that federal agencies and businesses with 100 or more employees will need to ensure all their employees are fully vaccinated or tested for COVID-19 weekly. Do you approve or disapprove of this mandate?

Strongly approve .....	36%
Somewhat approve .....	14%
Somewhat disapprove .....	8%
Strongly disapprove .....	34%
Not sure .....	8%

31. Do you think this mandate would be...

Too strict .....	40%
About right .....	34%
Not strict enough .....	12%
Not sure .....	13%

32. In your opinion, when do you think the COVID-19 pandemic will finally end?

The pandemic has already ended .....	8%
Before the end of 2021 .....	5%
In 2022 .....	27%
After 2022 .....	39%
Never .....	22%

33. Do you personally know anyone who... [has been laid off from work due to covid-19]? Check all that apply.

Yes, me .....	11%
Yes, a family member .....	14%
Yes, a close friend .....	15%
No .....	62%
Prefer not to say .....	3%

34. Do you personally know anyone who... [has tested positive for covid-19]? Check all that apply.

Yes, me .....	11%
Yes, a family member .....	37%
Yes, a close friend .....	34%
No .....	34%
Prefer not to say .....	4%

35. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	15%	18%	7%	35%	26%
Ilhan Omar	10%	14%	7%	32%	38%
Rashida Tlaib	8%	12%	6%	30%	44%
Ayanna Pressley	7%	10%	5%	20%	59%
Joe Manchin	6%	17%	16%	21%	39%
Kyrsten Sinema	5%	14%	12%	20%	48%
Chuck Grassley	7%	11%	10%	20%	52%
Liz Cheney	7%	20%	16%	25%	32%
Lauren Boebert	6%	8%	6%	20%	59%
Marjorie Taylor Greene	10%	9%	6%	33%	42%

36. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news about a bipartisan infrastructure bill currently being negotiated in Congress?

A lot .....	36%
A little .....	40%
Nothing at all .....	24%

37. The U.S. House of Representatives has been negotiating a bipartisan \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill which would address economic, climate and health care concerns. Would you support or oppose this bill?

Strongly support	28%
Somewhat support	20%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	21%
Not sure	21%

38. Do you think that President Biden's infrastructure plan would help you or harm you?

Help me	28%
Harm me	28%
Not really affect me	19%
Not sure	24%

39. As you may know, the 1973 Supreme Court Case Roe v. Wade established a woman's constitutional right to have an abortion. Would you like to see the Supreme Court overturn its Roe v. Wade decision, or not?

Yes, would like to see Roe v. Wade overturned	28%
No, would not like to see Roe v. Wade overturned (maintain abortion rights in all 50 states)	52%
Not sure	20%

40. How likely do you think it is that the U.S. Supreme Court will overturn Roe v. Wade, the case that made abortion legal across the United States?

Definitely will happen	4%
Very likely	14%
50% chance	40%
Unlikely	31%
Definitely will not happen	11%

41. Do you believe Roe v. Wade will be overturned within the next year?

*Asked of those who believe Roe v. Wade has at least a 50% chance of being overturned*

Yes	21%
No	20%
Not sure	59%

42. How much, if anything, have you heard in the news recently about new abortion laws in Texas and Mississippi?

A lot	40%
A little	42%
Nothing at all	18%

43. Earlier the Texas State Legislature passed a law banning abortions after 6 weeks of pregnancy, and allowing people to sue healthcare providers for facilitating abortions. Do you approve or disapprove of this law?

Strongly approve .....	23%
Somewhat approve .....	15%
Somewhat disapprove .....	11%
Strongly disapprove .....	40%
Not sure .....	13%

44. Earlier the Mississippi State Legislature passed a law banning abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. Do you approve or disapprove of this law?

Strongly approve .....	26%
Somewhat approve .....	17%
Somewhat disapprove .....	10%
Strongly disapprove .....	32%
Not sure .....	15%

45. How many guns are in your house?

*Asked of those who own guns or there is a gun in the household*

1 .....	41%
2 .....	25%
3-5 .....	18%
6-10 .....	7%
More than 10 .....	9%

46. Which is more important?

The right of people to own guns .....	20%
Protecting people from gun violence .....	29%
Both are equally important .....	44%
Not sure .....	8%

47. 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 .....	50%
No change .....	27%
Make gun laws less strict .....	13%
Not sure .....	10%

48. Do you think the number of school shootings has increased or decreased over the last 20 years?

School shootings have increased .....	60%
School shootings have decreased .....	6%
About the same .....	19%
Not sure .....	14%



49. Do you think new gun control laws or just better enforcement of current gun control laws would better prevent future school shootings?

