



Napolitan News Service Survey
Of 1,000 Registered Voters
Conducted August 17, 2026

1 How do you rate the U.S. economy these days?*

7% Excellent
23% Good
27% Fair
42% Poor
2% Not sure

Total						
	Total		Mainstreet		Elite and Elite Adj	
	Excellent /Good	Poor	Excellent /Good	Poor	Excellent /Good	Poor
August 17, 2026	30%	42%	28%	44%	33%	40%
August 3-4, 2026	27%	41%	25%	40%	32%	42%
July 20-21, 2026	27%	39%	25%	40%	33%	37%
July 6-7, 2026	27%	36%	23%	39%	37%	30%
June 22-23, 2026	28%	42%	28%	42%	29%	40%
June 8-9, 2026	28%	41%	24%	44%	35%	36%
May 26, 2026	25%	42%	24%	46%	27%	34%
May 11-12, 2026	28%	44%	25%	48%	34%	35%
April 27-28, 2026	26%	44%	24%	47%	30%	40%
April 13-14, 2026	28%	36%	24%	40%	34%	29%
March 30-31, 2026	24%	40%	21%	43%	29%	35%
March 16-17, 2026	27%	38%	25%	40%	30%	34%
March 2-3, 2026	29%	35%	28%	37%	32%	31%

Source: Napolitan News Service

Conducted by RMG Research, Inc. August 17, 2026
Margin of Sampling Error: +/- 3.1 percentage points



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2 Is the U.S. economy getting better or worse?*

10% Much better
17% Somewhat better
19% About the same
24% Somewhat worse
28% Much worse
3% Not sure

Total						
	Total		Mainstreet		Elite and Elite Adj	
	Better	Worse	Better	Worse	Better	Worse
August 17, 2026	27%	52%	25%	54%	30%	46%
August 3-4, 2026	24%	53%	23%	51%	27%	56%
July 20-21, 2026	23%	51%	20%	54%	29%	48%
July 6-7, 2026	24%	52%	23%	55%	28%	45%
June 22-23, 2026	26%	54%	25%	54%	26%	55%
June 8-9, 2026	22%	59%	19%	60%	27%	57%
May 26, 2026	23%	57%	24%	58%	21%	56%
May 11-12, 2026	24%	54%	20%	58%	31%	47%
April 27-28, 2026	24%	55%	21%	57%	27%	51%
April 13-14, 2026	22%	52%	22%	54%	23%	51%
March 30-31, 2026	23%	59%	22%	58%	22%	60%
March 16-17, 2026	23%	53%	22%	54%	27%	53%
March 2-3, 2026	29%	51%	29%	49%	30%	55%

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3 How do you rate your personal finances these days?*

10% Excellent
29% Good
38% Fair
22% Poor
2% Not sure

Total						
	Total		Mainstreet		Elite and Elite Adj	
	Excellent /Good	Poor	Excellent /Good	Poor	Excellent /Good	Poor
August 17, 2026	39%	22%	33%	25%	53%	16%
August 3-4, 2026	41%	20%	34%	24%	54%	13%
July 20-21, 2026	41%	22%	34%	26%	55%	14%
July 6-7, 2026	41%	24%	32%	28%	60%	14%
June 22-23, 2026	40%	23%	38%	27%	47%	16%
June 8-9, 2026	39%	23%	31%	27%	56%	15%
May 26, 2026	40%	22%	32%	28%	57%	8%
May 11-12, 2026	41%	21%	35%	27%	54%	8%
April 27-28, 2026	39%	21%	30%	25%	57%	14%
April 13-14, 2026	40%	21%	32%	26%	59%	12%
March 30-31, 2026	35%	19%	29%	24%	49%	9%
March 16-17, 2026	37%	27%	31%	31%	53%	14%
March 2-3, 2026	41%	20%	34%	25%	55%	12%

Source: Napolitan News Service

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4 Are your personal finances getting better or worse these days?*

9% Much better
20% Somewhat better
33% About the same
22% Somewhat worse
16% Much worse
1% Not sure

Total						
	Total		Mainstreet		Elite and Elite Adj	
	Better	Worse	Better	Worse	Better	Worse
August 17, 2026	29%	38%	25%	43%	36%	28%
August 3-4, 2026	25%	37%	24%	38%	27%	34%
July 20-21, 2026	27%	37%	22%	38%	39%	32%
July 6-7, 2026	29%	34%	24%	40%	40%	21%
June 22-23, 2026	27%	36%	25%	38%	31%	31%
June 8-9, 2026	23%	39%	20%	43%	30%	33%
May 26, 2026	26%	36%	23%	40%	35%	28%
May 11-12, 2026	26%	36%	23%	40%	32%	26%
April 27-28, 2026	27%	35%	23%	39%	35%	25%
April 13-14, 2026	27%	37%	22%	42%	34%	27%
March 30-31, 2026	22%	35%	21%	39%	26%	31%
March 16-17, 2026	24%	39%	22%	42%	33%	31%
March 2-3, 2026	29%	31%	26%	35%	36%	24%

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5 Is the United States currently in a recession?*

41% Yes
36% No
23% Not sure

Total						
	Total		Mainstreet		Elite and Elite Adj	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
August 17, 2026	41%	36%	37%	36%	48%	37%
August 3-4, 2026	34%	40%	32%	40%	39%	40%
July 20-21, 2026	36%	38%	34%	35%	42%	43%
July 6-7, 2026	36%	36%	37%	33%	34%	40%
June 22-23, 2026	38%	39%	37%	39%	40%	38%
June 8-9, 2026	35%	40%	36%	37%	35%	45%
May 26, 2026	38%	35%	37%	35%	42%	34%
May 11-12, 2026	35%	38%	37%	35%	33%	34%
April 27-28, 2026	38%	36%	39%	33%	35%	42%
April 13-14, 2026	38%	37%	35%	38%	43%	36%
March 30-31, 2026	37%	36%	37%	34%	38%	40%
March 16-17, 2026	36%	37%	36%	36%	34%	39%
March 2-3, 2026	31%	41%	29%	39%	35%	45%
February 17-18, 2026	30%	39%	31%	39%	28%	42%
February 2, 2026	37%	39%	36%	38%	38%	40%
Source: Napolitan News Service						

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6 Thinking about basic household expenses like food, clothing, and utilities, are you spending more, less, or about the same amount as you were a year ago?*

30% Much more
 35% Somewhat more
 13% Somewhat less
 6% Much less
 13% About the same amount
 2% Not sure

Total			
	More	Less	Net
August 17, 2026	65%	19%	+46
May 26, 2026	64%	20%	+44
March 2-3, 2026	57%	23%	+34
November 3-4, 2025	62%	23%	+39
April 28-29, 2025	57%	23%	+34
February 3-4, 2025	64%	21%	+43
Source: Napolitan News Service			

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Methodology

This survey of 1,000 Registered Voters was conducted online by Scott Rasmussen on August 17, 2026. Field work for the survey was conducted by RMG Research, Inc. Certain quotas were applied, and the sample was lightly weighted by geography, gender, age, race, education, internet usage, and political party to reasonably reflect the nation's population of Registered Voters. Other variables were reviewed to ensure that the final sample is representative of that population.

The margin of sampling error for the full sample is +/- 3.1 percentage points.

This survey was paid for by Napolitan News Service as part of the service provided for our Gold Circle Members.