

FOR RELEASE APRIL 21, 2020

# Positive Economic Views Plummet; Support for Government Aid Crosses Party Lines

*Most expect problems from COVID-19 to last six months or longer*

**FOR MEDIA OR OTHER INQUIRIES:**

Carroll Doherty, Director of Political Research

Jocelyn Kiley, Associate Director, Research

Nida Asheer, Communications Associate

202.419.4372

[www.pewresearch.org](http://www.pewresearch.org)

**RECOMMENDED CITATION**

Pew Research Center, April, 2020, "Positive Economic Views Plummet; Support for Government Aid Crosses Party Lines"

## About Pew Research Center

Pew Research Center is a nonpartisan fact tank that informs the public about the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world. It does not take policy positions. It conducts public opinion polling, demographic research, content analysis and other data-driven social science research. The Center studies U.S. politics and policy; journalism and media; internet, science and technology; religion and public life; Hispanic trends; global attitudes and trends; and U.S. social and demographic trends. All of the Center's reports are available at [www.pewresearch.org](http://www.pewresearch.org). Pew Research Center is a subsidiary of The Pew Charitable Trusts, its primary funder.

© Pew Research Center 2020

## How we did this

Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand how the coronavirus outbreak has impacted Americans' views on economic issues. For this analysis, we surveyed 4,917 U.S. adults in April 2020. Everyone who took part is a member of Pew Research 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](#).

# Positive Economic Views Plummet; Support for Government Aid Crosses Party Lines

*Most expect problems from COVID-19 to last six months or longer*

Amid record unemployment claims and the disruption of commercial activity caused by the [novel coronavirus outbreak](#), the public's assessments of the U.S. economy have deteriorated with extraordinary speed and severity. Just 23% of Americans now rate economic conditions in the country as excellent or good, down sharply from 57% at the start of the year.

Most now say the economy is in either only fair (38%) or poor (38%) shape. In January, just 9% of Americans said economic conditions were poor.

As the public confronts a grim new economic reality, there is not only overwhelming support for the massive economic aid package passed last month by President Donald Trump and Congress, but also widespread belief that an additional aid package will be needed.

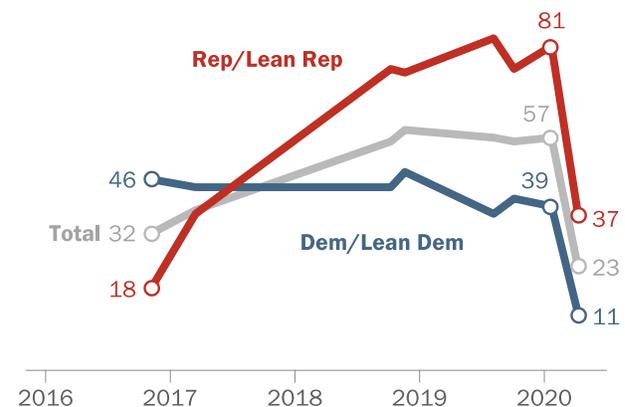
Nearly nine-in-ten U.S. adults (88%) say the \$2 trillion economic aid package passed in March was the right thing to do, including identical majorities of Republicans and Democrats (89% each). More than three-quarters (77%) think it will be necessary for the president and Congress to pass legislation providing additional economic assistance.

Majorities of Americans say the aid package enacted last month will do a great deal or a fair amount to help a range of actors, including large businesses (77%), small businesses (71%), state and local governments (67%) and unemployed people (68%).

However, only about half (49%) expect it to benefit self-employed people, while 46% think it will help their own household a great deal or fair amount. In part, this reflects the fact that lower-income adults are far more likely than more affluent people to say the aid package will benefit

## As coronavirus strikes the U.S., positive assessments of the economy plummet

*% who rate national economic conditions as excellent or good*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

them. A 59% majority of those in lower-income households believe the federal aid will help them, compared with just 22% in upper-income households. (For more on personal economic experiences, see: [About Half of Lower-Income Americans Report Household Job or Wage Loss Due to COVID-19](#). And to analyze these questions further, visit the [Election News Pathways data tool](#).)

The new national survey by Pew Research Center, conducted April 7 to 12 among 4,917 U.S. adults on the Center's American Trends Panel, finds that most Americans believe the economic problems arising from the coronavirus outbreak will persist for months to come. A majority (71%) says the economic problems resulting from the outbreak will last for at least six months, including 39% who say they will last a year or more. Just 29% expect these problems to last six months or less.

Yet the public does expect some improvement over time from today's dire economic conditions. A majority (55%) expects that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better a year from now than they are today, while 22% say they will be worse and 22% expect conditions to be about the same as they are now.

The survey finds that the public's reactions to the recently passed economic aid package differ markedly from views of the economic stimulus plan enacted during the early months of Barack Obama's presidency. At that time, views of the economy were even more negative than they are today, with 68% saying economic conditions were poor (38% say that today).

