



## America's Hidden Common Ground on Creating Good Jobs Results from a Public Agenda/USA Today/Ipsos Snapshot Poll

March 6, 2020

A new Public Agenda/USA Today/Ipsos Hidden Common Ground Poll finds that just over half of Americans are worried about being able to maintain their standard of living over the next few years (53%). Split by party affiliation, Democrats are the most worried (60%), followed by Independents (56%) and Republicans (43%). Less than half of respondents would describe national economic conditions in the country today as excellent or good (46%). Nearly three-quarters of Republicans describe the economy this way (72%) compared to 30% of Democrats and 42% of Independents.

Of a list of nine potential actions that federal and state governments could take to create more good quality jobs, there is strong cross-partisan support on creating retraining programs through community colleges and trade schools that give adults the skills to compete for good quality jobs in emerging industries (84% overall). This is closely followed by creating incentives that encourage American businesses to bring good quality jobs that they moved overseas back to the United States and upgrading public infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, to create good jobs and make the economy more productive (82% for both).

Other measures receiving significant cross-partisan support are: Decreasing the cost of colleges and universities, funding research in technology, science and green energy, and providing tax breaks to businesses that create good quality jobs. All of these measures receive significant support from Republicans, Democrats and Independents alike.

Three other measures not only received less support overall, but also reveal significant partisan differences of opinion about how to create good jobs. Raising the minimum wage received 66% support overall but with significant differences by partisan affiliation (Democrats: 80%; Republicans: 48%; Independents: 54%). Similarly, making it easier for workers to unionize received 61% support overall, with 76% from Democrats, 46% from Republicans, and 52% from Independents. Finally, decreasing regulation of businesses that create good quality jobs won 53% support overall, but only 42% from Democrats, while 69% of Republicans and 51% of Independents supported the idea.

In sum, when it comes to measures to increase the number of good jobs in America, there is considerable cross-partisan common ground on investments in training and education, on research in emerging "good jobs industries," and on providing tax breaks and other incentives to businesses that create good jobs or "onshore" ones that were sent overseas. These are areas where the public is ready to move forward on the project of creating more good jobs in America. There is also significant cross-partisan disagreement on several other measures, including increasing the minimum wage, unionization and deregulation. These are areas where more dialogue will be required to determine if and how they might be employed to create the kind of jobs Americans want to see in their economy.

While there is considerable common ground across partisan affiliations in support of various government actions aimed at creating good quality jobs in the United States, Republicans still show less comfort than Democrats with assigning responsibility to government for solutions: Only a third of Republicans say that the government is responsible for making sure there are enough good quality jobs in the United States (35%), compared to 60% of Democrats and 47% of Independents. Meanwhile, there is majority agreement across partisan affiliations that individual responsibility is important, as eight in ten Republicans and three-quarters of Independents (74%) believe that it is the individual's responsibility to find and negotiate for a good quality job, along with a smaller majority (about 66%) of Democrats.



PUBLIC AGENDA

How do Americans see their own jobs at present? A third of employed Americans describe their job as having a lot of what they want and need in a job (34%) and another third say their job has some of what they want and need in a job (33%). They are most satisfied with flexibility such as hours and work-life balance (83%), overall job (80%), pay/salary (70%), and management (68%). Across party lines, Republicans, Democrats, and Independents are all most satisfied with the flexibility of their jobs (86%, 80%, and 90% respectively).

Hidden Common Ground 2020 is a major initiative spearheaded by Public Agenda and USA Today, along with the National Issues Forums, the Election 2020: America Amplified Public Media Collaborative, and Ipsos. Through nonpartisan research, robust journalism, “Strange Bedfellows” storytelling, and community dialogue and events, the initiative promotes thoughtful, solutions-oriented public engagement during election season. The present snapshot survey focuses on Americans’ perspectives on jobs and the economy. Hidden Common Ground is supported by a diverse group of foundations, including [the Carnegie Corporation of New York](#), [the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation](#), [the Charles Koch Foundation](#), and [the Rockefeller Brothers Fund](#), as well as through the generosity of individual donors. In addition, [the Kettering Foundation](#) is a research partner of the initiative.

