

**2021 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 95 SEPTEMBER 2021
FINAL TOPLINE
SEPTEMBER 13-19, 2021
N=10,371**

ASK ALL:

SATIS All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Sep 13-19, 2021	26	74	*
Mar 1-7, 2021	33	66	1
Nov 12-17, 2020	22	77	1
Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	18	82	1
July 27-August 2, 2020	12	87	1
June 16-22, 2020	12	87	1
Apr 7-12, 2020	31	68	1
Mar 19-24, 2020	33	66	1
Oct 29-Nov 11, 2019	31	69	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	28	71	1
July 22-Aug 4, 2019	27	72	1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	34	65	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	36	63	1
Feb 28-Mar 12, 2017 ¹	32	68	0
Sep 27-Oct 10, 2016	23	75	2
Jun 7-Jul 5, 2016	19	80	1
Sep 15-Oct 3, 2014	25	75	0

ASK ALL:

POL1JB 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]:

POL1JBSTR Do you [IF POL1JB=1: approve; IF POL1JB=2: disapprove] of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president...

	NET	<i>Very</i>	<i>Not so</i>	<i>No</i>	NET	<i>Very</i>	<i>Not so</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
	Approve	<i>strongly</i>	<i>strongly</i>	<i>answer</i>	Disapprove	<i>strongly</i>	<i>strongly</i>	<i>answer</i>	<i>answer</i>
Sep 13-19, 2021	44	27	17	*	53	38	15	1	3
July 8-18, 2021	55	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	43	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	2
Apr 5-11, 2021	59	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	39	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	2
Mar 1-7, 2021	54	38	15	1	42	29	12	1	4

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.

[SHOW RLEADAPP AND DLEADAPP ON SAME SCREEN; RANDOMIZE ORDER]**ASK ALL:**

RLEADAPP Do you approve or disapprove of the job the REPUBLICAN leaders in Congress are doing?

Sep 13-19 <u>2021</u>		Apr 5-11 <u>2021</u>	Mar 18- Apr 1 <u>2019</u>	Nov 17- Dec 15 <u>2014</u>	Oct 9-27 <u>2014</u>	May 30- June 30 <u>2014</u>
27	Approve	32	30	29	23	22
70	Disapprove	64	67	70	76	77
3	No answer	4	3	1	1	1

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Republican leaders in Congress			
Sep 5-16, 2019	32	59	9
Mar 20-25, 2019	31	63	6
Jun 5-12, 2018	29	63	8
Oct 25-30, 2017	22	71	8
Feb 7-12, 2017	34	60	6
Sep 22-27, 2015	19	73	8
May 12-18, 2015	22	72	6
Feb 18-22, 2015	26	66	8
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	23	68	10
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	21	72	7
Oct 9-13, 2013	20	72	8
Sep 4-8, 2013	24	68	8
May 1-5, 2013	22	68	10
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	25	67	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	25	67	8
Dec 7-11, 2011	21	68	11
Nov 9-14, 2011	23	67	10
Aug 17-21, 2011	22	69	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	25	66	10
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	30	61	9
Feb 24-27, 2011	36	45	19
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010	24	60	16
Jul 22-25, 2010	33	53	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	31	55	14
Apr 8-11, 2010	30	56	14
Mar 10-14, 2010	25	59	16
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	57	16
Dec 9-13, 2009	29	51	20
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	24	60	17
Jun 10-14, 2009	29	56	15
Mar 9-12, 2009	28	51	21
Feb 4-8, 2009	34	51	15
Early October, 2006	33	56	11
June, 2006	30	53	17
March, 2006	32	50	18
January, 2006	33	52	15
Early November, 2005	33	50	17
Early October, 2005	32	52	16
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15

RLEADAPP PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED ...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17
Early February, 2004	41	42	17
January, 2003	48	37	15
June, 2002	50	34	16
May, 2002	49	34	17
February, 2002	56	24	20
Early September, 2001	43	39	18
June, 2001	40	40	20
May, 2001	45	36	19
April, 2001	45	30	25
January, 2001	43	36	21
July, 2000	36	46	18
May, 2000	40	42	18
July, 1999	36	45	19
June, 1999	37	46	17
May, 1999	38	44	18
March, 1999	38	47	15
February, 1999	37	51	12
January, 1999	38	50	12
Early December, 1998	38	49	13
November, 1998	41	48	11
Early September, 1998	44	37	19
Early August, 1998	43	37	20
June, 1998	42	38	20
May, 1998	40	41	19
April, 1998	41	40	19
March, 1998	43	39	18
January, 1998	43	41	16
November, 1997	41	43	16
August, 1997	42	44	14
June, 1997	33	50	17
May, 1997	40	44	16
April, 1997	40	44	16
February, 1997	44	42	14
January, 1997	38	47	15
July, 1996	38	48	14
June, 1996	36	50	14
April, 1996	39	46	15
March, 1996	35	51	14
February, 1996	33	53	14
January, 1996	36	54	10
October, 1995	36	51	13
September, 1995	36	50	14
August, 1995	38	45	17
June, 1995	41	45	14
April, 1995	44	43	13
March, 1995	43	39	18
December, 1994 ²	52	28	20

² 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:
DLEADAPP

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the DEMOCRATIC leaders in Congress are doing?