In March 2009, [56% said the \\$800 billion stimulus plan put forth by Barack Obama and passed by Congress was a good idea](#); about a third (35%) said it was a bad idea. While the question about the economic package passed in March differs somewhat, 88% of the public says it was the right thing to do.

In contrast to the extensive bipartisan support for coronavirus aid, support for the 2009 stimulus aid package was divided along partisan lines:

### Support for coronavirus aid is much broader than for 2009 stimulus bill

% who say the economic aid package passed by Congress and signed by Donald Trump is the \_\_\_ to do

	Wrong thing	Right thing
Total	11	88
Rep/Lean Rep	11	89
Dem/Lean Dem	10	89

In March 2009, % who said Barack Obama's stimulus plan passed by Congress was a ...

	Bad idea	Good idea
Total	35	56
Rep/Lean Rep	65	28
Dem/Lean Dem	13	79

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

79% of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents said it was a good idea, but just 28% of Republicans and Republican leaners said the same.

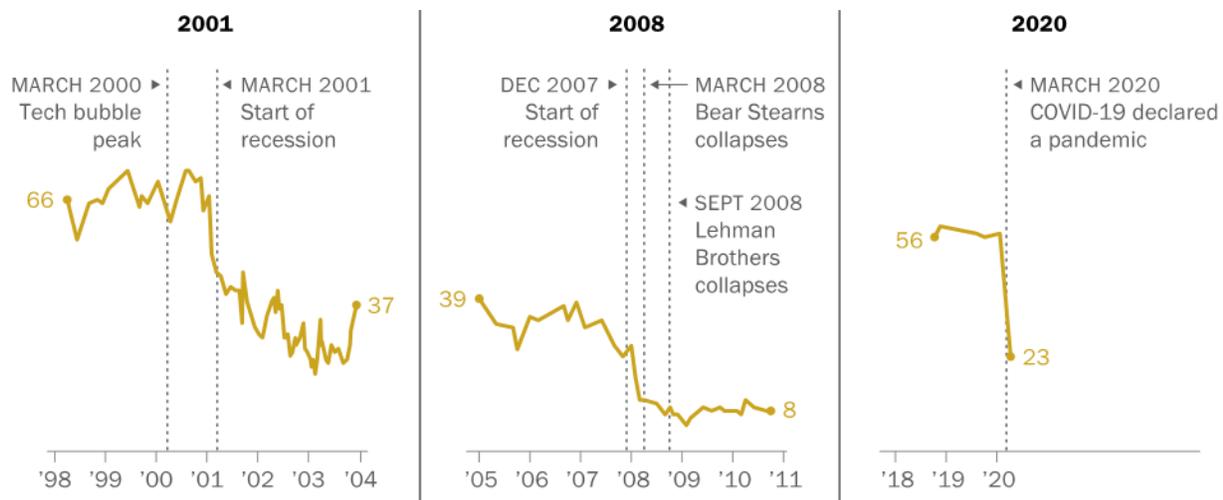
## Coronavirus outbreak leads to much quicker decline in economic ratings than during previous downturns

The dramatic plunge in positive assessments of the national economy as a result of the coronavirus outbreak is steeper than declines in economic ratings seen during the last two recessions. Before they took a sudden negative turn, economic attitudes were historically positive. Just three months ago, the public's views of the national economy were more positive than they had been at any point over the past 20 years.

This is very different from the Great Recession, which began in December 2007. Even before the recession and subsequent financial crisis, the public's views of the national economy were not all

### Sudden decline in national economic ratings amid coronavirus outbreak, in contrast to past economic downturns

*% who rate national economic conditions as excellent or good*



Notes: Data from 1998-2003 is from telephone surveys conducted by Gallup. Data from 2005-2011 is from telephone surveys by Pew Research Center. Data from 2018-2020 is from Pew Research Center's online American Trends Panel. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

that positive. They declined more gradually in 2007-2008 and remained very negative for the next several years.

After the dot-com bubble burst in the early 2000s, views of the economy slipped precipitously, but far less rapidly than they have during the coronavirus outbreak. While public views of the economy prior to the economic trouble of the early 2000s were even brighter than they were prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, it took considerably longer for perceptions to fall as far as they already have in the first three months of 2020.

While the public takes a far more negative view of the economy, opinions about economic conditions are far less divided by income and partisanship than they were prior to the crisis.

