Biden Loses Ground With the Public on Issues, Personal Traits and Job Approval

More support than opposition for infrastructure bills; majorities favor raising taxes on large businesses, high-income households
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How we did this

Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand the public’s views on President Joe Biden’s job performance, the nation’s economy, and proposed infrastructure bills. The study also surveyed adults about Biden’s handling of Afghanistan and views about the admittance of thousands of Afghan refugees into the country. For this analysis, we surveyed 10,371 U.S. adults in September 2021. Everyone who took part in this survey is a member of the Center’s American Trends Panel (ATP), an online survey panel that is recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This way nearly all U.S. adults have a chance of selection. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other categories. Read more about the ATP’s methodology.

Here are the questions used for the report, along with responses, and its methodology.
Biden Loses Ground With the Public on Issues, Personal Traits and Job Approval

More support than opposition for infrastructure bills; majorities favor raising taxes on large businesses, high-income households

With his administration facing multiple challenges at home and abroad, President Joe Biden’s job approval rating has fallen sharply in the past two months. Fewer than half of U.S. adults (44%) now approve of the way Biden is handling his job as president, while 53% disapprove. This marks a reversal in Biden’s job ratings since July, when a 55% majority approved of his job performance and 43% disapproved.

Since spring, public confidence in Biden has declined across several issues. In March, majorities expressed confidence in him across six of seven dimensions, including his handling of the public health impact of the coronavirus, and foreign and economic policies. Today, about half still express confidence in his handling of the coronavirus and the economy – but majorities have little or no confidence in him in four other areas.

Positive evaluations of several of Biden’s personal traits and characteristics have shown similar decreases. Compared with March, fewer adults say Biden cares about people like them, and fewer describe him as standing up for his beliefs, honest, a good role model and mentally sharp.

While opinions about Biden remain sharply divided along partisan lines, the decline in his public standing has come among members of both parties. On his job rating, for example, there has been a 13 percentage point decline in the share of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents who approve of Biden’s performance (from 88% in July to 75% today); only 9% of Republicans and GOP leaners approve, down from 17% two months ago.
The new survey by Pew Research Center, conducted Sept. 13-19 among 10,371 adults on the Center’s nationally representative American Trends Panel, finds that Biden is not the only political leader in Washington whose job ratings have fallen. Just 27% of Americans approve of GOP congressional leaders, down 5 percentage points since April. The decline in approval ratings for Democratic leaders in Congress has been even larger, from 50% to 39%.

There also are signs that the public is generally becoming more pessimistic: Just 26% say they are satisfied with the way things are going in the country, down from 33% six months ago. And while views of current economic conditions remain lackluster – 26% rate them as excellent or good – expectations for the economy over the next year have become more negative than they were in the spring.

Currently, 37% of Americans say economic conditions will be worse a year from now, while 29% say things will be better; 34% expect little change. In March, more said economic conditions would improve (44%) than get worse (31%) over the next year, while 24% said conditions would be about the same as they are now.

As has been the case since he took office, Biden draws more public confidence for his handling of the public health impact of the coronavirus than other issues.

About half (51%) are very or somewhat confident in his handling of the coronavirus outbreak, but that is down from 65% in March. The shares expressing confidence in Biden’s handling of economic policy, foreign policy and immigration policy also have declined.
Biden continues to draw less confidence for unifying the country than on dealing with specific issues; only about a third (34%) are confident he can bring the country closer together, a 14 percentage point decline since March.

Assessments of Biden’s personal traits also have become less positive. While majorities say he stands up for what he believes in (60%) and cares about the needs of ordinary people (54%), larger shares described Biden in these terms six months ago (66% and 62%, respectively).

Biden receives his least positive assessments for being mentally sharp. Currently, 43% say this describes Biden very or fairly well, an 11-point decline since March.

### Biden draws more confidence for handling pandemic than in other areas, especially unifying the country

% who say they are ___ Joe Biden can do each of the following

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Not at all confident</th>
<th>Not too confident</th>
<th>Somewhat confident</th>
<th>Very confident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Handle the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak</td>
<td>NET 49</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make good decisions about economic policy</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make good decisions about foreign policy</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use military force wisely</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make wise decisions about immigration policy</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring the country closer together</td>
<td>NET 66</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: No answer responses not shown.

### Biden widely seen as standing up for his beliefs, but fewer than half describe him as mentally sharp

How well does each of the following describe Joe Biden? (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trait</th>
<th>Not at all well</th>
<th>Not too well</th>
<th>Fairly well</th>
<th>Very well</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stands up for what he believes in</td>
<td>NET 39</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cares about the needs of ordinary people</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honest</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A good role model</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takes responsibility for his actions</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentally sharp</td>
<td>NET 56</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: No answer responses not shown.
Other important findings from the survey:

**Majority favors admitting Afghan refugees into the U.S.** A 56% majority favors admitting thousands of Afghan refugees into the U.S. while 42% are opposed. There are sizable partisan differences in these attitudes: More than twice as many Democrats (75%) as Republicans (35%) favor admitting refugees who fled Afghanistan. The Biden administration continues to receive negative ratings for its handling of the situation in Afghanistan. Only about a quarter of adults (24%) say the administration has done an excellent or good job in handling the situation with the country; 26% say it has done only fair, while nearly half (48%) rate its performance as poor.

**About half favor each of the congressional infrastructure proposals.** As Congress prepares to take up a pair of infrastructure proposals, more Americans view each one positively than negatively. However, a quarter or more say they are not sure about the proposals (respondents are given the option of saying they are not sure).

