



PRESS RELEASE

After several mass shootings, gun crime and violence rises in importance for Americans

The FiveThirtyEight/Ipsos 2022 Election Tracking Survey finds that gun violence and crime is now the second most important issue for Americans overall

Washington DC, June 9, 2022 – Following a series of high-profile mass shootings, the second wave of the FiveThirtyEight/Ipsos Election Tracking survey finds gun violence and crime is now the second most important issue to Americans personally. Inflation still ranks higher than gun violence as the main issue. But, over the past month, gun violence and crime increased significantly as a problem for the public. Growing concern among Democrats largely drives this month-over-month change, despite decisive majorities of Democrats, Republicans, and independents all frequently seeing news about gun violence and crime. Conversely, few see abortion as a main issue.

Detailed findings:

Gun violence and crime now rank as the second most important issue for Americans.

- Two in five Americans (38%) feel gun violence and crime is the most important issue to them personally, moving 18 points from when the question was last asked in May (20%). Notably, inflation is still the top issue overall for Americans, with over half (55%) citing this as a personal problem for them.
- While this is true, more Americans now report consuming news about crime and gun violence (76%) than inflation (66%).
- Overall, compared to last month, more Americans report seeing news related to crime and gun violence. Half of Americans (50%) had seen crime and gun violence frequently on the news in early May. Now three in four Americans (76%) report the same.

Crime and gun violence has grown more as an issue for Democrats than Republicans or independents.

- Last month, 29% of Democrats felt crime and gun violence was an issue that was personally worrying to them. Now, almost double the amount of Democrats feel the same, with half of Democrats (50%) citing crime and gun violence as a main worry.
- For comparison, 27% of Republicans and 37% of independents feel crime and gun violence is a major worry for them. Last month, 17% of Republicans and independents felt the same.
- Despite the wide gap between Democrats and Republicans on crime and gun violence, majorities of Democrats (85%), Republicans (72%), and independents (72%) have seen crime and gun violence a lot in the news.

Despite the breaking news surrounding abortion in the past month, only 10% of Americans feel it is a main issue, a 5-point difference from May.

- In May, a leak from the Supreme Court indicated the Supreme Court's willingness to overturn the landmark *Roe vs. Wade* case, which guarantees abortion as a constitutional right.
- Yet, only one in ten Americans rank abortion as the main issue overall, moving only 5 points month-over-month.
- Few Democrats (12% personally vs. 13% for the country), Republicans (11% vs. 8%), or independents (8% vs. 8%) rank abortion as a main issue for them personally or for the country.
- Though, twice the number of Americans had frequently seen news about abortion (23% in May vs. 53% in June), making it the third most seen topic following inflation and gun violence and crime.
- A bare majority of Democrats (56%), Republicans (54%), and independents (50%) report frequently seeing news about abortion in the past month.





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FiveThirtyEight/Ipsos 2022 Election Tracking Survey

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

Interview dates: May 26 – June 6, 2022

Number of interviews: 1,691

Number of Democrat interviews: 484

Number of Republican interviews: 501

Number of Independent interviews: 706

Margin of error: +/- 2.9 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. What do you think is the main issue facing America at this moment?

Open-ended responses provided separately.

2. Which of the following topics do you find the most worrying to you personally? (Select up to three)

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022 (N=1,691)	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Inflation or increasing costs	51	55	41	71	54
Crime or gun violence	20	38	50	27	37
Political extremism or polarization	27	26	31	22	25
Climate change	17	15	27	6	14
Race and racism	14	15	24	5	15
Healthcare	16	13	18	8	14
Immigration	14	13	3	26	12
Government budget and debt	13	12	3	21	12
Abortion	5	10	12	11	8
Economic inequality	12	9	14	5	9
COVID-19/coronavirus	11	9	13	5	9
Election security or fraud	9	7	2	15	6
Taxes	10	7	3	10	8
Foreign conflicts or terrorism	12	7	5	10	7
Education	7	6	7	4	7
Opioid or drug addiction	4	4	2	5	5
Unemployment	3	3	4	3	3
Natural disasters	3	2	2	2	2
Other	2	3	2	3	3
None of these	3	2	1	1	3

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3. Which of the following topics are the most important issues facing the country? (Select up to three)