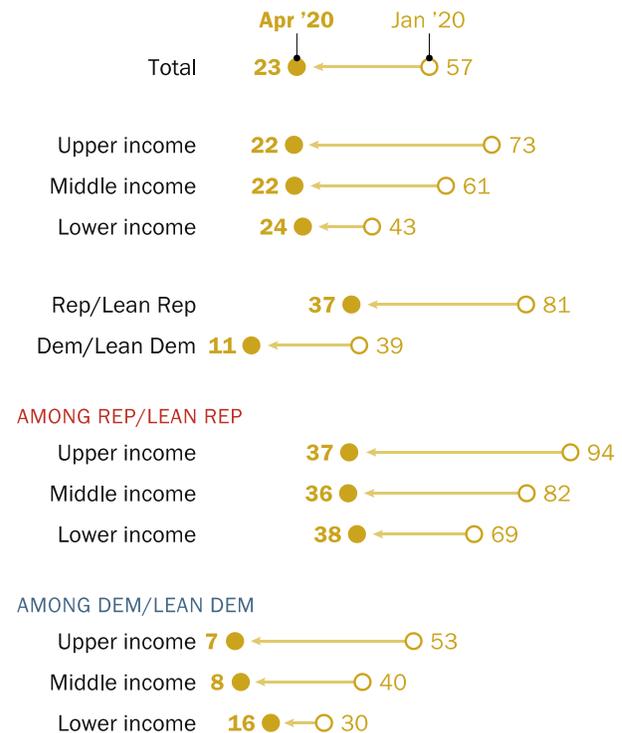
In January, those living in upper-income households were 30 percentage points more likely than those living in lower-income households to say economic conditions in the country were excellent or good (73% vs. 43%). Today, there are no significant differences across income tiers in positive ratings of the national economy; only about a quarter in each income category rates conditions as excellent or good.

The gap in positive economic ratings between Republicans and Democrats has decreased from 42 percentage points at the start of the year to 26 points today. Republicans remain somewhat more likely than Democrats to say the economy is in excellent or good shape (37% vs. 11%).

Consistent with the patterns across income tiers overall, differences in economic ratings by income among both Republicans and Democrats are now much smaller than they were in January.

## As economic views turn far less positive, differences by income and party narrow

% who rate national economic conditions as excellent or good



Note: Family incomes are based on 2018 earnings and adjusted for differences in purchasing power by geographic region and for household size.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## Who will benefit from the federal aid package?

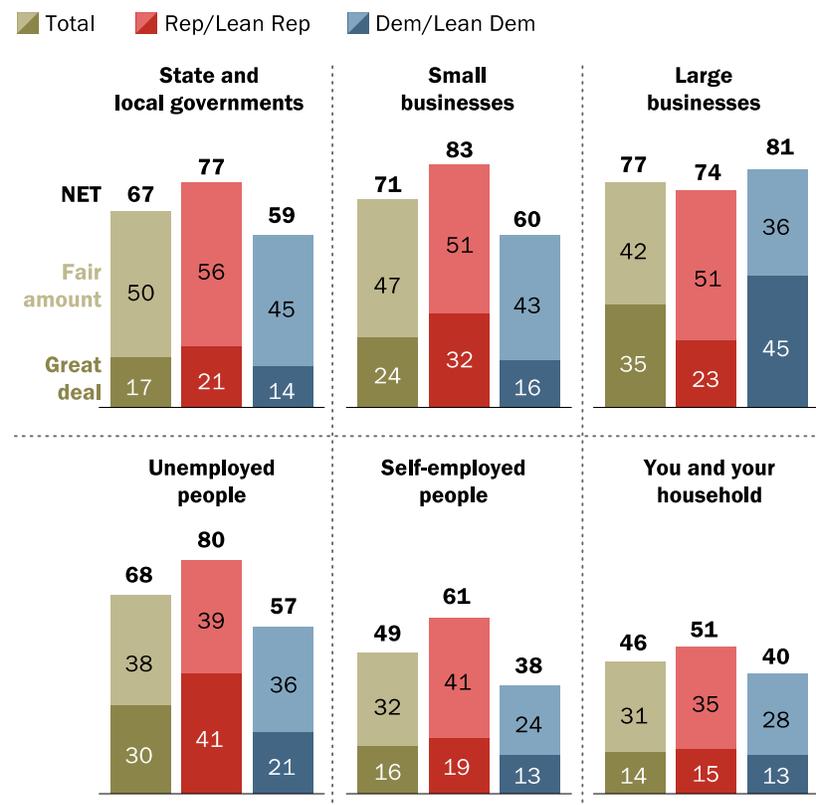
There is general agreement between Republicans and Democrats that the federal aid package will help large and small businesses, state and local governments and unemployed people. Still, the shares who think the aid package will help most groups tend to be larger among Republicans than Democrats.

Overall, 83% of Republicans and Republican leaners think the federal government's aid package will help small businesses either a great deal (32%) or a fair amount (51%). A smaller majority of Democrats and Democratic leaners (60%) think small businesses will get at least a fair amount of help from the aid. Larger majorities of Republicans than Democrats also think state and local governments (77% vs. 59%) and unemployed people (80% vs. 57%) will get at least a fair amount of help from the federal response to the coronavirus outbreak.