About half of adults (51%) say they favor the bill passed by the Senate last month that would provide $1.2 trillion in funding over the next 10 years for improvements to the country's infrastructure, including roads, bridges and internet upgrades. Just 20% oppose the bill, while 29% say they are not sure.

A comparable share (49%) favors a proposed $3.5 trillion, 10-year package that includes funding for universal pre-K education, expanding Medicare, reducing carbon emissions and other projects. A quarter oppose the spending package, while a quarter are unsure.

**More favor than oppose infrastructure bills, but many say they are unsure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep/Lean Rep</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem/Lean Dem</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep/Lean Rep</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem/Lean Dem</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: See topline for full question wording. No answer responses not shown.


**Broad support for raising taxes on large businesses, high-income households.** About two-thirds of Americans (66%) favor raising taxes on large businesses and corporations, including 37% who say taxes should be raised “a lot.” A somewhat smaller majority (61%) says tax rates should be raised
on household income over $400,000; 26% say these tax rates should be raised a lot, while 35% favor raising them a little.

**Rising prices a leading economic concern.** A majority of adults (63%) say they are very concerned about rising prices for food and consumer goods. That is larger than the shares citing other economic issues – employers being unable to hire workers (42% very concerned), people facing eviction or foreclosure (35%) or people who want to work being unable to find jobs (29%). Republicans are more likely than Democrats to cite rising prices and a shortage of workers as top concerns; Democrats are more likely to be very concerned over evictions and foreclosures and people who want to work struggling to find jobs.
Over the past several months, Joe Biden’s approval rating has dipped among most demographic and political groups. Today, 44% of U.S. adults overall say they approve of the way he is handling his job as president, down from 55% in July.

Biden’s approval rating among men and women has declined by about the same margin (9 and 12 percentage points, respectively).

The share of White adults saying they have a positive view of his job performance has dropped from 45% in July to 37% today. Roughly six-in-ten White adults (61%) now say they disapprove.

Though majorities of Black, Hispanic and Asian American adults continue to hold more positive than negative views of Biden’s job performance, approval ratings among each group have dipped significantly over the past two months. For example, among Black adults, 67% say they strongly or somewhat approve of the way he is handling his job – down from 85% three months ago.

Among Republicans, already negative views of the president have grown even more so since July. Then, 17% said they approved of the way he was handling his job; today, just 9% say this. There have been comparable declines in Biden approval among both those who identify as Republicans and those who lean toward the Republican Party.
There also has been a sizable change among members of Biden’s own party. In July, 88% of Democrats and Democratic leaners said they approved of the way he was handling his job as president. Today, 75% approve, a 13 percentage point drop.

Two months ago, 92% of adults who identify as Democrats said they had a positive view of Biden’s job performance. Today, 83% approve of his job performance. There has been a steeper decline among those who lean toward the Democratic Party: 61% of Democratic leaners approve of the way Biden is handing his job as president, down from 82% in July.

Independents as a whole – those who say they do not identify as belonging to either major party, but most of whom lean toward one party or the other – are now more likely to say they disapprove rather than approve of Biden’s job performance. Two months ago, 54% had positive views; today, 42% say they approve.

Biden’s job approval ratings today are higher than Trump’s were at a similar point, but lower compared with other previous presidents.
While Biden’s approval rating remains more positive than negative among several groups, Biden enjoys more tepid support today than he did in March.

Overall, 27% of adults say they strongly approve of his job performance – down from 38% six months ago. Similarly, the share who say they strongly disapprove of the job he is doing has risen (38% today vs. 29% in March).

This pattern is evident across several demographic groups – including among men and women and across age groups.

While a large majority of Black adults said they strongly approved of the job Biden was doing as president in March (71%), only about half say they strongly approve today. Only about a third of Hispanic (34%) and about a quarter of Asian adults (27%) say the same.

Among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, large majorities say they strongly disapprove of Biden’s job performance (73% overall). Conservative Republicans are particularly likely to say this (83% strongly disapprove).

While majorities of Democrats across ideological groups say they approve of the job Biden is doing, this support is not as strong than it was earlier in Biden’s presidency. Today, 46% say they strongly approve of the job he is doing, down from 65% who said this in March.

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**Most Republicans strongly disapprove of Biden’s job performance; just under half of Democrats strongly approve**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% who ___ of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president</th>
<th>Strongly disapprove</th>
<th>Somewhat disapprove</th>
<th>Somewhat approve</th>
<th>Strongly approve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>NET</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian*</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 18-29</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-49</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-64</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgrad</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College grad</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.S. or less</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep/Lean Rep</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conserv</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod/Lib</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem/Lean Dem</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cons/Mod</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Notes: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. No answer responses not shown.


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Confidence in Biden on key issues facing the country and views of his personal traits

Mirroring the decline in Biden’s job rating over the past few months, public confidence in the president to handle various issues – including the coronavirus pandemic and foreign policy – also has slipped.

In March, nearly two-thirds of adults expressed confidence in Biden to handle the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak; today, 51% say this. Only about half as many Republicans now say they have confidence (33% then, 15% today), while the share of Democrats expressing confidence in Biden to handle COVID-19 has declined from 92% then to 81% today.

This pattern is also evident across other issues – including Biden’s ability to make good decisions about foreign policy, economic policy and immigration.

Republicans’ confidence in Biden to handle several issue areas was already low at the beginning of his term, and it has dipped even lower today. For example, in March, just 19% of Republicans said they had at least some confidence in Biden to make good decisions about foreign policy. Today, just 10% say this – a 9 percentage point decline.
Smaller majorities of Democrats today express confidence in Biden to handle most issues compared with six months ago – and the drop has been particularly pronounced in views of his ability to bring the country closer together. In March, 74% of Democrats expressed optimism that Biden could do this; today, only about half say so (55%).

