

This Washington Post-Schar School poll was conducted April 21-May 12, 2022, among a random national sample 1,055 adults. Respondents were contacted by mail through a random sample of U.S. households and completed the survey online or by returning a questionnaire by mail. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus four percentage points for overall results. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by SSRS of Glen Mills, Pa.

(Full methodological details and sampling error margins for subgroups appended at the end.)

*= less than 0.5 percent

Question 1 held for release.

2. (ASK ALL) On another topic, which of the following do you like to do when you are on vacation? Please select all that apply.

	5/12/22
Relax	76
Eat at restaurants	75
Go to the beach or pool	65
Visit parks or zoos	49
Go to museums/learn about culture/take tours	48
Go shopping	45
Outdoor activities like hiking, biking, running or yoga	45
Visit theme parks	34
Attend concerts or shows	32
None of these	2

3. Compared to a usual summer before the pandemic, this summer do you expect to vacation for:

	More days	Fewer days	About the same number of days	No opinion
5/12/22	26	27	47	*

4. Compared to a usual summer before the pandemic, this summer do you expect to spend:

	More money on vacation	Less money on vacation	About the same amount of money	No opinion
5/12/22	27	35	37	*

3/4 NET

	Plan to spend more days or money on vacation	Do not plan to spend more days or money on vacation
5/12/22	38	62

5. Are each of the following a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor in making your summer vacation plans?

Summary table - 5/12/22

	Major factor	Minor factor	Not a factor	No op.
a. Gas prices	61	24	14	1
b. Flight prices	52	20	25	3
c. Hotel or lodging prices	54	31	14	2
d. Concern about the coronavirus	27	35	36	2
e. Family logistics	33	32	32	3
f. Time off work	35	20	43	3
g. Ability to work from where you travel	13	14	70	3
h. Impact of your vacation on climate change	18	25	55	2

6. This summer, do you plan to take a vacation away from home?

	---- Will take vacation ---			--- Won't take vacation ---			No opinion
	NET	Definitely	Probably	NET	Probably	Definitely	
5/12/22	72	40	32	27	20	8	*

Compare to:

Do you plan to take a vacation away from home this summer?

	Yes	No	No opinion
3/29/81*	43	53	3

*Washington Post-ABC News

7. (ASK IF DEFINITELY/PROBABLY WILL VACATION) Who will you be going on vacation with this summer? Please select all that apply.

	5/12/22
Spouse/partner	70
Other family you live with	39
Family you don't live with	34
Friends	25
By yourself	13

8. (ASK IF DEFINITELY/PROBABLY WILL VACATION) This summer, do you plan to vacation:

	Within the United States	Outside the United States	Both	No opinion
5/12/22	78	7	16	0

9. (ASK IF DEFINITELY/PROBABLY WILL VACATION) This summer, where do you plan to go on vacation? Please select all that apply.

	5/12/22
Beach	64
Mountain/lake	44
City	39
National or state park	35
Theme park	22
Cruise	9
Other	8

10. (ASK IF DEFINITELY/PROBABLY WILL VACATION) How do you plan to travel for your summer vacation(s)? Please select all that apply.

	5/12/22
Driving a car	77
Flying on a plane	50
Driving an RV or towing a camper	8
Riding a boat	5
Riding a train	3
Other	2

11. Which best describes your financial situation?

	Getting ahead	Have just enough to maintain your standard of living	Falling behind financially	No opinion
5/12/22	23	57	20	*

Compare to:

Which best describes your family's financial situation? Do you feel as if you are getting ahead financially, have just enough money to maintain your standard of living, or are you falling behind financially?

	Getting ahead	Just enough to maintain	Falling behind	No opinion
7/17/11*	15	58	27	*
2/9/11**	18	60	21	*
10/3/10**	15	56	28	1
1/12/08	21	61	17	1
9/7/07	26	53	20	1
6/3/07**	27	53	19	1
11/4/06 RV	28	48	23	1
10/22/06 RV	25	53	21	1
11/4/96**	28	48	23	1

*Washington Post-ABC News

**Washington Post/Kaiser/Harvard

12. Thinking about the next 12 months, would you say you feel (optimistic) or (pessimistic) about your own family's financial situation?

