



This Washington Post-Ipsos poll was conducted online April 21-May 2, 2022, among a random national sample of 1,248 non-Hispanic Black adults age 18 and older and a partially overlapping sample of 997 U.S. adults overall. The sample was drawn through the Ipsos KnowledgePanel, an ongoing survey panel recruited through random sampling of U.S. households. Results among Black Americans and Americans overall have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. Sampling, field work and data processing were conducted by Ipsos of Washington, D.C. 806 respondents were recontacted May 18-20, 2022, with the questions near the bottom of this document, Q2 was asked again then as well.

(Full methodological details at the end of this document.)

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. How satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?

		----- Satisfied -----			----- Dissatisfied -----			No
		NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	opinion
5/1/22	Black	87	37	50	13	10	3	*
11/2/11	Black*	84	49	36	15	10	5	1
4/29/06	Black	85	47	37	15	10	4	*
5/1/22	All U.S.	86	37	49	14	12	2	*
11/2/11	All U.S.	86	50	37	13	9	4	1
4/29/06	All U.S.	90	56	34	9	7	2	1

*2011 and previous Post-KFF

2. In general, do you think it is a (good) or a (bad) time to be a...

5/1/22 - Summary table among Black Americans

	Good time	Bad time	No opinion
a. Black person in America	42	56	2
b. White person in America	82	13	5

5/20/22 - Summary table among Black Americans

	Good time	Bad time	No opinion
a. Black person in America	34	65	1

5/1/22 - Summary table among all Americans

	Good time	Bad time	No opinion
a. Black person in America	54	45	1
b. White person in America	70	28	1

Trend among Black Americans:

a. Black person in America

	Good time	Bad time	No opinion
5/1/22	42	56	2
1/8/20	30	65	4

b. White person in America

	Good time	Bad time	No opinion
5/1/22	82	13	5
1/8/20	77	18	5

Questions 3-17 held for release.

18. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) How much are each of the following a threat to Black people in America today?

5/1/22 - Summary table among Black Americans*

	A major threat	A minor threat	Not a threat	No opinion
a. Restrictions on voting rights	73	19	8	1
b. The criminal justice system	82	11	6	1
c. Police brutality	84	10	5	1
d. Racism	86	10	3	1
e. Pollution	53	32	15	1
f. Climate change	47	33	18	2
g. Lack of economic opportunity	72	21	5	2
h. Gun violence	85	11	2	2
i. Drugs	71	20	7	2
j. The coronavirus	55	34	8	2
k. Cost of health care	76	17	5	2
l. Lack of access to education	61	26	11	2

*Each item asked of random half sample

Questions 19-26 held for release.

27. How much discrimination do you think there is against each of the following in our society today? (Items a, c and d held for release.)

5/1/22 - Summary table among Black Americans

	- More discrim. --			-- Not as much discrimination ---			No op.
	NET	A lot	Some	NET	Only a little	None at all	
b. African Americans	93	74	19	6	2	3	2

5/1/22 - Summary table among all Americans

	- More discrim. --			-- Not as much discrimination ---			No op.
	NET	A lot	Some	NET	Only a little	None at all	
b. African Americans	71	39	32	28	16	11	2

28. Please tell me whether the first statement or the second statement comes closer to your own views even if neither is exactly right:

	Our country has made the changes need to give Black people equal rights with White people	Our country needs to continue making changes to give Black people equal rights with White people	No op.
5/1/22 Black	9	88	3
5/1/22 All U.S.	43	55	2

Compare to:

Which statement comes closer to your own view even if neither is exactly right:

	Our country has made the changes needed to give Blacks equal rights with Whites	Our country needs to continue making changes to give Blacks equal rights with Whites	No op.
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6/14/20 Black	4	94	3
6/14/20 All U.S.	34	64	1

29. How would you describe the problem of crime in the community where you live?

	----- Bad -----			----- Not as bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Bad	NET	Not too bad	Not bad at all	
5/1/22 Black	38	15	23	61	44	17	1
5/1/22 All U.S.	27	8	20	72	50	22	1

30. How much, if at all, do you think each of the following would reduce crime in your community?

5/1/22 - Summary table among Black Americans

	NET	Would reduce crime a lot	Would reduce crime somewhat	Would NOT reduce crime	No op
a. Increasing the number of police officers patrolling communities	72	28	44	25	3
b. Having outreach workers try to resolve disputes between residents who might use guns	68	19	48	29	3
c. Increasing funding to build economic opportunities in poor neighborhoods with higher crime	86	44	42	11	3
d. Increasing prison sentences for gun law violations	61	22	39	35	3