**For full results, please refer to the following questionnaire.**

## Full Annotated Questionnaire:

1. How would you describe the following?

Total Positive Summary

	<b>Total (N=1,007)</b>	<b>Republicans (N=408)</b>	<b>Democrats (N=450)</b>	<b>Independents (N=103)</b>
You and your family's financial situation today	55%	62%	52%	55%
Local economic conditions in your community today	54%	70%	45%	51%
National economic conditions in the country today	46%	72%	30%	42%

a) National economic conditions in the country today

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Excellent	12%	22%	6%	8%
Good	34%	49%	24%	35%
Fair	37%	22%	47%	43%
Poor	14%	5%	20%	11%
Don't know	4%	2%	4%	4%
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>42%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>26%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>54%</i>

b) Local economic conditions in your community today

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Excellent	11%	19%	6%	9%
Good	43%	51%	39%	42%
Fair	33%	22%	40%	35%
Poor	10%	7%	11%	9%
Don't know	3%	1%	4%	4%
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>51%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>52%</i>	<i>45%</i>

c) You and your family's financial situation today

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Excellent	13%	18%	11%	12%
Good	42%	44%	41%	43%
Fair	30%	30%	32%	24%
Poor	13%	8%	14%	19%
Don't know	2%	1%	2%	2%
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>52%</i>	<i>55%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>38%</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>43%</i>

2. How well is the nation performing on the following?

Total Positive Summary

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Creating jobs	52%	77%	36%	54%
Creating good quality jobs	43%	71%	25%	40%

a) Creating jobs

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Excellent	16%	34%	5%	9%
Good	36%	43%	30%	45%
Fair	35%	19%	48%	32%
Poor	9%	3%	12%	9%
Don't know	4%	1%	4%	5%
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>52%</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>54%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>41%</i>

b) Creating good quality jobs

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Excellent	11%	22%	5%	6%
Good	32%	49%	20%	34%
Fair	36%	23%	46%	40%
Poor	16%	4%	25%	16%
Don't know	4%	2%	4%	5%
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>40%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>52%</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>55%</i>

3. **[Only asked if employed]** Which statement best represents how you would describe your current job?

	<b>Total (N=535)</b>	<b>Republicans (N=217)</b>	<b>Democrats (N=244)</b>	<b>Independents (N=50)</b>
It has almost everything I want and need in a job	24%	26%	22%	27%
It has a lot of what I want and need in a job	34%	40%	32%	27%
It has some of what I want and need in a job	33%	26%	36%	42%
It has hardly anything I want and need in a job	9%	8%	10%	4%

4. **[Only asked if employed]** How satisfied are you with each of the following at your current job?

Total Satisfied Summary

	<b>Total (N=535)</b>	<b>Republicans (N=217)</b>	<b>Democrats (N=244)</b>	<b>Independents (N=50)</b>
Flexibility (e.g., hours/schedule, work-life balance)	83%	86%	80%	90%
Overall job	80%	84%	78%	77%
Pay/salary	70%	70%	70%	73%
Management (e.g., value you as an employee, listen to your input)	68%	74%	65%	58%
Benefits (e.g., health insurance, retirement plans)	66%	73%	63%	57%
Growth opportunities (e.g., job advancement, raises, training)	63%	63%	59%	81%

a) Overall job

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Very satisfied	36%	40%	32%	42%
Somewhat satisfied	44%	44%	46%	36%
Not very satisfied	14%	12%	15%	17%
Not at all satisfied	4%	3%	4%	5%
Don't know/Does not apply to me	2%	1%	2%	1%
<i>Satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>84%</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>77%</i>
<i>Not satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>22%</i>

## b) Pay/salary

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Very satisfied	28%	28%	27%	36%
Somewhat satisfied	42%	42%	43%	37%
Not very satisfied	18%	20%	19%	9%
Not at all satisfied	10%	9%	8%	13%
Don't know/Does not apply to me	2%	1%	3%	5%
<i>Satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>73%</i>
<i>Not satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>22%</i>

## c) Benefits (e.g., health insurance, retirement plans)

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Very satisfied	30%	30%	29%	24%
Somewhat satisfied	36%	42%	33%	33%
Not very satisfied	16%	14%	17%	22%
Not at all satisfied	11%	7%	12%	11%
Don't know/Does not apply to me	8%	6%	9%	10%
<i>Satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>57%</i>
<i>Not satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>32%</i>