In March, majorities of Americans said Biden embodied several positive traits – including being a good role model, caring about the needs of ordinary people and standing up for what he believes in.

Today, about half of adults say Biden is described very or somewhat well by these terms. And while six-in-ten say he stands up for what he believes in, 66% said this in March.

There have been similar declines in the shares saying he is mentally sharp (54% then, 43% now) and honest (57% then, 51% now).

While there continue to be large partisan gaps in views of Biden’s traits, there has been a decline in the shares of both Republicans and Democrats who describe Biden positively.

For example, while 89% of Democrats said Biden was a good role model in March, that share has declined to 80% today.
And while six months ago, 86% of Democrats said “mentally sharp” described Biden at least somewhat well, that has dropped to 73% today.

Republicans also offer more negative assessments of Biden’s traits and characteristics than they did in March. For example, in March, 21% of Republicans said “honest” described Biden at least somewhat well. Today, that has declined to 14%.

On whether Biden takes responsibility for his actions – a trait not asked about in the March survey – there is a sizable partisan divide. Only about half of adults overall say this describes Biden well. This includes eight-in-ten Democrats and just 13% of Republicans.
Views of congressional leaders in both parties more negative than positive

Today, 70% of adults say they disapprove of the job Republican leaders in Congress are doing. A somewhat smaller majority (58%) say they disapprove of the job Democratic leaders in Congress are doing.

Republicans are divided in views about how their own party’s congressional leaders are doing: 49% say they approve, while 49% say they disapprove. In contrast, a majority of Democrats say they approve of the job their party’s leaders are doing in Congress (67%).

Large majorities of Democrats and Republicans give the opposing party’s congressional leaders poor job ratings: 88% of Democrats say they disapprove of the job Republican leaders are doing, while 92% of Republicans disapprove of Democratic congressional leaders’ performances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party/Lean</th>
<th>Disapprove</th>
<th>Approve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep/Lean Rep</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem/Lean Dem</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party/Lean</th>
<th>Disapprove</th>
<th>Approve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep/Lean Rep</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem/Lean Dem</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: No answer responses not shown.
2. National economic ratings and concerns

As the country continues to struggle with the coronavirus and its effects on public health and the economy, only about a quarter of U.S. adults (26%) rate national economic conditions positively. About three-quarters (74%) say current economic conditions are only fair or poor.

Overall, the share who say economic conditions are excellent or good is roughly on par with the share who said this in April 2020 (23%) – shortly after the coronavirus began spreading throughout the United States – but slightly lower than they were earlier this year.

Partisan views of the economy have shifted since Joe Biden became president. Today, Democrats hold more positive ratings of the economy than do Republicans – a reversal from when Trump was in office.

In November 2020, shortly after the presidential election, more than half of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents (56%) said that the economic conditions of the country were either excellent or good. Today, just 16% say the same; 84% of Republicans say the economy is only fair or poor.

Conversely, Democratic views of the economy are more positive today than they were in November 2020. Then, roughly two-in-ten Democrats and Democratic leaners (19%) said that economic conditions were either excellent or good. Now, about a third of Democrats (34%) rate the economy positively.
Today, Americans are less optimistic than they were in March that economic conditions in the country as a whole will improve over the next year.

Just 29% of adults say they expect that economic conditions a year from now will be better than they are at present. This is lower than the share that said this in March (44%). Currently, about a third (34%) say the economy will be about the same, while 37% say that the economy will be worse a year from now.

Positive expectations for the economy have declined among members of both parties. The share of Democrats who say economic conditions will be better a year from now has fallen 19 percentage points since March, from 63% to 44%. And just 11% of Republicans now expect conditions to improve in a year, down from 23% in March.

### Americans’ economic expectations have turned less positive since March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% who say they expect economic conditions in the country will be ___ a year from now</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar '21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: No answer responses not shown.
Wide partisan split in views of impact of Biden’s policies on economy

About a quarter of Americans (26%) say that, since Biden took office, his policies have made the economy better, while 40% say they have made economic conditions worse; a third say they have not had much of an effect.

An overwhelming share of Republicans (78%) say that Biden’s policies have made the economy worse since he has taken office; just 3% say that his policies have made the economy better, while 18% say they have not had much of an effect.

Democrats are evenly divided between those who say Biden’s policies have made economic conditions better (45%) and those who say his policies have not had much of an effect (44%). One-in-ten Democrats say his policies have made conditions worse.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>More Americans say Biden’s policies have made economy worse than better</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% who say, since taking office, Joe Biden’s policies have made economic conditions ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep/Lean Rep</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem/Lean Dem</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: No answer responses not shown.
Rising prices top list of public’s economic concerns

While substantial shares of Americans express concern about several economic issues – including a shortage of workers and people facing eviction and foreclosure – more say they are very concerned about rising prices than say this about other economic problems.

A 63% majority say they are very concerned about rising prices for food and consumer goods (another 30% are somewhat concerned). Smaller shares say they are very concerned about employers being unable to find workers to hire (42%), people facing eviction or foreclosure (35%), and people who want to work being unable to find jobs (29%).

Economic concerns differ by both party and family income. Majorities in both parties say they are very concerned about rising prices, but Republicans are more likely than Democrats to say this (70% vs. 56%). A larger share of Republicans (52%) than Democrats (34%) also are very concerned about employers not being unable to find workers.

