Economy

National Economy

**Question:** Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

![Graph showing positive ratings for the national economy](image1)

**Positive Ratings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Excellent/good</th>
<th>Not so good/poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Highest recorded* *(1/16/00)* 80%  
Lowest recorded* *(12/22/91)* 7%  
Average* 39%

Personal Finances

**Question:** Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

![Graph showing positive ratings for personal finances](image2)

**Positive Ratings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Excellent/good</th>
<th>Not so good/poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Highest recorded* *(8/30/98)* 70%  
Lowest recorded* *(3/14/93)* 42%  
Average* 56%

Buying It Now

**Question:** Considering the cost of things today and your own personal finances, would you say now is an excellent time, a good time, a not so good time, or a poor time to buy the things you want and need?

![Graph showing positive ratings for buying it now](image3)

**Positive Ratings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Excellent/good</th>
<th>Not so good/poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Highest recorded* *(1/16/00)* 57%  
Lowest recorded* *(10/28/90)* 20%  
Average* 38%

**And We Know It**

**Question:** Right now, do you think that economic conditions in the country as a whole are getting better or getting worse?

**2000**

- Getting better: 69%
- Getting worse: 23%
- Same (vol.): 6%
- No opinion: 2%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, January 7-10, 2000.

**1992**

- Getting better: 22%
- Getting worse: 71%
- Same (vol.): 6%
- No opinion: 1%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, January 3-6, 1992.

**Question:** ...Are you better off than you were eight years ago, or not?

**2000**

- Yes, better off: 73%
- No, not better off: 19%
- Just as well off (vol.): 7%
- Not worried at all: 1%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, January 7-10, 2000.

**Question:** Who is most responsible for the strong economy: American businesses, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, President Clinton, Congressional Republicans, or Congressional Democrats?

**Poll:**

- American businesses: 40%
- President Clinton: 16%
- Alan Greenspan: 13%
- Congressional Republicans: 9%
- Congressional Democrats: 4%

**Note:** Not all responses shown.

**Source:** Survey by Rasmussen Research, January 12, 2000.

**Question:** How worried are you these days about your personal economic situation—extremely worried, very worried, moderately worried, only a little worried, or not at all worried?

**Poll:**

- Extremely/Very worried: 14%
- Moderately worried: 35%
- Only a little worried: 29%
- Not worried at all: 22%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, January 7-10, 2000.

**Question:** Do you personally or jointly with a spouse, have any money invested in the stock market right now—either in an individual stock, a stock mutual fund, or in a self-directed 401K or IRA?

- Yes: 61%
- No: 38%
- No opinion: 1%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, January 7-10, 2000.