By contrast, Democrats (81%) are somewhat more likely than Republicans (74%) to think large businesses will receive at least a fair amount of help from the federal government; the share of Democrats who think large corporations will get a *great deal* of help from the aid package is nearly double the share of Republicans who say this (45% vs. 23%).

### Republicans more likely to say economic aid package will benefit most groups, except large businesses

% who say each will be helped a \_\_\_ by the federal aid package passed in response to COVID-19



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

About six-in-ten Republicans (61%) think self-employed people will benefit at least a fair amount from the federal aid. Democrats are less sure: 38% say it will help self-employed people a great deal or a fair amount, while 61% say it will help them not too much or not at all.

Both Republicans and Democrats see their own household as less likely to be helped by the federal aid than large and small businesses, state and local governments and unemployed people. Still, partisan differences extend to personal assessments.

Among Republicans, 51% think the aid will help their household at least a fair amount, while about as many (49%) say it will help them not too much or not at all. Democrats are less hopeful: 40% say it will help their household a great deal or fair amount, compared with 59% who think it won't help much or at all.

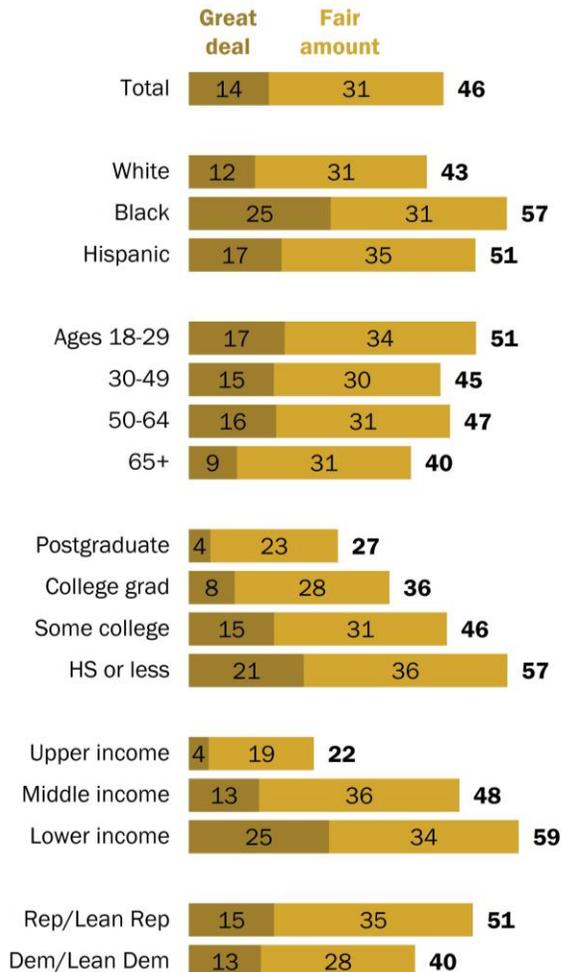
There also are significant differences by household income in the shares who expect to be helped by the COVID-19 federal aid package.

A majority of Americans in lower-income households (59%) think the federal response will help them either a great deal (25%) or a fair amount (34%). About half (48%) of middle-income earners think the aid package will help them at least a fair amount. Upper-income earners are far less likely to say this: Just 22% expect the federal response to help their own household.

Republicans and Republican leaners are more likely than Democrats and Democratic leaners to expect their household to be helped by the aid package across all income tiers.

## Lower-income households most likely to say federal aid package will help them

% who say their own household will be helped a \_\_\_ by the federal aid package passed in response to COVID-19



Notes: Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Family incomes are based on 2018 earnings and adjusted for differences in purchasing power by geographic region and for household size.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## Many say economy will be better a year from now