By contrast, more Democrats than Republicans say they are very concerned about people facing eviction or foreclosure (46% of Democrats, 21% of Republicans) and about people who want to work being unable to find jobs (34% of Democrats, 23% of Republicans).

### Rising prices is top economic concern among both Republicans and Democrats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Concern</th>
<th>Dem/Lean Dem</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Rep/Lean Rep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rising prices for food and consumer goods</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employers being unable to find workers to hire</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People facing eviction or foreclosure</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People who want to work being unable to find jobs</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Across income levels, Americans express broad concern with rising prices for food and consumer goods. At least half of upper-income (50%), middle-income (64%) and lower-income (67%) adults are very concerned about rising prices.

However, lower-income adults are more likely than middle- and upper-income adults to be very concerned about people facing eviction or foreclosure (47%) and about people who want jobs being unable to find work (37%). Fewer than a quarter of upper-income adults are very concerned about either economic issue.

Roughly similar shares of upper- (45%), middle- (41%) and lower-income (40%) Americans say that they are very concerned about employers being unable to find workers to hire.
Wide partisan divides over raising taxes on wealthy Americans, large businesses and corporations

About six-in-ten Americans (61%) say tax rates on household income over $400,000 should be raised either a lot (26%) or a little (35%). Just 13% say that these rates should be lowered. About a quarter (24%) say tax rates on household income over $400,000 should be kept the same as they are now.

Democrats are largely in favor of raising taxes on household income over $400,000: 77% say these tax rates should be increased, including 39% who say they should be increased a lot. Only 9% of Democrats say these tax rates should be lowered, while 13% say they should be kept the same.

Liberal Democrats (84%) are more likely than their conservative and moderate counterparts (72%) to say taxes on household income over $400,000 should be raised, though this is the clear majority view in both groups.

Views among Republicans are more mixed: 43% say tax rates on household income over $400,000 should be increased, while 38% say they should be kept the same. Only about two-in-ten (17%) say tax rates on these household incomes should be lowered.

Majority of Americans say taxes on household income over $400,000 should be increased

% who say tax rates on household income over $400,000 should be...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Raised a lot</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>Lower income</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper income</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMONG REP/LEAN REP</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Upper income</td>
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<td>Middle income</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Family income tiers based on adjusted 2020 earnings; see appendix for details. No answer responses not shown.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
A majority of moderate and liberal Republicans (57%) say tax rates on household income over $400,000 should be raised at least a little. By contrast, 36% of conservative Republicans hold this view. About four-in-ten conservative Republicans say these tax rates should be kept the same.

Among the general public, majorities of adults across income tiers say taxes on household income over $400,000 should be raised. But there are substantial differences in views by household income within partisan groups.

Republicans with lower incomes are much more likely than middle- or high-income Republicans to say tax rates on household income over $400,000 should be raised: 55% of lower-income Republicans hold this view, compared with 44% of middle-income Republicans and 30% of upper-income Republicans. About half of upper-income Republicans (48%) and about four-in-ten middle-income Republicans (39%) say tax rates for households with incomes over $400,000 should be kept the same as they are now.

Among Democrats, those with lower incomes are the least likely to say that tax rates on household income over $400,000 should be increased – though majorities across income groups say rates should be raised. While about eight-in-ten upper- (83%) and middle-income Democrats (84%) say tax rates for these households should increase, about two-thirds of lower-income Democrats hold this view.
The public also broadly supports raising taxes on large business and corporations. Roughly two-thirds of Americans (66%) say tax rates on large business and corporations should be raised a lot or a little. Only 12% say tax rates for these businesses should be lowered, while about two-in-ten (21%) say tax rates should be kept the same as they are now. Views on this issue are largely unchanged since 2019.

A large majority of Democrats (85%) say taxes on large businesses and corporations should be increased, including more than half (56%) who say taxes on these groups should be increased a lot. Just 6% of Democrats say tax rates on large businesses should be lowered, while just 8% say they should be kept the same as they are now.

While a majority of Democrats across income tiers say that tax rates on businesses and corporations should be increased, Democrats with lower incomes (76%) are less likely than middle- (89%) and upper-income Democrats (95%) to say these tax rates should be raised.

By contrast, about four-in-ten Republicans (42%) say tax rates on large businesses and corporations should be raised, while a slightly smaller share (37%) say they should be kept the same as they are now. About two-in-ten Republicans say that these taxes should be lowered.

### Republicans have mixed views on raising tax rates on large businesses; Democrats largely in favor

*% who say tax rates on large businesses and corporations should be...*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lowered a little</th>
<th>Raised a little</th>
<th>Raised a lot</th>
<th>Kept the same</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep/Lean Rep</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conserv</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod/Lib</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem/Lean Dem</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cons/Mod</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle income</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lower income</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMONG REP/LEAN REP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper income</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle income</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lower income</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMONG DEM/LEAN DEM</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper income</td>
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<td>37</td>
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<td>Middle income</td>
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<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower income</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Family income tiers based on adjusted 2020 earnings; see appendix for details. No answer responses not shown.
Among Republicans, there are wide differences in views by ideology and family income. A majority of moderate and liberal Republicans (59%) say taxes on large businesses and corporations should be increased, compared with about a third of conservative Republicans (34%). And while about half of lower-income Republicans (52%) say tax rates on large businesses and corporations should be raised, middle-income (42%) and upper-income Republicans (35%) are less likely to say this.
3. Biden administration’s handling of Afghanistan and views of accepting Afghan refugees in the U.S.

A few weeks after the United States withdrew its last troops from Afghanistan, the Biden administration continues to receive low marks for its handling of the situation there.