New gun control laws .....	30%
Better enforcement of current gun control laws .....	46%
Not sure .....	24%

50. Are you worried that a school shooting could happen at a school in your area?

Yes .....	46%
No .....	37%
Not sure .....	18%

51. How worried are you that a school shooting could happen at a school in your area?

Very worried .....	19%
Somewhat worried .....	24%
Not very worried .....	3%
Not worried at all .....	37%
Not sure .....	18%

52. Has there ever been a school shooting in your community?

Yes .....	13%
No .....	69%
Not sure .....	18%

53. Do you support or oppose giving teachers and school administrators permission to carry firearms on school property?

Support strongly .....	21%
Support somewhat .....	20%
Oppose somewhat .....	14%
Oppose strongly .....	28%
Not sure .....	17%

54. Do you think arming school teachers with firearms would:

Increase the number of shootings in schools .....	21%
Reduce the number of shootings in schools .....	29%
Not affect the number of shootings in schools .....	24%
Not sure .....	25%

55. 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%	31%	14%	6%

*continued on the next page ...*

*continued from previous page*

Climate change and the environment	45%	23%	17%	16%
Foreign policy	39%	41%	14%	6%
National Security	63%	26%	8%	4%
Education	60%	27%	9%	4%
Health care	67%	24%	6%	3%
Taxes and government spending	58%	30%	8%	4%
Abortion	44%	30%	18%	8%
Civil rights	56%	27%	11%	6%
Civil liberties	56%	31%	8%	5%
Guns	46%	31%	14%	8%
Crime	57%	33%	6%	4%
Criminal justice reform	48%	31%	14%	7%

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

Jobs and the economy	14%
Immigration	8%
Climate change and the environment	15%
Foreign policy	1%
National Security	7%
Education	5%
Health care	18%
Taxes and government spending	10%
Abortion	4%
Civil rights	7%
Civil liberties	3%
Guns	4%
Crime	3%
Criminal justice reform	2%

**57. 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	23%	20%	11%	40%	6%
Kamala Harris	19%	20%	10%	40%	11%
Nancy Pelosi	16%	18%	11%	44%	11%
Kevin McCarthy	8%	13%	14%	31%	35%
Mitch McConnell	5%	15%	19%	43%	19%
Chuck Schumer	11%	20%	11%	34%	23%
Donald Trump	25%	15%	8%	44%	6%
Barack Obama	33%	17%	10%	32%	7%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	16%	21%	15%	38%	10%
The Republican Party	11%	20%	18%	41%	10%

59. Do you think the current Congress has accomplished more or less than Congress usually does at this point in its two-year term?

More than usual	9%
About the same	24%
Less than usual	42%
Not sure	26%

60. Who is more to blame for Congress achieving less than usual?

Democrats in Congress	42%
Republicans in Congress	24%
Both equally	32%
Neither	0%
Not sure	2%

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

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	23%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	38%
Not sure	11%

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

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Jobs and the economy	16%	23%	14%	36%	12%
Education	15%	22%	10%	33%	20%
Health care	15%	22%	13%	33%	17%
Abortion	13%	19%	11%	34%	23%
Guns	9%	19%	13%	37%	22%

63. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal .....	29%
Liberal .....	21%
Moderate .....	25%
Conservative .....	5%
Very conservative .....	3%
Not sure .....	17%

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

A lot .....	22%
Some .....	18%
Not much .....	14%
Doesn't care at all .....	36%
Not sure .....	10%

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

Like a lot .....	24%
Like somewhat .....	15%
Neither like nor dislike .....	17%
Dislike somewhat .....	8%
Dislike a lot .....	27%
Not sure .....	9%

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

Very strong .....	15%
Somewhat strong .....	25%
Somewhat weak .....	18%
Very weak .....	42%

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

Honest and trustworthy .....	36%
Not honest and trustworthy .....	46%
Not sure .....	17%

68. Are you confident in Joe Biden's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident .....	34%
Uneasy .....	49%
Not sure .....	16%

69. Do you think Joe Biden...

Says what he believes .....	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear .....	45%
Not sure .....	18%

70. Do you think that Joe Biden will be able to bring the country together as President?

Yes .....	16%
No .....	58%
Not sure .....	25%

71. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the next few years with Joe Biden as President?

Optimistic .....	33%
Pessimistic .....	47%
Not sure .....	20%

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

Strongly approve .....	3%
Somewhat approve .....	10%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	16%
Somewhat disapprove .....	19%
Strongly disapprove .....	40%
Not sure .....	12%

73. 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 .....	16%
Somewhat approve .....	17%
Somewhat disapprove .....	9%
Strongly disapprove .....	42%
Not sure .....	16%

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 .....	11%
Somewhat approve .....	18%
Somewhat disapprove .....	10%
Strongly disapprove .....	36%
Not sure .....	24%

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	3%
Somewhat approve	14%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	45%
Not sure	21%

76. 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	6%
Somewhat approve	15%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	33%
Not sure	34%

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

Strongly approve	7%
Somewhat approve	25%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	24%
Not sure	25%

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

Very liberal	4%
Liberal	8%
Moderate	28%
Conservative	18%
Very conservative	17%
Not sure	25%

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

Getting better	14%
About the same	25%
Getting worse	48%
Not sure	13%

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

Higher	18%
About the same	21%
Lower	26%
Not sure	35%

81. 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?