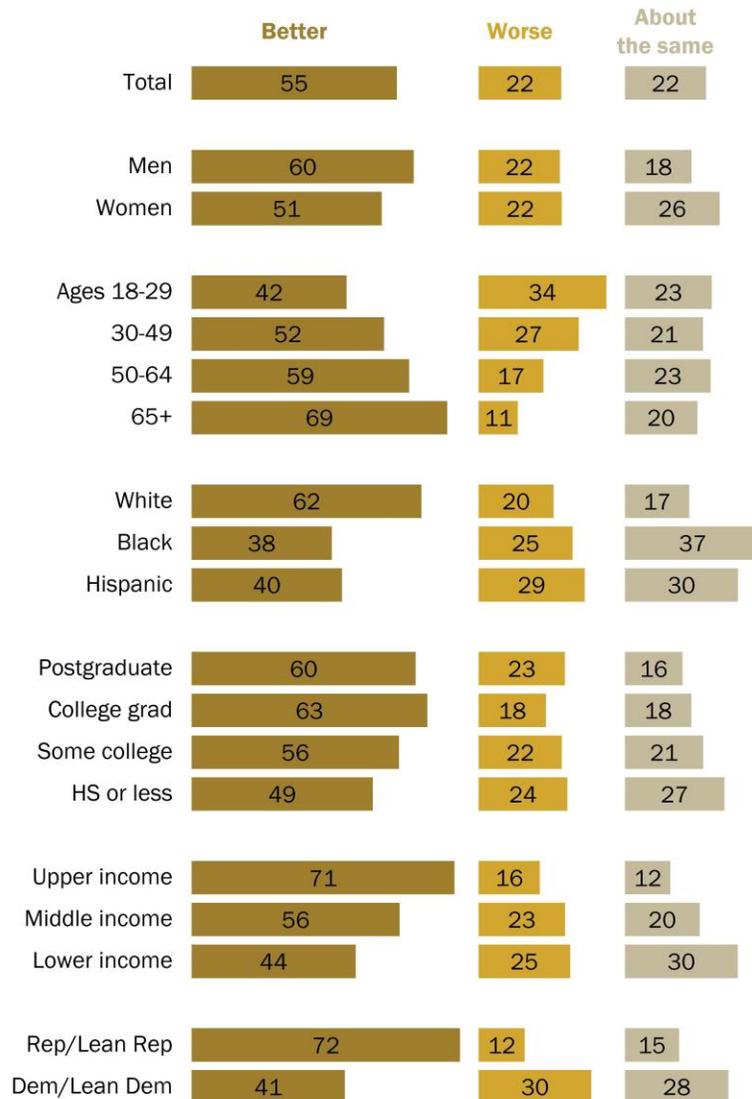
Although Americans have become much more negative about the current state of the economy, 55% expect that things will be better a year from now. Just 22% think they will be worse; another 22% think economic conditions will be about the same as they are today.

Younger people are much less optimistic that economic conditions will improve compared with older Americans. Nearly seven-in-ten of those ages 65 and older (69%) think the economy will be better in a year. By contrast, fewer than half (42%) of those ages 18 to 29 think things will be better, while 34% expect conditions to be worse in a year. While younger people were slightly less optimistic about the future economy even prior to the current downturn, the age gap is now substantially wider than it was in January.

Adults with a college degree and those with higher incomes are more likely to expect the economy to be better in a year than those with lower levels of education and income. In

### Narrow majority thinks economic conditions will be better in a year

*% who say they expect that economic conditions in the country will be \_\_\_ a year from now*



Notes: No answer responses not shown. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Family incomes are based on 2018 earnings and adjusted for differences in purchasing power by geographic region and for household size. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

January, those with a college degree were *less* likely than those without a bachelor's degree to say economic conditions would improve.

In addition, white adults (62%) are more likely than black (38%) and Hispanic (40%) adults to say conditions will be better in a year.

Some of largest differences in economic outlook are between Republicans and Democrats, though this partisan gap is somewhat narrower than it was in January. Today, 72% of Republicans and Republican leaners think conditions will be better in a year; relatively few think they will be worse (12%) or the same (15%). Democrats and Democratic leaners are more divided in their views: 41% expect the economy to be better, while 30% think it will be worse and 28% think it will be about the same.

## How long will economic problems from the COVID-19 outbreak last?

While a narrow majority expects overall economic conditions to be better in a year, the public also thinks the negative economic impacts resulting from the coronavirus outbreak will persist for some time.

About seven-in-ten (71%) say the economic problems resulting from the outbreak will last more than six months, including 39% who say that they will last a year or more. Just 9% think the economic problems resulting from the coronavirus outbreak will pass in three months, while 19% expect the problems to last four to six months.

College graduates are more likely than those without a degree to anticipate longer-term negative economic effects of the outbreak – with 79% of college grads vs. 67% of those without a degree expecting problems to last six months or longer.

About three-quarters of Democrats and Democratic leaners (78%) think economic problems will last more than six months, including 48% who think they will last a year or more. A narrower majority of Republicans (62%) think the problems will last more than six months, and just 28% expect them to last a year or more.

### Most think economic problems from the COVID-19 outbreak will last more than six months

*% who say the economic problems resulting from the coronavirus outbreak will last ...*

	1 to 3 months	4 to 6 months	More than 6 months but less than a year	A year or more
Total	9	19	32	39
Ages 18-29	5	25	35	34
30-49	12	19	30	39
50-64	10	18	32	39
65+	7	17	31	44
Postgraduate	5	17	28	50
College grad	5	15	34	46
Some college	8	24	31	37
HS or less	14	19	33	33
Upper income	5	20	33	41
Middle income	10	17	32	42
Lower income	11	23	30	34
Rep/Lean Rep	12	25	35	28
Dem/Lean Dem	6	15	29	48

Notes: No answer responses not shown. Family incomes are based on 2018 earnings and adjusted for differences in purchasing power by geographic region and for household size. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