About a quarter of Americans (24%) say the administration has done an excellent or good job in dealing with the situation in Afghanistan; 26% say it has done an only fair job, while 48% say it has done a poor job.

These views are little changed from late August, when the U.S. military withdrawal from Afghanistan was in progress.

As was the case in August, Republicans assess the administration’s handling of the situation in Afghanistan more negatively than Democrats.

Democrats remain divided over the administration’s performance: Four-in-ten say the administration has done an excellent or good job on the situation in Afghanistan; a similar share (38%) say it has done an only fair job, while 20% say it has done a poor job.

In contrast, a large majority of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents (83%) say the Biden administration has done a poor job handling the situation in Afghanistan. Conservative Republicans are 20 percentage points more likely than moderate and liberal Republicans to say this.
The U.S. evacuated thousands of Afghans from the country in the last weeks of August. Most Americans (91%) say they have heard at least a little about Afghans fleeing their country and coming to the U.S.; 39% say they have heard a lot about this.

A majority of the public (56%) say they favor admitting thousands of Afghan refugees to the U.S., while 42% are opposed. These views are deeply divided by partisanship.

More than six-in-ten Republicans (63%) either strongly (29%) or somewhat (34%) oppose the U.S. admitting thousands of refugees from Afghanistan into the country. About a third (35%) say they favor admitting these refugees.

Democrats largely favor the U.S. admitting thousands of Afghan refugees. Three-quarters are in favor, including a third who say they strongly favor this. Liberal Democrats (87%) are more likely than conservative and moderate Democrats (66%) to favor this. About half of liberal Democrats (49%) say they strongly favor admitting these refugees.
There are also wide partisan gaps in views of whether the U.S. government is conducting sufficient security screening of refugees from Afghanistan.

Overall, about one-in-ten Americans say they are very confident that the government is conducting adequate security screening of refugees arriving in the U.S. from Afghanistan; 31% say they are somewhat confident, 27% say they are not too confident and 28% say they are not at all confident that the government is adequately screening refugees.

Republicans are broadly skeptical of the job the government is doing: 54% say they are not at all confident that the U.S. government is conducting adequate security screening of refugees. This includes six-in-ten conservative Republicans. Moderate and liberal Republicans are slightly more confident in the screening process, though three-quarters say they are not too (33%) or not at all confident (42%) the government is providing adequate screening.

Two-thirds of Democrats say they are at least somewhat confident that the government is conducting adequate security screening of refugees from Afghanistan. About three-in-ten liberal Democrats say they are very confident in this, compared with 12% of moderate and conservative Democrats.
Acknowledgments

This report is a collaborative effort based on the input and analysis of the following individuals:

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- Bradley Jones, *Senior Researcher*
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- Hannah Hartig, *Research Associate*
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- Andrew Mercer, *Senior Research Methodologist*
- Nick Bertoni, *Senior Panel Manager*
- Dorene Asare-Marfo, *Research Methodologist*
- Arnold Lau, *Research Methodologist*
Appendix: Defining income tiers

To create upper-, middle- and lower-income tiers, respondents’ 2020 family incomes were adjusted for differences in purchasing power by geographic region and household size. “Middle-income” adults live in families with annual incomes that are two-thirds to double the median family income in the panel (after incomes have been adjusted for the local cost of living and household size). The middle-income range for the American Trends Panel is about $42,000 to $125,900 annually for an average family of three. Lower-income families have incomes less than roughly $42,000, and upper-income families have incomes greater than roughly $125,900 (all figures expressed in 2020 dollars).

Based on these adjustments, 31% of respondents are lower income, 47% are middle income and 16% fall into the upper-income tier. An additional 6% either didn’t offer a response to the income question or the household size question.

For more information about how the income tiers were determined, please see here.
Methodology

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

Overview

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. Panelists participate via self-administered web surveys. Panelists who do not have internet access at home are provided with a tablet and wireless internet connection. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report is drawn from the panel wave conducted from Sept. 13 to Sept. 19, 2021. A total of 10,371 panelists responded out of 11,505 who were sampled, for a response rate of 90%. The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 3%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 1%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 10,371 respondents is plus or minus 1.6 percentage points.

Panel recruitment

The ATP was created in 2014, with the first cohort of panelists invited to join the panel at the end of a large, national, landline and cellphone random-digit-dial survey that was conducted in both English and Spanish. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in 2015 and 2017, respectively. Across these three surveys, a total of 19,718 adults were invited to join the ATP, of whom 9,942 (50%) agreed to participate.

In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based recruitment. Invitations were sent to a stratified, random sample of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recruitment dates</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Invited</th>
<th>Joined</th>
<th>Active panelists remaining</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014</td>
<td>Landline/cell RDD</td>
<td>9,809</td>
<td>5,338</td>
<td>1,605</td>
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<td>Landline/cell RDD</td>
<td>6,004</td>
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<td>939</td>
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<td>April 25 to June 4, 2017</td>
<td>Landline/cell RDD</td>
<td>3,905</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 8 to Oct. 31, 2018</td>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>9,396</td>
<td>8,778</td>
<td>4,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 19 to Nov. 30, 2019</td>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>5,900</td>
<td>4,720</td>
<td>1,627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1 to July 19, 2020; Feb. 10 to March 31, 2021</td>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>3,197</td>
<td>2,812</td>
<td>1,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29 to July 7, 2021</td>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>1,085</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>728</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>39,296</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,199</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,505</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves or who did not complete an annual profiling survey are removed from the panel. Panelists also become inactive if they ask to be removed from the panel. The 2021 recruitment survey was ongoing at the time W95 was conducted. The counts reflect completed recruitment interviews up through July 7, 2021.
households selected from the U.S. Postal Service’s Delivery Sequence File. Sampled households receive mailings asking a randomly selected adult to complete a survey online. A question at the end of the survey asks if the respondent is willing to join the ATP. Starting in 2020 another stage was added to the recruitment. Households that do not respond to the online survey are sent a paper version of the questionnaire, $5 and a postage-paid return envelope. A subset of the adults returning the paper version of the survey are invited to join the ATP. This subset of adults receive a follow-up mailing with a $10 pre-incentive and invitation to join the ATP.

