

The Washington Post



This Washington Post-Ipsos poll was conducted online April 28 to May 12, 2023 among a random national sample of 1,225 non-Hispanic Black adults age 18 and older and a partially overlapping sample of 1,018 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 have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points and three points among Americans overall. Sampling, field work and data processing were conducted by Ipsos of Washington, D.C.

(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
5/12/23	Black	86	36	50	14	11	2	*
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	*
5/12/23	All U.S.	86	39	46	14	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. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) In general, do you think it is a (good) or a (bad) time to be a Black person in America?

		Good time	Bad time	Skipped
5/12/23	Black	48	49	3
5/20/22	Black	34	65	1
5/1/22	Black	42	56	2
1/8/20	Black	30	65	4

Question 3 held for release.

4. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

		----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			Skipped
		NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	Skipped
5/12/23	Black	66	18	49	31	19	12	3
5/1/22	Black	70	23	47	28	19	9	2

Compare to U.S. adults overall:

----- Approve ----- ----- Disapprove ----- No

	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
5/3/23*	36	18	18	56	9	47	8
2/1/23	42	18	24	53	10	42	5
11/2/22	41	19	23	53	11	42	6
9/21/22	39	22	18	53	11	41	8
4/28/22	42	21	21	52	10	42	6
2/24/22	37	20	18	55	11	44	7
11/10/21	41	19	22	53	10	44	6
9/1/21	44	25	19	51	9	42	5
6/30/21	50	30	19	42	7	35	8
4/21/21	52	34	18	42	7	35	6

*2023 and previous: Washington Post-ABC News phone polls of U.S. adults overall

5. Do you think President Biden's policies have (helped) or (hurt) each of the following groups, or have Biden's policies made no difference?

5/12/23 - Summary table among Black Americans

	Helped	Hurt	Made no difference	Skipped
a. White people	39	5	52	3
b. Black people	34	14	49	3
c. Hispanic people	36	10	50	3
d. Asian people	36	6	54	4
e. You personally	28	11	58	3
f. Rich people	30	8	59	3
g. Poor people	38	17	41	3
h. Men	29	7	60	3
i. Women	39	12	46	3

5/12/23 - Summary table among U.S. adults overall

	Helped	Hurt	Made no difference	Skipped
a. White people	20	32	45	3
b. Black people	30	28	39	3
c. Hispanic people	27	29	41	3
d. Asian people	22	26	49	2
e. You personally	18	35	46	2
f. Rich people	26	22	50	2
g. Poor people	28	34	35	3
h. Men	17	30	51	2
i. Women	27	33	38	2

Questions 6-7 held for release.

8. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) How would you feel if each of the following happened in 2024?

	Enthusiastic	Satisfied but not enthusiastic	Dissatisfied but not angry	Angry	Skipped
a. Biden is reelected president	17	48	25	8	2
b. Trump is elected for another term as president	4	10	29	54	3

Compare to U.S. adults overall:

How would you feel if [INSERT] in 2024? Enthusiastic, satisfied but not enthusiastic, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry?

2/1/23 - Summary table*

	Enthusiastic	Satisfied but not enthusiastic	Dissatisfied but not angry	Angry	No op.
a. Biden is re-elected as president	7	29	32	30	2
b. Trump is elected for another term as president	17	26	20	36	2

*2023 Washington Post-ABC News phone poll of U.S. adults overall

9. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) If Biden was the Democratic nominee for president in 2024, would you consider voting for each of the following people if they were the Republican Party's nominee for president running against Biden?

	Yes, would consider voting for them	No, would not consider voting for them	Not sure	Skipped
a. Former president Donald Trump	9	78	11	2
b. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis	5	67	26	2
c. South Carolina Senator Tim Scott	5	57	36	2
d. Former South Carolina governor Nikki Haley	6	58	35	2

Questions 10-13 held for release.