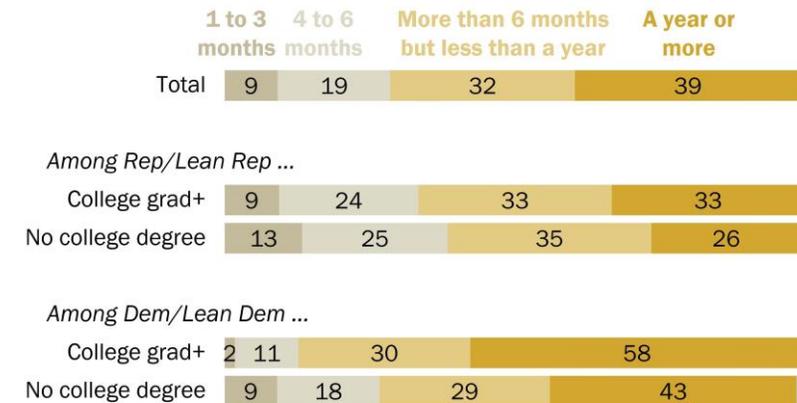
Within both parties, those with higher levels of education are more likely than those with lower levels of education to expect the negative impacts of the coronavirus outbreak on the economy to last at least a year.

These differences are particularly pronounced among Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents. Among Democrats, those with at least a college degree are 15 percentage points more likely than those with no degree to say that the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak will last at least a year (58% compared with 43%).

A third of college-educated Republicans think the economic problems resulting from the outbreak will last a year or more, compared with 26% of Republicans with no college degree.

### Democratic college grads most likely to see long-term economic problems resulting from COVID-19 outbreak

*% who say the economic problems resulting from the coronavirus outbreak will last ...*



Note: No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## Will another federal aid package be necessary?

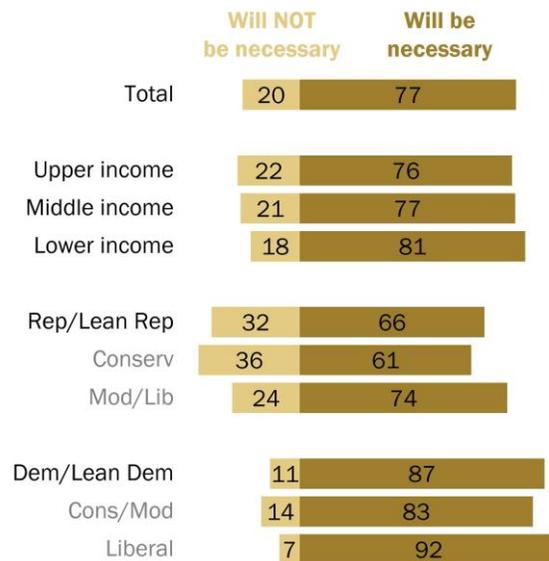
At this stage of the outbreak, 77% of the public thinks it will be necessary for the president and Congress to pass another bill to provide more economic assistance for the country.

While clear majorities in both parties say additional economic assistance will be necessary, there is less bipartisan unanimity in views about a follow-up bill than about the previous aid package. While nearly nine-in-ten Democrats say another bill will be necessary, a narrower majority of Republicans (66%) say the same.

Within the GOP, moderates and liberals (74%) are more likely than conservatives (61%) to say an additional aid package will be necessary. And liberal Democrats are slightly more likely than conservative and moderate Democrats to think another bill will be necessary (92% vs. 83%).

### Most Americans think more federal aid is needed to address COVID-19 impact

*% who say it \_\_\_ for the president and Congress to pass another bill to provide more economic assistance*



Notes: No answer responses not shown. Family incomes are based on 2018 earnings and adjusted for differences in purchasing power by geographic region and for household size.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## Personal financial ratings little changed

Even as national economic ratings have plummeted, personal financial assessments have been far more stable.

In the current survey, 47% describe their own personal financial situation as excellent or good, compared with slightly more (52%) saying it is only fair or poor. Last summer, about as many described their finances as excellent or good (50%) as said they were only fair or poor (49%).

Upper-income and middle-income households have seen a sharper decline in their personal financial ratings than lower-income households. Since last summer, the share rating their own finances as excellent or good is down 13 percentage points among middle-income households and down 11 points among upper-income households; these ratings are down just 3 points among lower-income households. Still, very large differences remain in personal ratings across income tiers: Higher earners are almost three times as likely as lower earners to say their finances are in excellent or good shape (75% vs. 27%).

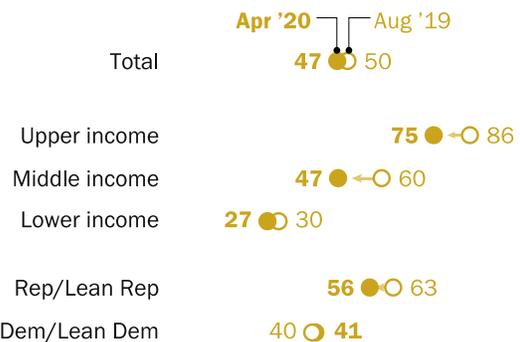
Previous telephone polling has found that personal economic ratings tend to change less dramatically than national ratings. For instance, during the Great Recession, assessments of the national economy showed more dramatic movement and became more intensely negative than personal ratings.

