



Grinnell College

National Poll

EMBARGOED UNTIL 4 A.M. EDT, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023

Study #2266
 1,004 U.S. adults ages 18 and over,
 Margin of error: ±3.1 percentage points

SELZER & COMPANY
 March 14-19, 2023
Weighted by sex, age, and race

Shading in gray indicates tracking from previous polls.

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling: **(Rotate list, but A must always come first.)**

		Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
A. His job as president	Mar-23	39	51	10
	Sep-22	36	51	13
	Mar-22	34	52	14
	Oct-21	37	50	12
B. Immigration	Mar-23	31	54	15
	Oct-21	27	58	16
C. The economy	Mar-23	35	56	8
	Mar-22	31	57	13
	Oct-21	36	53	11
D. The war in Ukraine (Not directly comparable: The Russian invasion of Ukraine)	Mar-23	43	45	12
	Mar-22	37	48	14

2. I'm going to mention some people in the news. For each, please tell me if your feelings are very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable. If you don't know enough about the person to answer, just say so. **(Record "don't know" as "not sure." Rotate list.)**

		Fav	Unf	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure	
A. Joe Biden, president of the U.S.	Mar-23	44	52	15	30	16	36	4	
	Mar-21	49	43	23	26	12	31	8	
	Joe Biden, Democratic nominee for president of the U.S.	Aug-20	43	48	20	23	16	32	9
	Joe Biden, former vice president of the U.S.	Mar-20	46	42	18	27	17	25	12
	Oct-19	47	44	16	32	19	24	9	
B. Kamala Harris, vice president of the U.S.	Mar-23	39	50	13	26	15	35	10	
	Mar-21	44	41	21	22	10	31	15	
C. The governor of your state	Mar-23	54	36	23	30	16	20	10	
	Mar-21	55	34	21	34	15	19	11	
	Aug-20	56	29	22	34	12	17	15	
D. Mike Pence, former vice president of the U.S.	Mar-23	35	51	8	27	29	23	14	
	Mar-21	43	41	18	26	19	22	16	
	Mike Pence, vice president of the U.S.	Oct-19	44	44	24	21	16	28	12

		Fav	Unf	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure	
E.	Donald Trump, former president of the U.S.	Mar-23	38	58	20	18	13	45	4
		Mar-21	43	52	28	15	13	39	5
	Donald Trump, president of the U.S.	Aug-20	42	52	26	16	10	42	6
		Mar-20	43	51	25	18	12	39	6
		Oct-19	42	54	27	15	10	44	4
		Nov-18	47	49	26	21	14	35	4
		Sep-18	42	50	25	17	12	38	8
F.	Ron DeSantis, governor of Florida	Mar-23	38	41	20	18	11	29	21
G.	Kevin McCarthy, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives	Mar-23	29	40	7	22	21	20	31
H.	Nikki Haley, former governor of South Carolina	Mar-23	25	28	7	17	18	10	48

3. As you look forward to the presidential contest next year, which type of candidate appeals to you more: **(Read list. Rotate.)**

	A candidate who will compromise with the other party	A candidate who will fight for your party's priorities	Not sure
Mar-23	44	48	8

4. Which of the following best describes your interest in American politics: **(Read list. Do not rotate.)**

	Paying a lot/Fair amount of attention to political news	Glancing at/deliberately avoiding political news	Paying a lot of attention to political news	Paying a fair amount of attention to political news	Just glancing at political news once in a while	Deliberately avoiding political news	Not sure
Mar-23	67	31	28	39	21	10	2

5. For each of the following statements, please tell me if you strongly agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or strongly disagree. **(Rotate list.)**

		Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Mostly Agree	Mostly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure	
A.	People with high levels of education and expertise do not understand the problems of ordinary people	Mar-23	49	47	20	29	31	16	4
		Oct-21	47	49	20	27	29	20	4
B.	Ordinary people elected to office will do a better job of governing than professional politicians	Mar-23	66	29	29	37	22	7	5
		Oct-21	64	27	37	27	19	8	9

		Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Mostly Agree	Mostly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure	
C.	There are too many immigrants coming to the U.S.	Mar-23	47	48	27	20	26	22	5
		Oct-21	45	50	30	15	23	27	5

6. I'm going to mention some recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions. For each, please tell me if you favor or oppose. **(Rotate list.)**

			Favor	Oppose	Not Sure
A.	There is no constitutional right to abortion	Mar-23	33	60	7
B.	A public high school must allow a football coach to pray with the team after games	Mar-23	59	36	5
C.	Most gun owners must be granted concealed-carry licenses for their guns	Mar-23	60	36	4

7. The Supreme Court has not yet decided whether the Constitution allows business owners to refuse service to gay or lesbian customers because of religious objections to homosexuality. Do you favor or oppose allowing businesses to refuse service?