Across the four address-based recruitments, a total of 19,578 adults were invited to join the ATP, of whom 17,257 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. In each household, the adult with the next birthday was asked to go online to complete a survey, at the end of which they were invited to join the panel. Of the 27,199 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 11,505 remained active panelists and continued to receive survey invitations at the time this survey was conducted.

The U.S. Postal Service’s Delivery Sequence File has been estimated to cover as much as 98% of the population, although some studies suggest that the coverage could be in the low 90% range. The American Trends Panel never uses breakout routers or chains that direct respondents to additional surveys.

Sample design

The overall target population for this survey was non-institutionalized persons ages 18 and older, living in the U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii.

Questionnaire development and testing

The questionnaire was developed by Pew Research Center in consultation with Ipsos. The web program was rigorously tested on both PC and mobile devices by the Ipsos project management team and Pew Research Center researchers. The Ipsos project management team also populated test data that was analyzed in SPSS to ensure the logic and randomizations were working as intended before launching the survey.

Incentives

All respondents were offered a post-paid incentive for their participation. Respondents could choose to receive the post-paid incentive in the form of a check or a gift code to Amazon.com or could choose to decline the incentive. Incentive amounts ranged from $5 to $20 depending on

whether the respondent belongs to a part of the population that is harder or easier to reach. Differential incentive amounts were designed to increase panel survey participation among groups that traditionally have low survey response propensities.

**Data collection protocol**

The data collection field period for this survey was Sept. 13 to Sept. 19, 2021. Postcard notifications were mailed to all ATP panelists with a known residential address on Sept. 13, 2021.

Invitations were sent out in two separate launches: Soft Launch and Full Launch. Sixty panelists were included in the soft launch, which began with an initial invitation sent on Sept. 13, 2021. The ATP panelists chosen for the initial soft launch were known responders who had completed previous ATP surveys within one day of receiving their invitation. All remaining English- and Spanish-speaking panelists were included in the full launch and were sent an invitation on Sept. 14, 2021.

All panelists with an email address received an email invitation and up to two email reminders if they did not respond to the survey. All ATP panelists that consented to SMS messages received an SMS invitation and up to two SMS reminders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Invitation and reminder dates</th>
<th>Soft Launch</th>
<th>Full Launch</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial invitation</td>
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<td>Sept. 14, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First reminder</td>
<td>Sept. 16, 2021</td>
<td>Sept. 16, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final reminder</td>
<td>Sept. 18, 2021</td>
<td>Sept. 18, 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data quality checks**

To ensure high-quality data, the Center’s researchers performed data quality checks to identify any respondents showing clear patterns of satisficing. This includes checking for very high rates of leaving questions blank, as well as always selecting the first or last answer presented. As a result of this checking, 2 ATP respondents were removed from the survey dataset prior to weighting and analysis.
Weighting

The ATP data was weighted in a multistep process that accounts for multiple stages of sampling and nonresponse that occur at different points in the survey process. First, each panelist begins with a base weight that reflects their probability of selection for their initial recruitment survey. Among respondents to this survey, the base weights for panelists recruited in different years were scaled to be proportionate to the effective sample size for all respondents in their cohort. These base weights were then calibrated to align with the population benchmarks identified in the accompanying table and trimmed at the 1st and 99th percentiles to reduce the loss in precision stemming from variance in the weights. Sampling errors and test of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting.

Some of the population benchmarks used for weighting come from surveys conducted prior to the coronavirus outbreak that began in February 2020. However, the weighting variables for panelists recruited in 2021 were measured at the time they were recruited to the panel. Likewise, the profile variables for existing panelists were updated from panel surveys conducted in July or August 2021.

This does not pose a problem for most of the variables used in the weighting, which are quite stable at both the population and individual levels. However, volunteerism may have changed over the intervening period in ways that made their 2021 measurements incompatible with the available (pre-pandemic) benchmarks. To address this, volunteerism is weighted using the profile variables that were measured in 2020. For all other weighting dimensions, the more recent panelist measurements from 2021 are used.