	Optimistic	Pessimistic	No opinion
5/12/22	63	37	*

Compare to:

Thinking about the next 12 months, would you say you feel (optimistic) or (pessimistic) about your family's financial situation?

	NET	Optimistic Very	Optimistic Somewhat	NET	Pessimistic Somewhat	Pessimistic Very	No opinion
12/14/14*	69	34	36	26	14	12	5
5/19/13	66	32	34	29	14	15	5
12/16/12	66	30	36	30	16	14	4
3/10/12	66	28	39	30	16	14	4
12/18/11	61	23	38	35	19	16	4
4/24/09	66	NA	NA	31	NA	NA	3
2/22/09	66			31			3
12/14/08	68			29			2
9/29/08 RV	62			35			4
4/13/08	65			32			3
2/1/08	67			30			3
12/9/07	72			25			3

12/11/06	82			16			2
5/15/06	79			20			1
12/18/05	73			26			1
12/19/04	75	"	"	23	"	"	2

*Washington Post-ABC News

13. How much, if at all, have recent price increases been a financial stress on your household?

	Major financial stress	Minor financial stress	Not a financial stress	No opinion
5/12/22	37	50	13	*

14. In the next year, do you expect the situation with rising prices to get:

	----- Worse -----			Stay the same	----- Better -----			No opinion
	NET	Much	Somewhat		NET	Somewhat	Much	
5/12/22	66	30	36	12	21	14	7	1

15. As a result of increases in prices on many goods and services in recent months, have you done each of the following?

Summary table - 5/12/22

	Yes	No	No opinion
a. Minimized use of electricity	59	39	2
b. Cut back spending on entertainment or eating out	77	22	2
c. Drove less	59	38	3
d. Put off purchases you were otherwise planning on	74	24	2
e. Bought products before prices went up	52	46	2
f. Cut back the amount of money you put in savings	59	38	3
g. Made more of an effort to find the cheapest price for products you buy	87	12	1
h. Taken a second job or worked more hours	27	70	3

Trend where available:

a. Minimized use of electricity

Compare to:

I am going to read some changes that some people say they have made in their lives to deal with inflation. As I read each one, please tell me whether during the last few years you have found yourself making the change mentioned or not. During the last few years have you found yourself minimizing use of electricity? Are you doing that as much as you can or only somewhat?

	Yes, as much as can	Yes, only somewhat	No, we've always/never done that	That's not a change for us (vol.)	No op.
3/19/81*	57	31	10	1	1

*Washington Post-ABC News

b. Cut back spending on entertainment or eating out

Yes	No	No opinion
-----	----	------------

5/12/22	77	22	2
7/13/08*	73	27	1

*Gallup "Cut back on spending on entertainment, recreation, or eating out?"

Compare to:

I am going to read some changes that some people say they have made in their lives to deal with inflation. As I read each one, please tell me whether during the last few years you have found yourself making the change mentioned or not. During the last few years have you found yourself not eating out in restaurants? Are you doing that as much as you can or only somewhat?

	Yes, as much as can	Yes, only somewhat	No, we've always/ never done that	That's not a change for us (vol.)	No op.
3/19/81*	35	32	23	8	2

*Washington Post-ABC News

c. No trend.

d. Put off purchases you were otherwise planning on

	Yes	No	No opinion
5/12/22	74	24	2
7/13/08*	61	38	1

*Gallup "Put off purchases you were otherwise planning to make this year?"

e. No trend.

f. Cut back on the amount of money you put into savings

	Yes	No	No opinion
5/12/22	59	38	3
7/13/08*	50	47	2

*Gallup

h. No trend.

g. Made more of an effort to find the cheapest price for products you buy

	Yes	No	No opinion
5/12/22	87	12	1
7/13/08*	81	19	*

*Gallup

h. Taken a second job or worked more hours

	Yes	No	No opinion
5/12/22	27	70	3
7/13/08*	30	69	1

*Gallup "Taken steps to increase your income, such as by taking a second job or working more hours?"

