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 percentages for national economy](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Highest recorded*</th>
<th>Lowest recorded*</th>
<th>Average*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1/16/00)</td>
<td>(12/22/91)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Since 1985

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 percentages for personal finances](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Highest recorded*</th>
<th>Lowest recorded*</th>
<th>Average*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(8/30/98)</td>
<td>(3/14/93)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Since 1985

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 percentages for buying it now](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Highest recorded*</th>
<th>Lowest recorded*</th>
<th>Average*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1/16/00)</td>
<td>(10/28/90)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Since 1985

**Source:** Surveys by ABC News/Money, latest that of April 2, 2000.
On an Empty Tank

**Question**: Have recent price increases in gasoline caused any financial hardship for you or your household?

- Yes, has caused hardship: 39%
- No, has not caused hardship: 61%

**Source**: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, March 30-April 2, 2000.

**Question**: Who do you think is to blame for rising gasoline prices: OPEC—the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in the Middle East—the Clinton Administration, the Republican Congress, or consumers who buy SUVs and other gas guzzlers?

- OPEC: 51%
- Clinton Administration: 12%
- Republicans in Congress: 4%
- Consumers who buy SUVs: 6%
- Not sure: 20%

**Note**: Asked of registered voters.


**Question**: If the price of gas goes to $2.00 per gallon this summer, would that cause you to drive less than you might have otherwise, or not?

- Yes, drive less: 65%
- No, not drive less: 33%

**Source**: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, March 10-12, 2000.

**Question**: Do you think the current rise in gas prices represents a temporary fluctuation in prices or a more permanent change in prices?

- Temporary: 60%
- More permanent: 37%

**Source**: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, March 30-April 2, 2000.

Anticipating a Spike

**Questions**: Looking ahead to [one month/six months] from now, do you think gas prices at that time will be—higher than they are today, about the same, or lower than they are today?

**One month from now**
- Gas prices will be higher: 74%
- About the same: 16%
- Lower: 1%

**Six months from now**
- Gas prices will be higher: 37%
- About the same: 34%
- Lower: 3%

**Source**: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, March 10-12, 2000.