### Weighting dimensions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Benchmark source</th>
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<td>2019 American Community Survey (ACS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education x Gender</td>
<td>2019 American Community Survey (ACS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education x Age</td>
<td>2019 American Community Survey (ACS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race/Ethnicity x Education</td>
<td>2019 American Community Survey (ACS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Hispanics and Asian Americans</td>
<td>2019 American Community Survey (ACS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years lived in the U.S.</td>
<td>2019 American Community Survey (ACS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census region x Metro/Non-metro</td>
<td>2020 CPS March Supplement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteerism</td>
<td>2019 CPS Volunteering &amp; Civic Life Supplement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voter registration</td>
<td>2018 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Party affiliation</td>
<td>2021 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frequency of internet use</td>
<td>2021 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious affiliation</td>
<td>2021 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on non-institutionalized adults. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total U.S. adult population.
For panelists recruited in 2021, plausible values were imputed using the 2020 volunteerism values from existing panelists with similar characteristics. This ensures that any patterns of change that were observed in the existing panelists were also reflected in the new recruits when the weighting was performed.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Unweighted sample size</th>
<th>Weighted %</th>
<th>Plus or minus ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.6 percentage points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total sample</td>
<td>10,371</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2.2 percentage points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half sample</td>
<td>At least 5,172</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>2.2 percentage points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep/Lean Rep</td>
<td>4,915</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.2 percentage points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half sample</td>
<td>At least 2,454</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.1 percentage points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem/Lean Dem</td>
<td>5,199</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half sample</td>
<td>At least 2,589</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request. In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.
## Dispositions and response rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final dispositions</th>
<th>AAPOR code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completed interview</td>
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<td>10,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logged onto survey; broke-off</td>
<td>2.12</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logged onto survey; did not complete any items</td>
<td>2.1121</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never logged on (implicit refusal)</td>
<td>2.11</td>
<td>921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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AAPOR RR1 = I / (I+P+R+NC+O+UH+UO) = 90%

### Cumulative response rate

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<td>% of those agreeing to join who were active panelists at start of Wave 95</td>
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<td>Response rate to Wave 95 survey</td>
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**Correction:** An earlier version of this document incorrectly said that imputation was used to address pandemic-related changes to population benchmarks used in the weighting on volunteerism and political party affiliation. The corrected text now clarifies that this imputation was done only for volunteerism in this survey.
ASK ALL: All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

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ASK ALL: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president?

ASK IF ANSWERED POL1JB (POL1JB=1,2) [N=10,168]:

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<th>Not so strongly</th>
<th>No answer</th>
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See past presidents’ approval trends: Donald Trump, Barack Obama, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton

---

1 The W24.5 Mode Study survey was administered by web and phone. Results reported here are from web mode only.
ASK ALL: 
RLEADAPP Do you approve or disapprove of the job the REPUBLICAN leaders in Congress are doing?

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PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

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\(^3\) In December 1994, the question was worded: “As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Republican Congressional leaders’ policies and plans for the future?”
ASK ALL:  
Do you approve or disapprove of the job the DEMOCRATIC leaders in Congress are doing?

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ASK FORM 1 [N=5,172]:

Thinking about Joe Biden’s ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Joe Biden can do each of the following? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

### DLEADAPP PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED ...

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### Pub Health

Handle the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak

- **Sep 13-19, 2021**:
  - Very confident: 21
  - Somewhat confident: 30
  - Not too confident: 19
  - Not at all confident: 30
  - No answer: *
- **Mar 1-7, 2021**:
  - Very confident: 32
  - Somewhat confident: 33
  - Not too confident: 16
  - Not at all confident: 19
  - No answer: *
- **Nov 12-17, 2020**:
  - Very confident: 26
  - Somewhat confident: 32
  - Not too confident: 18
  - Not at all confident: 24
  - No answer: 1
- **Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020**:
  - Very confident: 23
  - Somewhat confident: 31
  - Not too confident: 20
  - Not at all confident: 25
  - No answer: 1
- **June 16-22, 2020**:
  - Very confident: 15
  - Somewhat confident: 37
  - Not too confident: 21
  - Not at all confident: 26
  - No answer: 1

---

### Frgn

Make good decisions about foreign policy

- **Sep 13-19, 2021**:
  - Very confident: 17
  - Somewhat confident: 29
  - Not too confident: 20
  - Not at all confident: 34
  - No answer: *
- **Mar 1-7, 2021**:
  - Very confident: 25
  - Somewhat confident: 31
  - Not too confident: 17
  - Not at all confident: 26
  - No answer: 1
- **Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020**:
  - Very confident: 22
  - Somewhat confident: 30
  - Not too confident: 18
  - Not at all confident: 29
  - No answer: 1
- **June 16-22, 2020**:
  - Very confident: 16
  - Somewhat confident: 33
  - Not too confident: 21
  - Not at all confident: 28
  - No answer: 1

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### Econ

Make good decisions about economic policy

- **Sep 13-19, 2021**:
  - Very confident: 17
  - Somewhat confident: 31
  - Not too confident: 19
  - Not at all confident: 32
  - No answer: 1
- **Mar 1-7, 2021**:
  - Very confident: 24
  - Somewhat confident: 32
  - Not too confident: 17
  - Not at all confident: 27
  - No answer: *
- **Nov 12-17, 2020**:
  - Very confident: 21
  - Somewhat confident: 31
  - Not too confident: 19
  - Not at all confident: 28
  - No answer: 1
- **Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020**:
  - Very confident: 17
  - Somewhat confident: 33
  - Not too confident: 19
  - Not at all confident: 30
  - No answer: 1
- **June 16-22, 2020**:
  - Very confident: 12
  - Somewhat confident: 35
  - Not too confident: 23
  - Not at all confident: 29
  - No answer: 1

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4 In March 2007 the question was worded: “Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?”
## JBCONF CONTINUED...

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**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

Make good decisions about the use of military force

Feb 1-7, 2021  

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BIDENDESC CONTINUED...

RESP Takes responsibility for his actions
Sep 13-19, 2021 22 27 20 30 1

ASK ALL:
JBECON Since taking office, have Joe Biden’s economic policies made economic conditions...

Sep 13-19
2021
26 Better
40 Worse
33 Not had much of an effect
1 No answer

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

[RANDOMIZE ECON1-ECON1B AND PERSFNC-PERSFNCB IN BLOCKS, SHOWING ITEMS IN ORDER WITHIN BLOCKS (ECON1 AND PERSFNC ALWAYS FIRST). DISPLAY EACH ITEM SEPARATELY ON ITS OWN PAGE.]

