

One in three Americans don't plan on watching 2021 Olympics

Republicans are the least interested in watching the Olympics

Washington, DC, July 14, 2021 – A recent Ipsos poll finds that 1 in 3 Americans do not plan on watching the 2021 Summer Olympics. Among those planning to watch, Simone Biles is the athlete Americans are most excited to watch in the Olympic games. Additionally, 4 in 10 Americans are currently employed and not looking for a new job. Yet, 1 in 5 Americans who are currently employed or actively looking for a job feel that, compared to last year, they have more control over their ability to find a new job and work in an environment that is right for them.

Detailed Findings

- 1. A third of Americans (35%) do not plan on watching the 2021 Summer Olympics.
 - Republicans (41%) and Independents (35%) are the most likely to say they are not planning to watch the Olympics, while Democrats are the least likely to say the same (26%).
 - Among those who plan on watching, Simone Biles is the favorite athlete, with 30% of Americans saying she is the athlete they are most excited to watch.
- 2. Two in five Americans (41%) are currently employed and not looking for a new job
 - About a fifth (17%) of Americans report that they are currently looking for a new job or have recently started a new job in the past three months.
 - Among those who have started a new job or plan on doing so, the main reasons for leaving their previous/current post are a belief they can get a higher salary elsewhere (34%) and feeling burned out at their current job (31%).
 - Millennials in particular are feeling more burned out by their current positions (43%) followed by Gen X (35%). Additionally, many Millennials are looking to change career paths (30%).
- 3. One in five Americans who are currently employed or are looking for a job (19%) feel they have more control over finding a new job, compared to last year
 - In addition to having more control over finding employment, 1 in 5 Americans (20%) believe that, compared to last year, they have more control over their ability to work in an environment that is right for them
 - Millennials (29%) are the most confident in their ability to find new employment, followed by Gen Z (22%) and Gen X (20%).
 - A plurality of Americans do not believe they have had any change in control over many aspects of their jobs including future and current employment (44% and 49% respectively), and future retirement (47%).

These are the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between July 9-11, 2021. For this study, a sample of 1,023 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.3 percentage points for all respondents.





Ipsos Understanding Society Poll

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®
A survey of the American general population (ages 18+)

Interview dates: July 9 – July 11, 2021 Number of interviews: 1023 Number of Gen Z interviews: 93 Number of Millennial interviews: 243 Number of Gen X interviews: 263 Number of Baby Boomer interviews: 424

Margin of error: +/- 3.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.

NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents

Annotated Questionnaire:

1. Which athletes are you most excited to watch in the 2021 Summer Olympics? (Select up to three)

	Total (N=1023)	Gen Z (N=93)	Millennial (N=243)	Gen X (N=263)	Baby Boomer (N=424)
Simone Biles	30%	25%	30%	32%	31%
Katie Ledecky	11%	9%	11%	10%	13%
Caeleb Dressel	2%	1%	4%	1%	2%
Sydney McLaughlin	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Ryan Crouser	1%	1%	2%	1%	*
Nyjah Huston	1%	-	1%	1%	1%
Carissa Moore	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Hannah Roberts	1%	-	-	*	1%
Jordan Windle	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Trayvon Bromell	*	-	-	1%	1%
Adeline Gray	*	-	*	-	*
Kyle Snyder	*	-	*	1%	-
Other	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Don't have any favorite athletes	31%	34%	24%	30%	36%
I don't plan to watch the Olympics	35%	38%	40%	37%	30%
Skipped	1%	1%	1%	-	-





2. Which of the following best describes your current work situation?

	Total	Gen Z	Millennial	Gen X	Baby Boomer
Currently employed and not looking for something new	41%	35%	48%	58%	26%
Currently employed but looking for something new	9%	11%	15%	10%	2%
Recently started a new job (in the past 3 months)	3%	11%	3%	3%	1%
Not currently employed and not looking for a job	21%	12%	11%	10%	37%
Not currently employed but looking for something new	5%	9%	6%	7%	2%
Something else	18%	17%	7%	10%	30%
I'm not sure	4%	5%	8%	2%	1%
Skipped	1%	-	2%	-	1%

3. [Q2 = Currently employed but looking for something new OR Recently started a new job] What are your primary reasons for leaving your current job? (Select your top 3 reasons)

	Total (N=122)	Gen Z (N=23)	Millennial (N=50)	Gen X (N=34)	Baby Boomer (N=15)
I believe I can get a higher salary at another job	34%	29%	41%	34%	23%
I feel burned out at my current job	31%	10%	43%	35%	19%
Looking to change career paths	19%	24%	30%	2%	10%
I can have more flexibility for things like working from home at a new job	16%	3%	21%	16%	20%
I believe I can have more control over my career at another job	15%	8%	18%	14%	20%
I believe I can get a promotion to a better position at another job	14%	-	18%	21%	8%
Plan to further my education	12%	33%	7%	8%	-
I can get better benefits at another job	11%	12%	12%	11%	7%
I believe there is a high chance of being hired elsewhere	6%	5%	8%	5%	6%
Other	20%	28%	10%	23%	32%
Skipped	1%	5%	-	-	-





4. [Q2 ≠ Not currently employed and not looking for a job] Thinking about your employment, compared to last year would you say you have more or less control over...?