While the decline in overall personal financial ratings has been modest, a new analysis of the coronavirus outbreak's impact on family finances finds that [43% say someone in their household has taken a pay cut or lost a job as a result of the outbreak](#).

In part, the difference in these two measures is tied to the fact that those who already rated their own personal financial situation as only fair or poor in August of 2019 are significantly more likely

### Modest decline in personal financial ratings compared with last year

*% who rate their personal financial situation as excellent or good*



Note: Family incomes are based on 2018 earnings and adjusted for differences in purchasing power by geographic region and for household size.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

to say their household has experienced wage cuts or job loss as a result of the coronavirus outbreak than those who rated their finances more positively last summer.

The public's expectations for the direction of their future financial situation is also little changed: 42% now expect their personal financial situation to be better a year from now than it is today, while 46% say it will be about the same and 12% expect it to be worse.

## Acknowledgments

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

### Research team

Carroll Doherty, *Director, Political Research*

Jocelyn Kiley, *Associate Director, Political Research*

Alec Tyson, *Senior Researcher*

Andrew Daniller, *Research Associate*

Bradley Jones, *Research Associate*

Hannah Hartig, *Research Associate*

Amina Dunn, *Research Assistant*

Hannah Gilberstadt, *Research Assistant*

Ted Van Green, *Research Assistant*

### Communications and editorial

Nida Asheer, *Communications Associate*

### Graphic design and web publishing

Alissa Scheller, *Information Graphics Designer*

Sara Atske, *Associate Digital Producer*

## Methodology

### The American Trends Panel survey methodology

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. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report is drawn from the panel wave conducted April 7 to April 12, 2020. A total of 4,917 panelists responded out of 6,092 who were sampled, for a response rate of 81%. This does not include one panelist who

was removed from the data due to extremely high rates of refusal or straightlining. The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 4.4%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 1.7%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 4,917 respondents is plus or minus 2.1 percentage points.

---

#### American Trends Panel recruitment surveys

Recruitment dates	Mode	Invited	Joined	Active panelists remaining
Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014	Landline/ cell RDD	9,809	5,338	2,310
Aug. 27 to Oct. 4, 2015	Landline/ cell RDD	6,004	2,976	1,335
April 25 to June 4, 2017	Landline/ cell RDD	3,905	1,628	685
Aug. 8 to Oct. 31, 2018	ABS/web	9,396	8,778	6,411
Aug. 19 to Nov. 30, 2019	ABS/web	5,900	4,720	4,686
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35,014</b>	<b>23,440</b>	<b>15,427</b>

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.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

---

This study featured a stratified random sample from the ATP. The sampling strata were defined by the following variables: age, ethnicity, education, country of birth (among Hispanics), internet status, party affiliation, voter registration and volunteerism.

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 which 9,942 agreed to participate.

In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based recruitment. Invitations were sent to a random, address-based sample (ABS) of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File. 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. For a random half-sample of invitations, households without internet access were instructed to return a postcard. These households were contacted by telephone and sent a tablet if they agreed to participate. A total of 9,396 were invited to join the panel, and 8,778 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. The same recruitment procedure was carried out on August 19, 2019, from which a total of 5,900 were invited to join the panel and 4,720 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. Of the 23,440 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 15,427 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.<sup>1</sup> The American Trends Panel never uses breakout routers or chains that direct respondents to additional surveys.

---

<sup>1</sup> AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. "[AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling.](#)"

## Weighting

The ATP data was weighted in a multistep process that begins with a base weight incorporating the respondents' original selection probability. The next step in the weighting uses an iterative technique that aligns the sample to population benchmarks on the dimensions listed in the accompanying table.

Sampling errors and test of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish.

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.

---

## Weighting dimensions

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Benchmark source</b>
Gender	2018 American Community Survey
Age	
Education	
Race/Hispanic origin	
Country of birth among Hispanics	
Years lived in the United States among Hispanics	
Home internet access	
Region x Metropolitan status	2019 CPS March Supplement
Volunteerism	2017 CPS Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Voter registration	2018 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation	Average of the three most recent Pew Research Center telephone surveys.

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 US adult population.

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

---

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:

---

*Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 7-12, 2020*

<b>Group</b>	<b>Unweighted sample size</b>	<b>Weighted %</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	4,917		2.1 percentage points
Half sample	At least 2,449		3.0 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	2,034	45	3.2 percentage points
Half sample	At least 1,004		4.5 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	2,764	51	3.0 percentage points
Half sample	At least 1,379		4.3 percentage points

---

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

© Pew Research Center, 2020

## Appendix

### Defining income tiers

To create upper-, middle- and lower-income tiers, respondents' 2018 family incomes were adjusted for differences in purchasing power by geographic region and for household size. "Middle-income" adults live in families with annual incomes that are two-thirds to double the median family income in the American Trends Panel (after incomes have been adjusted for the local cost of living and for household size). The middle-income range for the panel is about \$37,500 to \$112,600 annually for a three-person household. Lower-income families have incomes less than roughly \$37,500, and upper-income families have incomes greater than roughly \$112,600.