Sep 13-19 <u>2021</u>		Apr 5-11 <u>2021</u>	Mar 18- Apr 1 <u>2019</u>	Nov 17 - Dec 15 <u>2014</u>	Oct 9-27 <u>2014</u>	May 30- June 30 <u>2014</u>
39	Approve	50	41	35	36	38
58	Disapprove	47	55	64	63	61
3	No answer	3	3	1	1	1

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Democratic leaders in Congress			
Sep 5-16, 2019	31	59	10
Mar 20-25, 2019	33	59	8
Jun 5-12, 2018	31	59	10
Oct 25-30, 2017	29	62	9
Feb 7-12, 2017	37	55	8
Sep 22-27, 2015	34	60	6
May 12-18, 2015	33	60	6
Feb 18-22, 2015	36	58	7
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	32	60	8
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	34	58	8
Oct 9-13, 2013	31	62	7
Sep 4-8, 2013	33	59	7
Nov 9-14, 2011	30	61	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	29	63	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	30	60	10
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	31	60	9
Feb 24-27, 2011	33	48	19
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010	30	53	17
Jul 22-25, 2010	35	56	10
Jun 16-20, 2010	35	53	12
Apr 8-11, 2010	38	51	11
Mar 10-14, 2010	31	57	12
Jan 6-10, 2010	35	53	11
Dec 9-13, 2009	36	47	17
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	33	53	15
Jun 10-14, 2009	42	45	13
Mar 9-12, 2009	47	35	18
Feb 4-8, 2009	48	38	14
August, 2008	31	58	11
January, 2008	31	53	16
November, 2007	35	50	15
October, 2007	31	54	15
July, 2007	33	54	13
June, 2007	34	49	17
April, 2007	36	43	21

DLEADAPP PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED ...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
March, 2007 ³	37	42	21
February, 2007	41	36	23
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27
Early October, 2006	35	53	12
June, 2006	32	50	18
March, 2006	34	46	20
January, 2006	34	48	18
Early November, 2005	36	44	20
Early October, 2005	32	48	20
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19
Early February, 2004	38	42	20
January, 2002	54	24	22
June, 2002	47	36	17
May, 2002	42	37	21
February, 2002	49	30	21
Early Sept, 2001	49	30	21
June, 2001	50	28	22

ASK FORM 1 [N=5,172]:

JBCONF 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]**]

		<u>Very</u> <u>confident</u>	<u>Somewhat</u> <u>confident</u>	<u>Not too</u> <u>confident</u>	<u>Not at all</u> <u>confident</u>	<u>No</u> <u>answer</u>
PUBH	Handle the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	21	30	19	30	*
	Mar 1-7, 2021	32	33	16	19	*
	Nov 12-17, 2020	26	32	18	24	1
	Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	23	31	20	25	1
	June 16-22, 2020	15	37	21	26	1
FRGN	Make good decisions about foreign policy					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	17	29	20	34	*
	Mar 1-7, 2021	25	31	17	26	1
	Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	22	30	18	29	1
	June 16-22, 2020	16	33	21	28	1
ECON	Make good decisions about economic policy					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	17	31	19	32	1
	Mar 1-7, 2021	24	32	17	27	*
	Nov 12-17, 2020	21	31	19	28	1
	Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	17	33	19	30	1
	June 16-22, 2020	12	35	23	29	1

³ 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...		<u>Very confident</u>	<u>Somewhat confident</u>	<u>Not too confident</u>	<u>Not at all confident</u>	<u>No answer</u>
IMMI	Make wise decisions about immigration policy					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	14	29	20	37	1
	Mar 1-7, 2021	22	31	15	31	*
CLSR	Bring the country closer together					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	9	25	28	37	1
	Mar 1-7, 2021	15	33	24	28	1
	Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	17	32	20	29	1
	June 16-22, 2020	14	30	25	30	1
MILI	Use military force wisely					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	17	28	20	34	1
	TREND FOR COMPARISON: <i>Make good decisions about the use of military force</i>					
	Feb 1-7, 2021	29	30	17	23	1

ASK FORM 2 [N=5,199]:BIDENDESC How well does each of the following describe Joe Biden? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

		<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	<u>No answer</u>
MDL	A good role model					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	21	27	20	31	1
	Mar 1-7, 2021	29	29	18	23	1
	Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	22	30	23	23	2
	June 16-22, 2020	14	31	24	28	2
ORD	Cares about the needs of ordinary people					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	24	29	19	27	1
	Mar 1-7, 2021	32	30	15	23	*
	June 16-22, 2020	20	33	22	23	2
MENT	Mentally sharp					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	14	30	21	35	1
	Mar 1-7, 2021	20	34	17	29	*
	Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	13	33	22	31	1
STND	Stands up for what he believes in					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	28	33	19	20	1
	Mar 1-7, 2021	32	34	17	16	1
	Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	26	35	21	16	2
HON	Honest					
	Sep 13-19, 2021	20	30	21	28	1
	Mar 1-7, 2021	25	32	20	23	1
	Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	20	32	23	24	2
	June 16-22, 2020	13	33	25	28	2
	Feb 4-15, 2020	12	24	19	44	1

BIDENDESC CONTINUED...