ASK ALL:
ECON1 Thinking about the nation’s economy...
How would you rate economic conditions in this country today?

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ASK ALL:
ECON1B  A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be...

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[RANDOMIZE ECON1-ECON1B AND PERSFNC-PERSFN CB IN BLOCKS, SHOWING ITEMS IN ORDER WITHIN BLOCKS (ECON1 AND PERSFNC ALWAYS FIRST). DISPLAY EACH ITEM SEPARATELY ON ITS OWN PAGE.]

ASK ALL:
PERSFNC  Thinking about your personal finances...
How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are...

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<td>41</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 19-24, 2021</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 7-12, 2020</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 22-Aug 4, 2019</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASK ALL:
PERSFN CB  A year from now, do you expect that the financial situation of you and your family will be...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Better</th>
<th>Worse</th>
<th>About the same as now</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13-19</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Better</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 7-12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Worse</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 22-Aug 4, 2019</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>About the same as now</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* | No answer | * | 1 |

5 In the survey conducted from July 22- August 4, 2019, response options for this question were not randomized.
**ASK ALL:**

**ECONCONC**  How concerned, if at all, are you personally about each of the following economic issues in the country today? [RANDOMIZE]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Concerned</th>
<th>Somewhat Concerned</th>
<th>Not too Concerned</th>
<th>Not at all Concerned</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INFL</td>
<td>Rising prices for food and consumer goods</td>
<td>Sep 13-19, 2021</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOU</td>
<td>People facing eviction or foreclosure</td>
<td>Sep 13-19, 2021</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEM</td>
<td>People who want to work being unable to find jobs</td>
<td>Sep 13-19, 2021</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov 12-17, 2020</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAB</td>
<td>Employers being unable to find workers to hire</td>
<td>Sep 13-19, 2021</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

**INFRASTRUC21A**  As you may know, last month the Senate passed an infrastructure bill that the House of Representatives is set to consider later this month.

About half of the $1.2 trillion bill is new funding over the next ten years for improvements to the country’s infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, public transit, and internet access. From what you’ve seen and heard, do you favor or oppose this bill?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13-19</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ASK ALL:**

**INFRASTRUC21B**  And, as you may know, in the next few months House and Senate budget resolutions will be voted on through a process known as reconciliation.

A proposed reconciliation package contains about $3.5 trillion in funding over the next ten years for universal pre-K education, expanding Medicare, reducing carbon emissions, and other projects. From what you’ve seen and heard, do you favor or oppose this package?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13-19</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

RANDOMIZE TAXRATES400 AND TAXRATESBUS

ASK ALL:
TAXRATES400  Should tax rates on household income over $400,000 be... [REVERSE ORDER 4-1 FOR RANDOM HALF SAMPLE AND SHOW IN SAME ORDER FOR TAXRATESBUS, KEEP 5 LAST]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET Raised</th>
<th>Raised a lot</th>
<th>Raised a little</th>
<th>NET Lowered</th>
<th>Lowered a lot</th>
<th>Lowered a little</th>
<th>Kept the same as they are now</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13-19, 2021</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TREND FOR COMPARISON:
Should tax rates on household income over $250,000 be...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET Raised</th>
<th>Raised a lot</th>
<th>Raised a little</th>
<th>NET Lowered</th>
<th>Lowered a lot</th>
<th>Lowered a little</th>
<th>Kept the same as they are now</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 3-15, 2019</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASK ALL:
TAXRATESBUS  Should tax rates on large businesses and corporations be... [SHOW OPTIONS 1-4 IN SAME ORDER AS TAXRATES400, KEEP 5 LAST]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET Raised</th>
<th>Raised a lot</th>
<th>Raised a little</th>
<th>NET Lowered</th>
<th>Lowered a lot</th>
<th>Lowered a little</th>
<th>Kept the same as they are now</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13-19, 2021</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 3-15, 2019</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:
Thinking about taxes, do you think tax rates on large businesses and corporations should be raised a lot, raised a little, lowered a little, lowered a lot] or should they be kept the same as they are now?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET Raised</th>
<th>Raised a lot</th>
<th>Raised a little</th>
<th>NET Lowered</th>
<th>Lowered a lot</th>
<th>Lowered a little</th>
<th>Kept the same as they are now</th>
<th>(VOL.) DK/Ref</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 15-21, 2017</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASK ALL:
AFG_EGFP How would you rate the job the Biden administration has done handling the situation in Afghanistan?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET</th>
<th>Raised a lot</th>
<th>Raised a little</th>
<th>Lowered a lot</th>
<th>Lowered a little</th>
<th>Kept the same as they are now</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13-19 2021</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Only fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>No answer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASK ALL:
AFG21_1 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about thousands of refugees fleeing Afghanistan and coming to the U.S.?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sep 13-19</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>A lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>A little</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nothing at all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No answer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASK ALL:
AFG21_2 All in all, do you favor or oppose the United States admitting thousands of refugees from Afghanistan into the country?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sep 13-19</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Strongly favor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Somewhat favor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>No answer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASK ALL:
AFG21_5 How confident, if at all, are you that the government is conducting adequate security screening of refugees from Afghanistan who arrive in the U.S.?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sep 13-19</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Very confident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Somewhat confident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Not too confident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Not at all confident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>No answer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:
PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:
ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING [N=3,764]:
PARYLN As of today do you lean more to...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Independent</th>
<th>Something else</th>
<th>No answer</th>
<th>Lean Rep</th>
<th>Lean Dem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:
(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls

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6 PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.