Based on these adjustments, among respondents who provided their income and household size, 32% are lower income, 45% are middle income and 23% fall into the upper-income tier.

For more information about how the income tiers were determined, please see [here](#).

**2020 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 65 April 2020  
APRIL 7-12, 2020  
N=4,917**

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****RANDOMIZE ECON1-ECON1B IN BLOCK (WITH ECON 1 ALWAYS FIRST) AND PERSFNC-PERSNFCB IN BLOCK (WITH PERSFNC ALWAYS FIRST)****ASK ALL:**

ECON1 Thinking about the nation's economy...  
How would you rate economic conditions in this country today?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Apr 7-12, 2020	4	19	38	38	1
Jan 6-19, 2020	16	42	33	9	*
Sep 16-29, 2019	10	46	35	8	*
July 22-Aug 4, 2019	14	43	32	11	*
Nov 7-16, 2018	13	46	31	9	1
Sep 24-Oct 7, 2018	12	45	32	11	*
Feb 28-Mar 12, 2017	2	37	43	17	0
Oct 25-Nov 8, 2016	2	30	47	21	*
Apr 29-May 27, 2014	1	18	50	30	1

**ASK ALL:**

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

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>About the same as now</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Apr 7-12, 2020	55	22	22	1
Jan 6-19, 2020	29	26	45	1
Sep 16-29, 2019	20	32	48	*
July 22-Aug 4, 2019 <sup>2</sup>	28	28	44	*

**RANDOMIZE ECON1-ECON1B IN BLOCK (WITH ECON 1 ALWAYS FIRST) AND PERSFNC-PERSNFCB IN BLOCK (WITH PERSFNC ALWAYS FIRST)****ASK ALL:**

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

<u>Apr 7-12 2020</u>		<u>July 22- Aug 4 2019</u>
7	Excellent shape	10
40	Good shape	40
37	Only fair shape	34
16	Poor shape	15
*	No answer	1

<sup>2</sup> In the survey conducted from July 22- August 4, 2019, response options for this question were not randomized.

**ASK ALL:**

PERSFNCB

A year from now, do you expect that the financial situation of you and your family will be...

Apr 7-12 <u>2020</u>		July 22- Aug 4 <u>2019</u>
42	Better	43
12	Worse	8
46	About the same as now	48
*	No answer	1

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK FORM 1 [N=2,449]:**

COVID\_LAST

How long do you think the economic problems resulting from the coronavirus outbreak will last?

Apr 7-12 <u>2020</u>	
9	1 to 3 months
19	4 to 6 months
32	More than 6 months but less than a year
39	A year or more
1	No answer

**ADDITIONAL QUESTION PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

COVID\_ASSIST

As you may know, in response to the coronavirus outbreak Congress passed a bill that Donald Trump signed into law providing \$2 trillion in economic aid to businesses, individuals and state and local governments.

All in all, do you think this was the right thing or the wrong thing for the federal government to do?

Apr 7-12 <u>2020</u>	
88	Right thing
11	Wrong thing
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

COVID\_2BILL Do you think it will be necessary for the president and Congress to pass another bill to provide more economic assistance?

Apr 7-12

2020

77	Yes, another bill will be necessary
20	No, another bill will NOT be necessary
2	No answer

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

Next,

COVID\_AIDGOV Thinking about some different groups and the federal government's aid package, how much do you think it will help each of the following groups? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	<u>A</u>	<u>A fair</u>	<u>Not</u>	<u>Not</u>	<u>No</u>
	<u>great deal</u>	<u>amount</u>	<u>too much</u>	<u>at all</u>	<u>answer</u>
<b>ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=2,449]</b>					
a. Small businesses					
Apr 7-12, 2020	24	47	26	3	*
b. Unemployed people					
Apr 7-12, 2020	30	38	28	4	*
<b>ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N= 2,468]</b>					
c. Large businesses					
Apr 7-12, 2020	35	42	17	4	2
d. Self-employed people					
Apr 7-12, 2020	16	32	40	10	1
<b>ASK ALL</b>					
e. State and local governments					
Apr 7-12, 2020	17	50	27	4	1
f. You and your household					
Apr 7-12, 2020	14	31	39	15	*

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ASK ALL:**

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

**ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:**PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...<sup>3</sup>

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something else</u>	<u>No answer</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
28	29	29	13	1	17	22

---

<sup>3</sup> Party and PartyIn asked in a prior survey.