		<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	<u>No answer</u>
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?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Sep 13-19, 2021	2	24	50	24	*
Apr 20-29, 2021	2	35	49	14	*
Mar 1-7, 2021	2	21	53	24	*
Nov 12-17, 2020	5	31	44	20	*
Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	4	29	42	25	*
June 16-22, 2020	4	22	44	30	1
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>	About the same as <u>now</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Sep 13-19, 2021	29	37	34	1
Apr 20-29, 2021	45	28	27	1
Mar 1-7, 2021	44	31	24	*
Nov 12-17, 2020	42	32	24	2
Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	52	17	30	1
June 16-22, 2020	50	22	27	1
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 ⁴	28	28	44	*

[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:

PERSFNC

Thinking about your personal finances...

How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in...

	<u>Excellent shape</u>	<u>Good shape</u>	<u>Only fair shape</u>	<u>Poor shape</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Sep 13-19, 2021	9	41	36	13	1
Jan 19-24, 2021	12	41	32	14	*
Apr 7-12, 2020	7	40	37	16	*
Jul 22-Aug 4, 2019	10	40	34	15	1

ASK ALL:

PERSFNCB

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

Sep 13-19 <u>2021</u>		Apr 7-12 <u>2020</u>	July 22-Aug 4 <u>2019</u>
36	Better	42	43
14	Worse	12	8
49	About the same as now	46	48
*	No answer	*	1

⁴ 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]**

		<u>Very concerned</u>	<u>Somewhat concerned</u>	<u>Not too concerned</u>	<u>Not at all concerned</u>	<u>No answer</u>
INFL	Rising prices for food and consumer goods Sep 13-19, 2021	63	30	6	1	*
HOU	People facing eviction or foreclosure Sep 13-19, 2021	35	37	21	7	1
UNEM	People who want to work being unable to find jobs ⁵ Sep 13-19, 2021	29	32	23	15	*
LAB	Employers being unable to find workers to hire Sep 13-19, 2021	42	37	15	6	*

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?

Sep 13-19
2021

51	Favor
20	Oppose
29	Not sure
*	No answer

⁵ A previous version of this topline included a Nov. 12-17, 2020 trend point for this item that was not relevant. This change did not affect the report's substantive findings.

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?

Sep 13-19

2021

49 Favor
25 Oppose

25 Not sure
1 No answer

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]**

	NET <u>Raised</u>	<i>Raised</i> <i><u>a lot</u></i>	<i>Raised</i> <i><u>a little</u></i>	NET <u>Lowered</u>	<i>Lowered</i> <i><u>a lot</u></i>	<i>Lowered</i> <i><u>a little</u></i>	Kept the same <u>as they are now</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Sep 13-19, 2021	61	26	35	13	5	7	24	2

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Should tax rates on household income over \$250,000 be...

	NET <u>Raised</u>	<i>Raised</i> <i><u>a lot</u></i>	<i>Raised</i> <i><u>a little</u></i>	NET <u>Lowered</u>	<i>Lowered</i> <i><u>a lot</u></i>	<i>Lowered</i> <i><u>a little</u></i>	Kept the same <u>as they are now</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Sep 3-15, 2019	58	22	36	16	11	5	22	4

ASK ALL:

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

	NET <u>Raised</u>	<i>Raised</i> <i><u>a lot</u></i>	<i>Raised</i> <i><u>a little</u></i>	NET <u>Lowered</u>	<i>Lowered</i> <i><u>a lot</u></i>	<i>Lowered</i> <i><u>a little</u></i>	Kept the same <u>as they are now</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Sep 13-19, 2021	66	37	29	12	5	7	21	2
Sep 3-15, 2019	68	42	27	11	8	3	16	4

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?

	NET <u>Raised</u>	<i>Raised</i> <i><u>a lot</u></i>	<i>Raised</i> <i><u>a little</u></i>	NET <u>Lowered</u>	<i>Lowered</i> <i><u>a lot</u></i>	<i>Lowered</i> <i><u>a little</u></i>	Kept the same <u>as they are now</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 15-21, 2017	52	25	27	24	10	14	21	3

ASK ALL:

AFG_EGFP

How would you rate the job the Biden administration has done handling the situation in Afghanistan?

Sep 13-19 <u>2021</u>		Aug 23-29 <u>2021</u>
5	Excellent	6
19	Good	21
26	Only fair	29
48	Poor	42
2	No answer	2

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.?

Sep 13-19 <u>2021</u>	
39	A lot
52	A little
9	Nothing at all
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

AFG21_2

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

Sep 13-19 <u>2021</u>	
20	Strongly favor
35	Somewhat favor
26	Somewhat oppose
16	Strongly oppose
2	No answer

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.?

Sep 13-19 <u>2021</u>	
12	Very confident
31	Somewhat confident
27	Not too confident
28	Not at all confident
2	No answer

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]:PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...⁶

<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>
26	32	26	13	2	16	19

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls

⁶ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.