	Favor	Oppose	Not sure
Mar-23	27	68	5

8. Some states have proposed legislation that would ban transgender children from receiving gender-affirming medical care before they turn 18 even with the approval of their parents or guardians and their doctors. Do you favor or oppose proposed legislation like this? **(Follow with:)** Do you strongly [FAVOR/OPPOSE] or mostly [FAVOR/OPPOSE]?

	Favor	Oppose	Strongly favor	Mostly favor	Mostly oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure
Mar-23	41	53	30	11	17	37	5

9. I have some questions about freedom of speech. For each of the following situations, please tell me if you think it is appropriate or is not appropriate for the groups of people mentioned to speak their minds about politics. **(Read list. Rotate.)**

			Is Appropriate	Is not Appropriate	Not Sure
A.	Public school teachers in their classrooms	Mar-23	41	57	2
B.	Public school students in their classrooms	Mar-23	73	25	2
C.	Clergy in places of worship	Mar-23	51	45	4
D.	Professional athletes after games	Mar-23	68	30	2
E.	Members of the public at lawful protest gatherings	Mar-23	92	6	1
F.	College professors in their classrooms	Mar-23	58	39	3
G.	Members of Congress in government buildings	Mar-23	88	11	1

10. For each of the following books or topics, please tell me if this is generally the kind of material you think should or should not be part of a library in a public middle school. **(Rotate list.)**

		Should	Should Not	Not Sure	
A.	Sexual orientation	Mar-23	56	42	2
B.	Racism in American society	Mar-23	76	22	2
C.	Gender identity	Mar-23	57	41	2
D.	The Bible	Mar-23	84	15	1
E.	Creationism	Mar-23	67	22	10
F.	The Quran	Mar-23	67	25	8

11. For each of the following, please tell me how much of a role you think the group should play in making decisions about what materials are available in school libraries—should each play a big part, a small part, or no part? **(Read list. Rotate.)**

			Big part	Small part	No part	Not Sure
A.	Families of students	Mar-23	53	36	10	1
B.	The local elected school board	Mar-23	44	42	13	1
C.	School librarians	Mar-23	57	30	12	1
D.	Elected officials at the state level	Mar-23	17	39	43	1
E.	Students	Mar-23	55	32	12	1

12. Which of the following two options better fits your view about current discussions about the kinds of materials that should be allowed in school libraries? **(Rotate.)**

	Worried that materials that could be harmful to students will remain available in school libraries	Worried that materials that could be valuable to students will be removed from school libraries	Neither (VOL)	Both (VOL)	Not sure
Mar-23	30	62	2	3	4

13. As you think about the next 12 months, do you expect the overall strength of the U.S. economy to be better or worse as compared to the way you see it now?

	Better	Worse	About the same (VOL)	Not sure
Mar-23	36	58	2	4
Mar-22	27	58	9	6
Oct-21	36	52	7	5
Mar-21	47	45	3	5
Aug-20	54	27	6	13
Mar-20	59	34	1	6
Oct-19	47	41	5	8

14. How confident are you that, across the country, the votes in the **2024** general election next year will be counted as voters intended—very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

	Very/smw confident	Not too/ at all confident	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	Not sure
Mar-23	63	35	33	30	19	15	3

How confident are you that, across the country, the votes in the **2022** general election this year will be counted as voters intended—very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

	Very/smw confident	Not too/ at all confident	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	Not sure
Sep-22	64	31	30	34	19	12	5
Mar-22	60	35	29	31	20	16	5
Oct-21	58	38	30	28	20	18	4
Mar-21	53	44	24	29	23	21	3
Aug-20	62	34	20	42	22	12	4
Mar-20	69	28	27	42	20	8	4
Oct-19	68	28	25	43	18	10	4

15. (Code) Q.16 split form: Record the form the respondent hears.

50 Form A
50 Form B

[FORM A]

- 16a. Public school teachers sometimes learn information about their students that a student's parents or guardians may or may not need to know. If a teacher learns that a middle school student has been reading a book on sex education in the school library, how important is it to you that the teacher informs the student's parents or guardians—very important, somewhat important, not important? (Form A, n=501. Margin of error: ±4.4 percentage points.)

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Not sure
Mar-23	29	27	42	1

[FORM B]

- 16b. Public school teachers sometimes learn information about their students that a student's parents or guardians may or may not need to know. If a teacher learns that a middle school student has adopted a gender identity different than the one assigned to them at birth, how important is it to you that the teacher informs the student's parents or guardians—very important, somewhat important, not important? (Form B, n=503. Margin of error: ±4.4 percentage points.)

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Not sure
Mar-23	43	23	31	3

These final questions are asked just to see what cross-section of U.S. residents we are interviewing.