## d) Flexibility (e.g., hours/schedule, work-life balance)

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Very satisfied	46%	47%	45%	50%
Somewhat satisfied	37%	39%	35%	40%
Not very satisfied	11%	8%	15%	6%
Not at all satisfied	4%	5%	3%	1%
Don't know/Does not apply to me	2%	1%	2%	3%
<i>Satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>90%</i>
<i>Not satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>7%</i>

e) Growth opportunities (e.g., job advancement, raises, training)

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Very satisfied	22%	24%	19%	26%
Somewhat satisfied	40%	39%	41%	55%
Not very satisfied	19%	24%	18%	11%
Not at all satisfied	12%	9%	14%	5%
Don't know/Does not apply to me	6%	4%	9%	3%
<i>Satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>81%</i>
<i>Not satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>16%</i>

f) Management (e.g., value you as an employee, listen to your input)

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Very satisfied	27%	30%	24%	22%
Somewhat satisfied	41%	44%	42%	36%
Not very satisfied	18%	17%	18%	25%
Not at all satisfied	9%	6%	10%	7%
Don't know/Does not apply to me	5%	3%	6%	10%
<i>Satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>74%</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>58%</i>
<i>Not satisfied (Net)</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>32%</i>



5. Would you support or not support the following federal and state actions aimed at creating more good quality jobs in the United States?

Total Support Summary

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Creating retraining programs through community colleges and trade schools that give adults the skills to compete for good quality jobs in emerging industries	84%	88%	84%	77%
Creating incentives that encourage American businesses to bring good quality jobs that they moved overseas back to the United States	82%	86%	82%	83%
Upgrading public infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, to create good jobs and make the economy more productive.	82%	83%	85%	74%
Decreasing costs of colleges and universities so more Americans can get an education and a good quality job	78%	72%	85%	74%
Funding research in industries like technology, science, and green energy to create good quality jobs	78%	75%	83%	76%
Providing tax breaks to businesses that create good quality jobs in American communities that need them	71%	81%	69%	56%
Raising the minimum wage so that every full-time job provides enough income to keep people above the poverty line	66%	48%	80%	54%
Making it easier for workers to unionize to negotiate for better wages, benefits, and working conditions	61%	46%	76%	52%
Decreasing regulation of businesses that create good quality jobs in American communities that need them	53%	69%	42%	51%



- a) Raising the minimum wage so that every full-time job provides enough income to keep people above the poverty line

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	39%	21%	53%	37%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	26%	27%	27%	17%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	18%	31%	8%	21%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	8%	13%	4%	10%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	9%	7%	7%	15%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>48%</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>54%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>26%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>30%</i>

- b) Providing tax breaks to businesses that create good quality jobs in American communities that need them

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	30%	36%	26%	25%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	41%	44%	43%	31%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	15%	10%	16%	25%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	4%	2%	4%	4%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	11%	8%	11%	15%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>56%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>29%</i>

c) Decreasing regulation of businesses that create good quality jobs in American communities that need them

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	19%	29%	13%	16%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	34%	41%	29%	34%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	22%	14%	27%	26%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	10%	5%	15%	5%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	15%	12%	17%	19%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>51%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>31%</i>

d) Creating incentives that encourage American businesses to bring good quality jobs that they moved overseas back to the United States

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	47%	54%	43%	51%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	34%	32%	38%	31%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	7%	9%	5%	8%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	2%	1%	3%	1%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	8%	4%	10%	8%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>82%</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>82%</i>	<i>83%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>9%</i>

e) Making it easier for workers to unionize to negotiate for better wages, benefits, and working conditions

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	29%	16%	41%	20%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	32%	30%	35%	32%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	16%	24%	10%	10%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	10%	17%	3%	16%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	14%	13%	11%	22%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>76%</i>	<i>52%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>26%</i>

f) Decreasing costs of colleges and universities so more Americans can get an education and a good quality job

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	49%	37%	60%	48%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	29%	35%	25%	25%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	10%	15%	7%	7%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	3%	4%	2%	5%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	9%	9%	6%	15%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>74%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>11%</i>

g) Funding research in industries like technology, science, and green energy to create good quality jobs

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	41%	29%	49%	55%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	38%	47%	34%	21%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	9%	11%	7%	8%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	3%	3%	1%	8%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	10%	11%	8%	9%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>76%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>16%</i>

h) Upgrading public infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, to create good jobs and make the economy more productive.