5/1/22 - Summary table among all Americans

	NET	Would reduce crime a lot	Would reduce crime somewhat	Would NOT reduce crime	No op
a. Increasing the number of police officers patrolling communities	81	34	46	18	2
b. Having outreach workers try to resolve disputes between residents who might use guns	54	13	42	44	2
c. Increasing funding to build economic opportunities in poor neighborhoods with higher crime	74	29	45	74	2
d. Increasing prison sentences for gun law violations	61	24	37	37	2

31. (AMONG THOSE WHO SAID A LOT OR SOMEWHAT FOR ANY) Which of the following do you think would do the *most* to reduce crime?

	Black Americans 5/1/22	All Americans 5/1/22
a. Increasing the number of police officers patrolling communities	24	38
b. Having outreach workers try to resolve disputes between residents who		

might use guns	7	5
c. Increasing funding to build economic opportunities in poor neighborhoods with higher crime	55	39
d. Increasing prison sentences for gun law violations	13	17
e. No opinion	*	1

32. In general, would you say that (Black people are treated less fairly than White people) by police in the U.S. overall, (White people are treated less fairly than Black people), or both are treated equally?

	Black people are treated less fairly than White people	White people are treated less fairly than Black people	Both are treated equally	No opinion
5/1/22 Black	88	2	7	3
6/14/20 Black	95	1	2	2
5/1/22 All U.S.	61	3	34	2
6/14/20 All U.S.	67	3	28	1

33. In general, would you say that (Black people are treated less fairly than White people) by police in your community, (White people are treated less fairly than Black people), or both are treated equally?

	Black people are treated less fairly than White people	White people are treated less fairly than Black people	Both are treated equally	No opinion
5/1/22 Black	80	2	16	2
6/14/20 Black	89	1	9	
5/1/22 All U.S.	47	3	48	2
6/14/20 All U.S.	52	2	44	2

34. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) How much, if at all, do you think the attention to police killing George Floyd in 2020 has resulted in police treating Black Americans better?

	Has resulted			Has not resulted			No op.
	NET	A grt deal	A good amount	NET	A little	Not at all	
5/1/22 Black	19	8	11	79	38	41	2

Compare to:

Overall, how likely do you think it is that police treatment of black Americans will improve in the coming years?

	Likely			Unlikely			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
6/14/20 Black	54	8	46	45	26	18	2

35. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) How much, if at all, do you think the attention to Floyd's killing by police has increased White Americans' concern about police discrimination against Black Americans?

	Has increased			Has not increased			No op.
	NET	A grt deal	A good amount	NET	A little	Not at all	
5/1/22 Black	30	9	21	68	46	22	2

Compare to:

How much, if at all, do you think the attention to Floyd's killing by police will increase how much white Americans are concerned about police discrimination against black Americans?

	----- Will increase -----			---- Will not increase ----			No
	NET	A grt deal	A good amount	NET	A little	Not at all	op
6/14/20 Black	59	19	40	39	32	7	2

Questions 36-46 held for release.

Results below are based on a May 18-20, 2022, Washington Post-Ipsos poll conducted in English among 806 Black Americans who participated in the initial survey. This sample was weighted to the same demographic benchmarks for the Black population as the initial survey. Results for the follow-up survey have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

F1. In general, do you think it is a (good) or a (bad) time to be a Black person in America?

	Good time	Bad time	No opinion
5/20/22 Black	34	65	1

F2. At this time, how worried are you that you or someone you love will be physically attacked because they are Black? Are you...

	----- Worried -----			----- Less worried -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
5/20/22 Black	75	32	43	25	17	8	*

F3. Just your best guess, how many White people in America hold white supremacist beliefs, that is believing that White people are superior to people of other races?

	----- Half or more -----				Less	Very	None	No
	NET	Nearly all	Most	Half	than half	few		opinion
5/20/22 Black	70	8	35	27	19	8	1	1

F4. How much are people with white supremacist beliefs a threat to Black people in America today?

	A major threat	A minor threat	Not a threat	No opinion
5/20/22 Black	75	22	2	1

Compare to:

(AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) How much are each of the following a threat to Black people in America today?