16. On average, how often do you drive your own car?

	More than once a day	About once a day	A few times a week	A few times a month	Less often than that	No opinion
5/12/22	38	26	20	5	8	3

17. (ASK IF DRIVE A FEW TIMES A MONTH OR MORE) Have you recently done any of the following because of the rise in gas prices?

Summary table - 5/12/22

	Yes	No	No opinion
a. Driven slower	34	63	2
b. Carpooled	22	74	4
c. Made fewer trips for groceries	64	35	1
d. Only partially filled your car's gas tank	44	53	2
e. Traveled by bus or train	9	87	4
f. Worked from home	21	76	3

18. How much, if at all, do you blame each of the following for the recent rise in gas prices?

5/12/22 - Summary table

	--- More blame -----			--- Less blame ----			No opinion
	NET	Great deal	Good amount	NET	Not much	Not at all	
a. Biden	58	40	18	40	22	18	2
b. Corporations trying to increase profits	72	41	31	26	19	7	3
c. Disruptions from the coronavirus pandemic	58	27	30	39	26	14	3
d. Russia's actions against Ukraine	69	37	32	30	21	9	2

Trend:

a. Biden

Compare to:

How much, if at all, do you blame Biden for the current rate of inflation, meaning rising prices - a great deal, a good amount, not much or not at all?

	--- More blame -----			--- Less blame ----			No opinion
	NET	Great deal	Good amount	NET	Not much	Not at all	
2/24/22*	50	33	18	48	24	24	1
11/10/21	48	34	14	50	29	21	2

*2022 and previous Washington Post-ABC News

b. Corporations trying to increase profits

	--- More blame -----			--- Less blame ----			No opinion
	NET	Great deal	Good amount	NET	Not much	Not at all	
5/12/22	72	41	31	26	19	7	3
2/24/22*	68	40	28	30	21	9	2

*Washington Post-ABC News

c. Disruptions from the coronavirus pandemic

	--- More blame -----			--- Less blame ----			No opinion
	NET	Great deal	Good amount	NET	Not much	Not at all	
5/12/22	58	27	30	39	26	14	3
2/24/22*	73	43	30	26	17	9	1

*Washington Post-ABC News

d. No trend.

19. If you had to move from your current home, would affording rent in your neighborhood be:

	----- Easy -----			----- Difficult -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	opinion
5/12/22	26	7	19	74	31	43	*

Questions 20-24 held for release.

*** End ***

METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

This poll was jointly sponsored and funded by The Washington Post and the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. The poll is a random sample of adults in the United States, with interviews in English and Spanish.

This 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.

A random sample of U.S. households was drawn from the USPS Delivery Sequence File and selected households were sent a survey invitation packet inviting the household member with the most recent birthday to complete a self-administered questionnaire online or by mail. Out of 1,055 total respondents, 800 completed the survey online and 255 returned a completed paper questionnaire; 401 respondents were recontacted from a similar survey in November 2021.

This survey uses statistical weighting procedures to ensure the sample is representative and accounts for differential rates of survey participation. The first weighting step corrects for differential response rates among households according to county-level support in the 2020 presidential election and by the predicted party leaning of households. Partisanship predictions are based on a statistical model using data from voter registration and commercial databases to predict partisan leanings among members of the SSRS probability panel.

In a second step, results are weighted to match the makeup of the population by sex, age, education, race, ethnicity, region, population density as well as by predicted household partisanship according to analysis of voter and commercial databases.

Source of weighting benchmarks	
Weighting factors	Benchmark source
Sex Age Education Race/Ethnicity White X College degree Census region	2019 American Community Survey (ACS)
County population density	Census Planning Database
Predicted partisanship	Voter and commercial databases analyzed by SSRS

All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.77 for this survey. The design effect is a factor that takes into account decreases in precision due to sample design and weighting procedures.

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

Contact polls@washpost.com for further information about how The Washington Post conducts polls.

Group	Sample size	Error margin
National adults	1,055	+/- 4
Plan to take summer vacation	752	5
Registered voters	926	4