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	51%	43%	58%	50%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	32%	40%	26%	25%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	7%	8%	6%	13%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	2%	1%	2%	4%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	9%	7%	8%	9%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>82%</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>74%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>17%</i>

- i) Creating retraining programs through community colleges and trade schools that give adults the skills to compete for good quality jobs in emerging industries

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	47%	44%	52%	44%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	37%	44%	32%	34%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	6%	5%	7%	7%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	2%	1%	2%	2%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	8%	5%	7%	14%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>84%</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>84%</i>	<i>77%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>9%</i>

6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements...? (Select one for each)

Total Agree Summary

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
It is the individual's responsibility to find and negotiate for a good quality job	71%	80%	66%	74%
Businesses are responsible for upskilling all employees and keeping employees up to date with changes in the industry	71%	70%	74%	65%
It is the individual's responsibility to continue upskilling and keeping up with changes to the industry	68%	78%	64%	64%
Businesses are responsible for making sure there are enough good quality jobs	57%	56%	60%	49%
The government is responsible for making sure there are enough good quality jobs in the United States.	49%	35%	60%	47%

a) It is the individual's responsibility to find and negotiate for a good quality job.

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Strongly agree	27%	35%	24%	26%
Somewhat agree	44%	45%	43%	49%
Neither agree nor disagree	16%	12%	19%	13%
Somewhat disagree	7%	4%	8%	8%
Strongly disagree	2%	*	3%	2%
Don't know	4%	3%	4%	2%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>74%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>11%</i>

b) It is the individual's responsibility to continue upskilling and keeping up with changes to the industry.

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Strongly agree	26%	36%	20%	26%
Somewhat agree	42%	42%	44%	39%
Neither agree nor disagree	18%	13%	22%	18%
Somewhat disagree	6%	5%	6%	9%
Strongly disagree	3%	1%	4%	5%
Don't know	5%	3%	4%	3%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>64%</i>	<i>64%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>15%</i>

c) Businesses are responsible for making sure there are enough good quality jobs.

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Strongly agree	19%	17%	20%	22%
Somewhat agree	39%	39%	41%	27%
Neither agree nor disagree	23%	22%	22%	28%
Somewhat disagree	11%	14%	10%	11%
Strongly disagree	4%	4%	3%	7%
Don't know	5%	3%	5%	5%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>49%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>19%</i>

- d) Businesses are responsible for upskilling all employees and keeping employees up to date with changes in the industry.

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Strongly agree	28%	24%	31%	29%
Somewhat agree	43%	46%	43%	36%
Neither agree nor disagree	17%	15%	17%	20%
Somewhat disagree	6%	10%	4%	4%
Strongly disagree	2%	2%	2%	5%
Don't know	4%	3%	3%	6%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>74%</i>	<i>65%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>9%</i>

- e) The government is responsible for making sure there are enough good quality jobs in the United States.

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Strongly agree	18%	11%	25%	12%
Somewhat agree	31%	24%	35%	34%
Neither agree nor disagree	25%	29%	22%	24%
Somewhat disagree	15%	23%	9%	16%
Strongly disagree	6%	10%	3%	9%
Don't know	5%	3%	5%	4%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>47%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>25%</i>

7. How worried are you about being able to maintain your standard of living over the next few years?

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Very worried	16%	10%	20%	14%
Somewhat worried	37%	33%	40%	42%
Not very worried	31%	36%	29%	25%
Not worried at all	13%	19%	9%	13%
Don't know	3%	2%	2%	6%
<i>Worried (Net)</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>56%</i>
<i>Not worried (Net)</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>38%</i>	<i>38%</i>