100a. What is your age? **(RECORD ACTUAL AGE AND CODE WITH APPROPRIATE AGE GROUP. IF RESPONDENT REFUSES, OFFER AGE GROUPS.)**

b. **(CODE PROPER CATEGORY :)**

	Under 25	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44	45 to 49	50 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64	65 and over	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	11	7	10	8	8	6	9	7	9	24	1

101a. In the 2020 presidential election, did you vote for [Donald Trump] or [Joe Biden], for someone else, or did you not vote? **[Rotate candidate names.]**

	Donald Trump	Joe Biden	Someone else	Did not vote	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	32	38	5	20	4

101b. How likely is it you will vote in the November **2024** election for president and other offices—do you think you would definitely vote, probably vote, might or might not vote, or probably not vote?

	Definitely vote	Probably vote	Might or might not vote	Probably not vote	Not sure
Mar-23	76	10	5	8	1

How likely is it you will vote in the 2022 general election—will you definitely vote, probably vote, might or might not vote, or probably not vote?

	Definitely vote	Probably vote	Might or might not vote	Probably not vote	Not sure
Sep-22	71	11	6	10	1

How likely is it you will vote in the November 2020 election for president and other offices—do you think you would definitely vote, probably vote, might or might not vote, or probably not vote?

	Definitely vote	Probably vote	Might or might not vote	Probably not vote	Not sure
Aug-20	77	9	3	9	2
Mar-20	71	14	5	10	1
Oct-19	78	11	3	7	1
Nov-18	79	9	3	5	4

102. In politics as of today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent? **(If Republican or Democrat, ask:)** Do you consider yourself a strong [REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT]? **(If independent, ask:)** Do you lean more toward the Republicans or more toward the Democrats, or are you totally independent?

	Strong Republican	Republican	Lean Republican	Totally independent	Lean Democrat	Democrat	Strong Democrat	Other (VOL)	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	14	8	9	26	10	10	17	5	1

103. Do you consider yourself conservative, moderate, or liberal?

	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal	None of these (VOL)	Refused/ Not sure
Mar-23	29	38	26	3	4

104. What is the last grade of school you completed?

	High school graduate or less	Some college	Associate's (two-year) degree	Bachelor's (four-year) degree	Postgraduate work or degree	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	23	21	10	24	21	2

105. Do you have children under the age of 18 living at home?

	Yes	No	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	26	72	2

105b. Are any of these children in public schools, K through 12? (n=241; MoE: ±6.3 percentage points)

MOEE

	Yes	No	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	76	23	1

106. Would you describe the area where you live as a city, a suburb, a town, or a rural area?

	City	Suburb	Town	Rural	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	29	28	17	23	3

107. Which of the following best describes your religious beliefs—Roman Catholic, Protestant, some other kind of Christian, Jewish, Muslim, other, or none?

	Roman Catholic	Protestant	Some other kind of Christian	Jewish	Muslim	Other	None	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	16	20	27	2	1	5	22	7

108. (Ask all.) Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

	Yes	No	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	26	70	5

109. (Ask all.) How often do you attend religious services: (Read list.)

	At least once a week	A couple of times a month	A few times a year	Less frequently than once a year	Never	Refused/ not sure
Mar-23	26	12	16	18	24	4

110a. With what racial or ethnic group do you identify most—White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, or some other group?

110b. **(If not Hispanic, ask:)** Are you from a Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish-speaking background?

(If yes, code AC=3 in b. Then reclassify all into c.)

	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Native American	Other	Multi-racial (VOL)	Refused/not sure
110c. Mar-23	60	12	15	4	3	1	1	4

111. Is your total annual household income before taxes above or below \$50,000 per year?

- Below **ASK b**
- Above **ASK c**

b. Is it above or below \$25,000 per year?	12	Below (<\$25,000)
	17	Above (\$25,000-\$49,999)
c. Is it above or below \$75,000 per year?	14	Below (\$50,000-\$74,999)
		Above: Ask d
d. Is it above or below \$100,000 per year?	12	Below (\$75,000-\$99,999)
	33	Above (\$100,000 and over)
	11	Refused/not sure

112. Phone type

	Cell phone only	Landline or some other type
Mar-23	72	28

113. What is your gender or sex: **(Let respondent volunteer. S&C will recode as appropriate.)**

	Male	Female	Other (specify:)
Mar-23	48	50	2

114. REGN—see attachment for applicable states. Recode from Q.A.

	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Mar-23	18	22	35	26

119. **(Code from Q.A) Respondent lives in a state with a Republican or Democratic governor.** (See attached spreadsheet for reference.)

	Republican	Democrat
Mar-23	49	51

METHODOLOGY

The Grinnell College National Poll, conducted March 14-19, 2023, for Grinnell College by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, IA, is based on telephone interviews with 1,004 U.S. adults ages 18 or older.

Interviewers with Quantel Research contacted households with randomly selected landline and cell phone numbers. Interviews were administered in English. Responses were adjusted by sex, age, and race to reflect the general population based on recent census data.

Percentages based on the full probability sample of 1,004 respondents may have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points. This means that if this survey were repeated using the same questions and the same methodology, 19 times out of 20, the findings would not vary from the true population value by more than plus or minus 3.1 percentage points. Results based on smaller samples of respondents—such as by gender or age—have a larger margin of error.

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