Yes .....	39%
No .....	61%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago .....	16%
About the same financially as you were a year ago .....	43%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	32%
Not sure .....	9%

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

More jobs .....	24%
The same amount of jobs .....	30%
Fewer jobs .....	20%
Not sure .....	26%

84. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried .....	9%
Somewhat worried .....	27%
Not very worried .....	63%

85. 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. ....	31%
Not very hard .....	27%
Not sure .....	18%

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

Very happy .....	23%
Happy .....	35%
Neither happy nor unhappy .....	29%
Unhappy .....	8%
Very unhappy .....	5%

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

Very liberal .....	13%
Liberal .....	15%
Moderate .....	30%
Conservative .....	18%
Very conservative .....	13%
Not sure .....	12%

<b>88. Are you registered to vote?</b>	
Registered .....	80%
Not registered .....	20%
<b>89. Who did you vote for in the election for President in 2020?</b>	
Joe Biden .....	34%
Donald Trump .....	31%
Other .....	1%
Did not vote for President .....	33%
<b>90. If an election for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?</b>	
The Democratic Party candidate .....	45%
The Republican Party candidate .....	37%
Other .....	2%
Not sure .....	11%
I would not vote .....	4%
<b>91. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?</b>	
Democrat .....	32%
Republican .....	25%
Independent .....	30%
Other .....	4%
Not sure .....	9%
<b>92. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?</b>	
Strong Democrat .....	21%
Not very strong Democrat .....	10%
Lean Democrat .....	9%
Independent .....	20%
Lean Republican .....	8%
Not very strong Republican .....	9%
Strong Republican .....	16%
Not sure .....	6%
<b>93. Would you say that Joe Biden legitimately won the election, or not?</b>	
Biden legitimately won the election .....	61%
Biden did NOT legitimately win the election .....	39%



94. How likely or unlikely do you think it is that Donald Trump will be re-instated as President before the end of 2021?

Very likely .....	7%
Somewhat likely .....	8%
Not very likely .....	13%
Not likely at all .....	60%
Not sure .....	12%

95. Are you... ?

Male .....	48%
Female .....	52%

96. Respondent age by category

Under 30 .....	20%
30-44 .....	23%
45-64 .....	34%
65+ .....	22%

97. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White .....	68%
Black .....	13%
Hispanic .....	12%
Other .....	7%

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

HS or less .....	37%
Some college .....	29%
College grad .....	22%
Postgrad .....	12%

99. What is your marital status?

Married .....	44%
Separated .....	2%
Divorced .....	11%
Widowed .....	6%
Never married .....	32%
Domestic / civil partnership .....	5%

100. Calculated from respondent's state of residence

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

<b>101. How would you describe the place where you live?</b>	
Urban .....	29%
Suburb .....	37%
Rural/Other .....	34%
<b>102. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?</b>	
Yes .....	20%
No .....	80%
<b>103. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?</b>	
Under \$50K .....	44%
\$50-100K .....	25%
\$100K or more .....	17%
Prefer not to say .....	14%
<b>104. How important is religion in your life?</b>	
Very important .....	35%
Somewhat important .....	26%
Not too important .....	15%
Not at all important .....	25%
<b>105. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?</b>	
More than once a week .....	7%
Once a week .....	15%
Once or twice a month .....	6%
A few times a year .....	12%
Seldom .....	21%
Never .....	34%
Don't know .....	5%
<b>106. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?</b>	
Yes .....	30%
No .....	70%

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

Several times a day .....	24%
Once a day .....	14%
A few times a week .....	12%
Once a week .....	3%
A few times a month .....	7%
Seldom .....	13%
Never .....	21%
Don't know .....	7%

108. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant .....	30%
Roman Catholic .....	17%
Mormon .....	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox .....	1%
Jewish .....	2%
Muslim .....	1%
Buddhist .....	1%
Hindu .....	0%
Atheist .....	6%
Agnostic .....	6%
Nothing in particular .....	25%
Something else .....	7%

**The Economist/YouGov Poll**  
October 9 - 12, 2021 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens



<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	October 9 - 12, 2021
<b>Target population</b>	US Adult Population
<b>Sampling method</b>	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.
<b>Weighting</b>	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, and both 2016 and 2020 Presidential votes (or non-votes). The weights range from 0.27 to 6.03, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.605.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1500 1266 (Registered voters)
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.2% (Registered voters)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	42 questions not reported.