8. Please indicate if you or someone you know has experienced the following things in the last 12 months.

a) Serious financial hardship due to a job loss

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Yes, I experienced this	13%	11%	13%	15%
Yes, someone I know experienced this	23%	20%	24%	28%
Yes, I experienced this and someone I know experienced this	9%	9%	8%	14%
No	49%	56%	48%	40%
Don't know	6%	4%	7%	4%

b) Reduction in employer provided health care benefits

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Yes, I experienced this	10%	9%	11%	9%
Yes, someone I know experienced this	18%	15%	18%	24%
Yes, I experienced this and someone I know experienced this	12%	11%	13%	11%
No	50%	57%	47%	49%
Don't know	10%	8%	11%	6%

c) Working more than one job to make ends meet

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Yes, I experienced this	14%	10%	16%	20%
Yes, someone I know experienced this	31%	30%	34%	28%
Yes, I experienced this and someone I know experienced this	11%	12%	11%	9%
No	38%	45%	34%	40%
Don't know	5%	3%	5%	4%



## d) Company closure or downsizing

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Yes, I experienced this	9%	7%	8%	15%
Yes, someone I know experienced this	26%	22%	30%	34%
Yes, I experienced this and someone I know experienced this	9%	9%	9%	11%
No	49%	59%	45%	38%
Don't know	7%	4%	8%	3%

## e) Increase in hours/workload without an increase in pay

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Yes, I experienced this	13%	12%	13%	19%
Yes, someone I know experienced this	23%	21%	26%	18%
Yes, I experienced this and someone I know experienced this	11%	11%	10%	17%
No	45%	51%	42%	43%
Don't know	8%	5%	10%	4%

## f) Job loss due to company shifting work overseas

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Yes, I experienced this	4%	3%	5%	2%
Yes, someone I know experienced this	14%	12%	14%	22%
Yes, I experienced this and someone I know experienced this	5%	4%	5%	6%
No	68%	76%	65%	63%
Don't know	9%	5%	11%	7%



9. Which of the following best describes the occupation of your household's chief wage-earner?

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>
Professional	28%	22%	33%	32%
Technician or associate professional	6%	7%	5%	9%
Service worker or shop and market sales worker	6%	6%	6%	3%
Clerk	4%	4%	4%	2%
Craft and related trades worker	3%	4%	2%	1%
Plant and machine operator or assembler	3%	3%	3%	1%
Legislator, senior official or manager	2%	3%	2%	1%
Elementary occupations	2%	4%	1%	-
Skilled agriculture and fishery worker	1%	1%	1%	-
Armed forces	1%	2%	1%	1%
Gig economy worker	1%	1%	1%	2%
Other	45%	43%	43%	48%

10. **[Only asked if employed]** In your current job, are you a...

	<b>Total (N=535)</b>	<b>Republicans (N=217)</b>	<b>Democrats (N=244)</b>	<b>Independents (N=50)</b>
Salaried employee	45%	48%	41%	62%
Hourly employee	38%	36%	40%	29%
Self-employed / Contract worker	13%	13%	14%	5%
Paid based on commission	2%	2%	2%	5%
Other	2%	1%	3%	-



## About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between February 20-21, 2020, on behalf of Public Agenda and USA Today. For this survey, a sample of roughly 1,007 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 408 Republicans, 450 Democrats, and 103 Independents.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Posthoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following ( $n=2,206$ ,  $DEFF=1.5$ , adjusted Confidence Interval= $\pm 5.0$  percentage points).

The poll also has a credibility interval of plus or minus 5.5 percentage points for Republicans, plus or minus 5.3 percentage points for Democrats, and plus or minus 11.0 percentage points for Independents.

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## About Ipsos

Ipsos is the world's third largest market research 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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## About The Hidden Common Ground Initiative

The Hidden Common Ground Initiative focuses on underappreciated and under-leveraged areas of agreement among the public on solutions to tough public problems, like health care and criminal justice. HCG 2020 is the election-year iteration of the initiative, spearheaded by Public Agenda and USA Today, with The National Issues Forums (NIF), Ipsos, and the America Amplified: Election 2020 Public Media Collaborative. It applies the HCG mission to an array of election year issues via nonpartisan research, national and local journalism, community-based and online deliberative forums, and "Strange Bedfellows" storytelling and events.