14. In your day-to-day life, how often do any of the following things happen to you because of your racial background?

5/12/23 - Summary table among Black Americans

	NET	----- Often ----- Very Somewhat	Once in a while	Never	Skipped /No op.
a. You are treated with less respect than other people					
5/12/23	17	6 12	50	30	2
11/2/11*	23	7 16	39	36	2
4/29/06	25	7 18	36	39	1
b. You receive poorer service than other people at restaurants or stores					
5/12/23	17	5 12	48	33	2
11/2/11*	23	4 19	40	36	1
4/29/06	27	7 21	37	35	*
c. People act as if they think you are not smart					
5/12/23	21	8 13	44	33	2
11/2/11*	26	8 18	34	38	1
4/29/06	32	13 19	30	37	1
d. People act as if they are afraid of you					
5/12/23	16	6 10	36	46	2
4/29/06*	26	9 17	20	53	*

e. People act as if they think you are dishonest

5/12/23	15	5	11	38	45	2
4/29/06*	22	8	14	27	50	1

*11/2/11 and previous: Washington Post-KFF phone polls

5/12/23 - Summary table among U.S. adults overall

	NET	----- Often ----- Very Somewhat	Once in a while	Never	Skipped /No op.
a. You are treated with less respect than other people					
5/12/23	11	3 8	37	50	2
11/2/11*	19	5 14	38	42	1
4/29/06	10	3 7	30	60	*
b. You receive poorer service than other people at restaurants or stores					
5/12/23	7	2 5	29	62	2
11/2/11*	15	2 13	35	50	1
4/29/06	11	2 8	25	64	*
c. People act as if they think you are not smart					
5/12/23	12	3 9	34	53	1
11/2/11*	19	5 14	33	46	2
4/29/06	13	4 9	28	58	1
d. People act as if they are afraid of you					
5/12/23	7	2 5	19	72	1
4/29/06*	9	3 6	12	79	*
e. People act as if they think you are dishonest					
5/12/23	8	1 6	22	68	2
4/29/06*	9	2 6	15	76	*

*11/2/11 and previous: Washington Post-KFF phone polls

15. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) At this time, how worried are you that you or someone you love will be physically attacked because they are Black? Are you...

	NET	----- Worried ----- Very Somewhat	----- Less worried ----- NET Not so Not at all	Skipped
5/12/23 Black	59	16 44	39 26 13	1
5/20/22 Black	75	32 43	25 17 8	*

16. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) Do you think now is a (more dangerous) time to be a Black teenager in America than when you were a teenager, (less dangerous) or about the same?

	More dangerous	Less dangerous	About the same	Skipped
5/12/23 Black	69	4	25	2

17. In April, a Black 16-year-old boy in Kansas City went to the wrong house to pick up his younger siblings and was shot by an 84-year-old White man who said he was "scared to death." Do you think this represents (an isolated incident) or (a sign of broader problems in the treatment of Black people by White people)?

	An isolated incident	A sign of broader problems	Skipped
5/12/23 Black	13	85	2
5/12/23 All U.S.	37	62	2

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

	Get better	Get worse	Stay about the same	Skipped
5/12/23 Black	11	51	37	2
5/12/23 All U.S.	21	38	39	2

19. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) Has anyone used racist language in your presence in the past year?

	Yes	No	Skipped
5/12/23 Black	34	64	1

20. (AMONG PEOPLE WHO SAID YES IN Q19) In what places did you hear racist language used in your presence in the past year? (Select all that apply)

	5/12/23 Black
At a store, restaurant or other public place	76
At your workplace	35
While driving	20
At the home of a friend or family member	14
At a school or college	13
At your home	7
Skipped	*

Questions 21-23 held for release.

24. (AMONG THOSE EMPLOYED FULL- OR PART-TIME) How helpful, if at all, do you think workplace diversity and inclusion initiatives are for Black workers?

	----- Helpful -----			----- Not helpful -----			Skipped
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
5/12/23 Black	70	20	50	28	21	6	3
5/12/23 All U.S.	59	12	47	38	25	14	3

25. (AMONG THOSE EMPLOYED FULL- OR PART-TIME) As far as you know, does your employer have diversity and inclusion initiatives?

	Yes	No	Skipped
5/12/23 Black	51	45	4
5/12/23 All U.S.	57	40	2

26. (AMONG THOSE EMPLOYED FULL- OR PART-TIME) How welcoming do you feel your workplace is to Black workers?

	----- Welcoming -----			----- Less welcoming -----			Skipped
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	

5/12/23 Black	88	45	43	10	7	3	3
5/12/23 All U.S.	89	60	29	9	7	2	2

27. (AMONG THOSE EMPLOYED FULL- OR PART-TIME) How would you rate your workplace as a place for each of the following?