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Inflation or increasing costs	52	56	40	75	55
Crime or gun violence	23	42	58	29	41
Political extremism or polarization	29	28	33	23	28
Race and racism	16	18	29	7	17
Immigration	20	17	4	32	15
Government budget and debt	18	17	4	28	17
Climate change	16	14	24	5	13
Economic inequality	13	12	20	5	11
Healthcare	13	12	16	8	12
COVID-19/coronavirus	15	10	14	4	11
Abortion	4	9	13	8	8
Foreign conflicts or terrorism	15	9	5	12	9
Election security or fraud	9	8	1	19	6
Education	7	5	5	5	6
Opioid or drug addiction	6	5	3	6	6
Taxes	7	5	2	8	5
Unemployment	4	4	3	4	4
Natural disasters	2	1	2	*	2
Other	2	3	2	3	4
None of these	1	1	1	1	2



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4. In the past month, which of these topics have you seen a lot of in the news? (Select all that apply)

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Crime or gun violence	50	76	85	72	72
Inflation or increasing costs	65	66	70	69	62
Abortion	23	53	56	54	50
Foreign conflicts or terrorism	54	44	43	47	42
COVID-19/coronavirus	54	44	52	41	40
Race and racism	40	42	48	38	40
Political extremism or polarization	37	35	40	35	33
Immigration	36	29	23	42	24
Climate change	30	25	24	21	27
Government budget and debt	22	19	14	26	18
Election security or fraud	18	18	17	23	16
Opioid or drug addiction	19	18	15	22	17
Healthcare	16	15	18	13	14
Economic inequality	17	14	15	14	13
Natural disasters	16	13	15	13	12
Education	14	11	10	12	11
Unemployment	13	10	9	10	10
Taxes	14	9	6	14	7
None of these	5	4	2	5	6
Other	2	2	1	2	2

Q5-20 held for future release

21. In the last month, have you...

Total Yes Summary

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Seen an ad for an individual political candidate	60	67	69	75	61
Seen an ad for an issue or organization	58	60	65	67	54
Received an email from a political campaign asking for your support or a donation	39	39	45	42	34
Received a text message from a political campaign asking for your support or a donation	34	33	40	34	29
Received a phone call from a political campaign asking for your support or a donation	21	24	26	29	20
Had someone visit your home from a political campaign asking for your support or a donation	6	7	8	6	7



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21. In the last month, have you... (Continued)

a. Seen an ad for an individual political candidate

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Yes	60	67	69	75	61
No	33	27	29	20	30
Don't know	7	5	3	4	7
Skipped	1	1	*	1	2

b. Seen an ad for an issue or organization

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Yes	58	60	65	67	54
No	31	29	28	25	31
Don't know	11	9	7	7	12
Skipped	1	2	*	1	3

c. Received a phone call from a political campaign asking for your support or a donation

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Yes	21	24	26	29	20
No	71	69	70	67	70
Don't know	8	6	4	3	8
Skipped	1	2	1	1	3

d. Received a text message from a political campaign asking for your support or a donation

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Yes	34	33	40	34	29
No	61	61	57	63	62
Don't know	5	5	3	2	7
Skipped	1	1	*	1	2

e. Received an email from a political campaign asking for your support or a donation

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Yes	39	39	45	42	34
No	55	54	51	55	55
Don't know	6	5	4	2	8
Skipped	1	2	*	1	3





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21. In the last month, have you... (Continued)

f. Had someone visit your home from a political campaign asking for your support or a donation

	Total May 2022 (N=2,006)	Total June 2022	Democrat (N=484)	Republican (N=501)	Independent (N=706)
Yes	6	7	8	6	7
No	89	88	88	92	85
Don't know	5	4	4	1	7
Skipped	1	1	*	1	2

Q22-Q23 held for future release





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About the Study

This Ipsos poll was conducted May 26–June 6, 2022, by Ipsos using the probability-based KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,691 adults age 18 or older. The sample includes 484 Democrats, 501 Republicans, and 706 Independents.

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)

The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2.9 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 1.48. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on other sub-samples. Sampling error is only one potential source of error. There may be other unmeasured non-sampling error in this or any poll. 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.





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About Ipsos

Ipsos is the world's third largest Insights and Analytics company, present in 90 markets and employing more than 18,000 people.

Our passionately curious research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide true understanding and powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. We serve more than 5000 clients across the world with 75 business solutions.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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