5/1/22 - Summary table among Black Americans*

	A major threat	A minor threat	Not a threat	No opinion
a. Restrictions on voting rights	73	19	8	1
b. The criminal justice system	82	11	6	1
c. Police brutality	84	10	5	1
d. Racism	86	10	3	1
e. Pollution	53	32	15	1
f. Climate change	47	33	18	2
g. Lack of economic opportunity	72	21	5	2
h. Gun violence	85	11	2	2
i. Drugs	71	20	7	2
j. The coronavirus	55	34	8	2

k. Cost of health care 76 17 5 2
 l. Lack of access to education 61 26 11 2
 *Each item asked of random half sample

F5. Compared with five years ago, do you think that white supremacy is...

	A bigger problem today	A smaller problem today	About the same problem	No opinion
5/20/22 Black	66	5	28	1

F6. As you may have read or heard, a White man allegedly shot and killed 10 people Saturday at a supermarket in a mostly Black part of Buffalo, New York. Has this shooting made you feel any of the following?

	5/20/22
Sad	70
Angry	62
Troubled	52
Afraid	34
Shocked	21
Surprised	8

Compare to:

Overall, has Floyd's killing made you feel any of the following? (Select all that apply)

	6/14/20
Sad	73
Angry	72
Troubled	61
Afraid	37
Shocked	24
Surprised	8

F7. How much do you think each of the following contributes to people committing hate crimes against Black Americans?

5/20/22 - Summary table among Black Americans

	-Grt deal/Good amount-		- Little/Not at all -			No op.	
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	A little		Not at all
a. Personal family and upbringing	86	57	30	12	9	3	2
b. Personal mental health issues	63	36	27	35	26	10	1
c. Lack of personal connections to Black people	75	40	36	24	16	8	1
d. Blaming Black people for their problems	81	47	33	19	11	7	1
e. Social media	82	52	30	17	12	5	1
f. Cable news	67	32	35	32	22	10	1
g. Access to guns	84	63	21	15	9	6	1
h. Political leaders	76	46	30	23	18	5	1
i. Not enough teaching of tolerance in schools	71	45	26	28	19	8	1

F8. Since the Buffalo shooting, have you considered buying a gun to protect yourself, or not?

	Yes, considered buying a gun	No, have not considered buying a gun	Already own a gun	No opinion
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5/20/22 Black 24 51 24 1

F9. Over the rest of your life, do you think the problem of racism in America will...

	Get better	Get worse	Stay about the same	No opinion
5/20/22 Black	10	53	36	1

END

Both the April 21-May 2 poll and the May 18-20 polls were jointly sponsored and funded by The Washington Post and Ipsos. The April 21-May2 poll includes a random sample of 997 adults in the United States, as well as a partially overlapping sample of 1,248 non-Hispanic Black adults. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. The May 18-20 poll was of 806 non-Hispanic Black adults and was conducted in English.

The questionnaire was administered with the exact questions in the exact order as they appear in this document. Demographic questions are not shown. If a question was asked of a reduced base of the sample, a parenthetical preceding the question identifies the group asked. Phrases surrounded by parentheses within questions indicate clauses that were randomly rotated for respondents.

Ipsos conducted sampling, interviewing and tabulation for the survey using the KnowledgePanel, a representative panel of adults ages 18 and over living in the United States. KnowledgePanel members are recruited through probability sampling methods using address-based sampling. Panel members who do not have internet access are provided with a tablet and internet service.

This survey uses statistical weighting procedures to account for deviations in the survey sample from known population characteristics, which helps correct for differential survey participation and random variation in samples. The overall sample and the non-Hispanic Black sample were weighted separately to match the makeup of the respective population demographics by sex, region, metropolitan status, age, education and household income according to the Census Bureau's 2019 American Community Survey. The overall sample included an additional adjustment for race/ethnicity. Benchmarks for metropolitan status were from the Census Bureau's March 2021 Current Population Survey.

The margin of sampling error for the April 21-May 2 sample of non-Hispanic Black Americans as well as the overall sample is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For the May 18-20 poll the margin of error is 4.5 points. For results based on other subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

The Washington Post and Ipsos Public Affairs U.S. are charter members of AAPOR's Transparency Initiative, which recognizes organizations that disclose key methodological details on the research they produce.