5/12/23 - Summary table among Black Americans

	----- Positive -----			----- Negative -----			Skipped
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
a. Promoting Black workers within your company	65	21	44	31	23	8	4
b. Stopping racial discrimination in your workplace	76	23	53	20	16	4	4
c. Being welcoming to Black workers	82	25	56	15	12	4	3
d. Paying Black people and White people equally for the same work	74	26	48	22	16	6	4

5/12/23 - Summary table among U.S. adults overall

	----- Positive -----			----- Negative -----			Skipped
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
a. Promoting Black workers within your company	81	34	46	16	13	2	3
b. Stopping racial discrimination in your workplace	85	41	43	12	10	3	3
c. Being welcoming to Black workers	88	44	44	9	8	2	2
d. Paying Black people and White people equally for the same work	87	50	37	11	8	2	3

28. (AMONG BLACK PEOPLE EMPLOYED FULL- OR PART-TIME) Have you ever felt that people you worked with in any job treated you like the "affirmative action hire," that you had been hired because you are Black?

	Yes	No	Skipped
5/12/23 Black	20	77	2

29. These days, how much do you think White people trust Black people...?

5/12/23 - Summary table among Black Americans

	----- Trust more -----			----- Trust less -----			Skipped
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Not too much	Not at all	
a. In the U.S. overall	17	2	15	80	56	24	3
b. In your community	33	3	30	64	46	18	3

5/12/23 - Summary table among White Americans

	----- Trust more -----			----- Trust less -----			Skipped
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Not too much	Not at all	

a. In the U.S. overall	44	6	39	54	48	6	2
b. In your community	63	12	51	35	30	5	2

5/12/23 - Summary table among U.S. adults overall

	----- Trust more -----			----- Trust less -----			
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Not too much	Not at all	Skipped
a. In the U.S. overall	37	5	32	61	49	12	2
b. In your community	52	10	42	46	36	9	2

30. These days, how much do you think Black people trust White people...?

5/12/23 - Summary table among Black Americans

	----- Trust more -----			----- Trust less -----			
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Not too much	Not at all	Skipped
a. In the U.S. overall	19	2	17	78	56	23	3
b. In your community	33	3	30	64	46	18	3

5/12/23 - Summary table among White Americans

	----- Trust more -----			----- Trust less -----			
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Not too much	Not at all	Skipped
a. In the U.S. overall	27	3	24	70	61	9	2
b. In your community	52	8	44	46	39	6	2

5/12/23 - Summary table among U.S. adults overall

	----- Trust more -----			----- Trust less -----			
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Not too much	Not at all	Skipped
a. In the U.S. overall	25	3	22	72	59	13	3
b. In your community	44	7	37	53	43	10	3

31. How concerned are you about each of the following?

5/12/23 - Summary table among Black Americans

	--- More concerned ---			Some what	----- Less concerned -----			Sk- ip
	NET	Extremely	Very		NET	Not too	Not at all	
a. Public schools banning books that mention race or racism	69	47	21	17	12	5	6	2
b. States stopping Black history from being taught in public schools	75	52	23	13	10	5	5	2
c. States stopping public schools from teaching the history of racism in America	72	48	24	15	11	5	5	2

5/12/23 - Summary table among U.S. adults overall

	NET	More concerned Extremely	Very	Some what	NET	Less concerned Not too	Not at all	Skip ip
a. Public schools banning books that mention race or racism	54	34	20	23	20	11	10	2
b. States stopping Black history from being taught in public schools	48	30	18	27	23	13	10	2
c. States stopping public schools from teaching the history of racism in America	51	31	19	26	22	12	10	2

32. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) How much political power do you think Black people have in the U.S.?

	NET	More power A great deal	A good amount	NET	Less power Some	Very little	Skip -ped
5/12/23 Black	20	4	16	78	44	34	2

33. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) How much political power, if at all, do you think Black people have in the state where you live?

	NET	More power A great deal	A good amount	NET	Less power Some	Very little	Skip -ped
5/12/23 Black	20	4	17	77	38	39	3

34. (AMONG BLACK AMERICANS) In April, Tennessee Republicans expelled two Black Democratic lawmakers from the statehouse after they joined protestors calling for gun control after a mass shooting. How concerned, if at all, are you about what their expulsion means for representation of Black voters?