Total More Control Summary

	Total (N=811)	Gen Z (N=82)	Millennial (N=221)	Gen X (N=241)	Baby Boomer (N=267)
Your ability to work in an environment that is right for you	20%	33%	25%	22%	8%
Your ability to find a new job	19%	22%	29%	20%	8%
Your future employment	18%	30%	26%	18%	7%
Your ability to work in the location that you prefer	18%	24%	22%	18%	10%
Your ability to work in the city/town that you prefer	17%	23%	23%	20%	7%
Your future retirement	15%	16%	19%	14%	10%
Your current employment	15%	24%	22%	14%	7%
Your ability to work with people you want to work with	14%	18%	18%	16%	8%

a. Your future employment

	Total (N=811)	Gen Z (N=82)	Millennial (N=221)	Gen X (N=241)	Baby Boomer (N=267)
More control	18%	30%	26%	18%	7%
The same	44%	37%	44%	54%	38%
Less control	9%	6%	10%	10%	10%
Don't know	7%	14%	9%	7%	3%
Does not apply to me	21%	13%	12%	11%	43%
Skipped	*	=	1%	-	*

b. Your future retirement

	Total (N=811)	Gen Z (N=82)	Millennial (N=221)	Gen X (N=241)	Baby Boomer (N=267)
More control	15%	16%	19%	14%	10%
The same	47%	36%	47%	60%	40%
Less control	9%	8%	11%	9%	6%
Don't know	11%	23%	12%	10%	5%
Does not apply to me	18%	17%	10%	7%	37%
Skipped	1%	-	2%	*	2%





c. Your current employment

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	Total (N=811)	Gen Z (N=82)	Millennial (N=221)	Gen X (N=241)	Baby Boomer (N=267)			
More control	15%	24%	22%	14%	7%			
The same	49%	36%	52%	62%	39%			
Less control	10%	9%	10%	10%	9%			
Don't know	5%	11%	6%	5%	2%			
Does not apply to me	21%	21%	10%	10%	42%			
Skipped	1%	-	1%	-	1%			

d. Your ability to find a new job

,	Total (N=811)	Gen Z (N=82)	Millennial (N=221)	Gen X (N=241)	Baby Boomer (N=267)
More control	19%	22%	29%	20%	8%
The same	38%	33%	40%	50%	27%
Less control	9%	10%	9%	10%	8%
Don't know	9%	16%	10%	8%	6%
Does not apply to me	23%	18%	10%	13%	48%
Skipped	1%	-	2%	•	2%

e. Your ability to work in an environment that is right for you

	Total (N=811)	Gen Z (N=82)	Millennial (N=221)	Gen X (N=241)	Baby Boomer (N=267)
More control	20%	33%	25%	22%	8%
The same	42%	30%	45%	54%	35%
Less control	10%	7%	13%	9%	7%
Don't know	8%	14%	9%	8%	4%
Does not apply to me	19%	15%	8%	8%	43%
Skipped	1%	-	1%	-	3%

f. Your ability to work with people you want to work with

	Total (N=811)	Gen Z (N=82)	Millennial (N=221)	Gen X (N=241)	Baby Boomer (N=267)
More control	14%	18%	18%	16%	8%
The same	47%	42%	50%	54%	38%
Less control	11%	8%	15%	12%	8%
Don't know	7%	15%	7%	8%	3%
Does not apply to me	19%	16%	9%	9%	41%
Skipped	1%	-	1%	1%	3%

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g. Your ability to work in the city/town that you prefer

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More control	17%	23%	23%	20%	7%
The same	47%	37%	48%	57%	40%
Less control	9%	10%	11%	10%	5%
Don't know	7%	14%	9%	5%	3%
Does not apply to me	20%	15%	9%	9%	44%
Skipped	1%	1%	1%	-	1%

h. Your ability to work in the location that you prefer

	Total (N=811)	Gen Z (N=82)	Millennial (N=221)	Gen X (N=241)	Baby Boomer (N=267)
More control	18%	24%	22%	18%	10%
The same	47%	38%	48%	58%	38%
Less control	10%	11%	12%	11%	7%
Don't know	6%	12%	9%	6%	3%
Does not apply to me	20%	15%	9%	8%	43%
Skipped	*	-	1%	-	*





About the Study

This Ipsos poll was conducted July 9 – 11, 2021, by Ipsos using the probability-based KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,023 general population adults age 18 or older. The sample includes 93 Gen Zers, 243 Millennials, 263 Gen Xers, and 424 Baby Boomers. Generation Z includes ages 18-25, Millennials include ages 26-39, Generation X includes ages 40-55, and Baby Boomers include ages older than 55.

The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, for results based on the entire sample of adults. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.13. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on other subsamples. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult US population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the US. Households invited to join the panel are randomly selected from all available households in the U.S. Persons in the sampled households are invited to join and participate in the panel. Those selected who do not already have internet access are provided a tablet and internet connection at no cost to the panel member. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methodologies, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and findings can be reported with a margin of sampling error and projected to the general population.

The data were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, household income, race/ethnicity by gender, race/ethnicity by age, and race/ethnicity by education. The demographic benchmarks came from the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) except for the metropolitan status, which is not available from the 1-year ACS data, were obtained from the 2020 March Supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS).

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–25, 26–39, 40-54 and 55+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Latinx, Asian, Other)
- Education (Less than High School, High School, Some College, Bachelor or higher)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West) by Metropolitan status (Metro, non-Metro)
- Household Income (Under \$25,000, \$25,000-\$49,999, \$50,000-\$74,999, \$75,000-\$99,999, \$100,000-\$149,999, \$150,000+)
- Race/ethnicity (White/Other Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Latinx, Asian) by Gender (Male, Female)
- Race/ethnicity (White/Other Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Latinx, Asian) by Age (18-44, 45+)
- Race/ethnicity (White/Other Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Latinx, Asian) by Education (Some College or less, Bachelor and beyond)





About Ipsos

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