	NET	Concerned Extremely	Very	Somewhat concerned	NET	Less concerned Not too	Not at all	Skip -ped
5/12/23 Black	64	37	28	21	13	7	5	3

Questions 35-36 held for release.

37. What do you think matters more for getting ahead in life today: (getting a good education and working hard) OR (coming from money and knowing the right people)?

	Getting a good education and working hard	Coming from money and knowing the right people	Skipped/ Other/No opinion
5/12/23 Black	49	48	3
11/2/11 Black*	79	17	4
5/12/23 All U.S.	55	43	2
11/2/11 All U.S.*	76	20	4

*Washington Post-KFF poll

38. Do you think America's economic system is...

	Stacked against Black people	Fair to everyone	Other (Vol.)	Neither (Vol.)	Skipped/ No op.
5/12/23 Black	81	15	NA	NA	4
11/2/11 Black*	44	35	4	6	9
4/30/06 Black	53	26	5	9	6
5/12/23 All U.S.	43	52	NA	NA	5
11/2/11 All U.S.*	26	50	6	8	9
4/30/06 All U.S.	29	52	4	11	5

*11/2/11 and previous: Washington Post-KFF polls, "stacked against blacks"

39. How would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days?

	----- Positive -----			----- Negative -----			Skipped/ No op.
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
5/12/23 Black	23	1	22	74	57	18	2
5/1/22 Black	24	1	22	74	56	18	2
1/8/20 Black	42	3	39	56	45	11	2
5/12/23 All U.S.	22	1	21	77	48	29	1
5/1/22 All U.S.	20	*	19	79	46	33	1

40. Would you describe the state of your own personal finances as:

	--- Excellent/Good ---			--- Not so good/Poor ---			No Skipped
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
5/12/23 Black	55	4	51	43	32	11	2
5/12/23 All U.S.	64	11	53	35	27	7	1

41. During the last few years, has your financial situation been...?

	Getting better	Staying the same	Getting worse	Skipped
	5/12/23 Black	31	47	20
5/1/22 Black	25	52	22	2
5/12/23 All U.S.	25	48	26	1
5/1/22 All U.S.	18	51	30	1

42. Over the last six months, has inflation caused financial hardship for you and your family?

	Yes, serious hardship	Yes, but not a serious hardship	No, not a hardship	Skipped
	5/12/23 Black	17	48	33
5/12/23 All U.S.	16	52	31	1

43. Are each of the following a source of financial stress for you at the time?

5/12/23 - Summary table among Black adults

	Yes	No	Skipped
a. Health-care costs	29	68	3
b. Not enough income	56	41	3
c. Not enough savings	60	38	2
d. Child-care costs	8	90	3
Child <18 at home	15	83	2
e. Housing costs	41	57	2
f. Student loan debt	21	76	2
g. Credit card debt	37	61	3
h. Car loan debt	20	77	2
i. Other loan debt	21	76	3

5/12/23 - Summary table among U.S. adults overall

	Yes	No	Skipped
a. Health-care costs	38	60	1
b. Not enough income	50	49	1
c. Not enough savings	55	44	1
d. Child-care costs	6	92	2
Child <18 at home	17	82	2
e. Housing costs	40	59	1
f. Student loan debt	15	84	1
g. Credit card debt	30	69	1
h. Car loan debt	20	79	1
i. Other loan debt	17	81	2

Questions 44-53 held for release.

END

METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

This poll was jointly sponsored and funded by The Washington Post and Ipsos. The poll includes a random sample of 1,225 non-Hispanic black in the United States, as well as a partially overlapping sample of 1,018 U.S. adults overall. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

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 age 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 2021 American Community Survey. The overall sample included an additional adjustment for race/ethnicity. Benchmarks for metropolitan status were from the Census Bureau's March 2022 Current Population Survey.

The margin of sampling error for the sample of non-Hispanic blacks is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points, the overall sample is plus or minus three percentage 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.

Group	Sample size	Error margin
Black adults	1,225	+/- 3.5 points
Black Dem/lean Dem	907	4
U.S. adult comparison sample	1,018	3
White adults	696	4

