

A.4 Full questionnaire Survey A: link [here](#)

A.4.1 Introduction, background questions, and screening

A.4.1.1 Consent

1. {*consent*} This is a survey for academic research purposes. It will take approximately **25 minutes to complete**.

The purpose of this non-partisan survey is to understand how you think about economic policies in the US. To this end, we will ask you questions about your household's circumstances and about some hypothetical policy scenarios.

You will be **compensated** for this interview conditional **upon completing** the survey **and passing our survey quality checks**, which use sophisticated statistical control methods to detect incoherent and rushed responses. Responding without adequate effort may result in your response being flagged for low quality and you may not receive your payment. Please note that it is very important for the success of our research that you answer honestly and read the questions very carefully before answering.

You should know the following: You may not be told everything. As part of this research design, you may not be told about the purpose or procedures of this research. However, the purpose or procedures of the research will be fully disclosed to you following your participation.

Whether or not you participate is up to you. Your **participation** is completely **voluntary**. You can choose not to take part. You can agree to take part and later change your mind. Your decision will not be held against you. Your refusal to participate will not result in any consequences or any loss of benefits that you are otherwise entitled to receive. You can ask all the questions you want before you decide.

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt you, contact the research team at social.economics.research2020@gmail.com.

All of the answers you provide will remain **anonymous** and be treated with absolute **confidentiality**. The data are only used for research purposes. Anonymous data collected from this study will be publicly available in an online repository.

Do you agree to participate to the survey?

[No, I do not agree to participate; Yes, I agree to participate]

A.4.1.2 Pre-screening background questions

1. What is your **gender**?

[Male; Female; Other (Please Specify)]

2. What is your **age**?

[From 17 or younger to 66 or older]

3. Do you currently live in the U.S.?

[Yes; No]

4. In which area of the U.S. do you live?

[Northeast; South; Midwest; West]

5. How would you describe your **ethnicity/race**?

[White; African American/Black; Hispanic/Latino; Asian/Asian American; Mixed race; Other (please specify)]

6. What was your **total household income** from all sources in **2022, before taxes and other deductions**?

Total household income is defined as the sum of: wages, salary and tips, business / self-employment / farm income and loss, taxable interest and dividends, taxable social security benefits, alimony payments you receive, capital gains and losses, rental / schedule K1 income and losses, unemployment compensation, taxable amount from pensions and individual retirement arrangements, taxable state refunds, other income not exempted from the income tax.

[15 non-overlapping brackets from \$0-\$9,999 to \$200,000+]

A.4.1.3 Attention Screen 1

1. *Captcha*

2. It is very important for us that you do not get distracted throughout the survey. This question is to check whether you are not getting distracted. To proceed, please select the definition of "dog" from the following options: *[A yellow and black flying insect that makes honey and can sting you; A large, strong bird with a curved beak that eats meat and can see very well; A large wild animal of the cat family with yellowish-orange fur with black lines; A common animal with four legs, especially kept by people as a pet, or to hunt, or guard things; A very large sea mammal that breathes air through a hole at the top of its head]*

3. This is a question to check whether you are still paying attention and reading the questions carefully. Please select the first two options starting from the bottom. *[Strongly disagree; Somewhat disagree; Neither disagree nor agree; Somewhat agree; Strongly agree]*

A.4.2 Demographics

1. Were you **born in the United States**?

[Yes;No]

2. Which **ZIP code** do you currently live in?

[Text box]

3. How many **children** do you currently have?

[I do not have children; 1; 2; 3; 4; 5 or more]

4. Which category best describes your **highest level of education**?

[Primary education or less; Som High School; High School degree/GED; Some College; 2-year College Degree; 4-year College-Degree; Master's Degree; Doctoral Degree; Professional Degree (JD, MD, MBA)]

5. What is/was your field of study in college? If multiple degrees apply, please select the field corresponding to your last degree.

[Accounting/bookkeeping; Administrative science/public administration; Advertising; Agriculture/horticulture; Allied health; Anthropology; Architecture; Art; Aviation/aeronautics; Biology; Business administration; Chemistry; Child/human/family development; Comm. disorders; Communications/speech; Computer science; Counseling; Criminology/criminal justice; Dance; Dentistry; Economics; Education; Educational administration; Electronics; Engineering; English; Environmental science/ecology; Ethnic studies; Fashion; Finance; Fine arts; Food science/nutrition/culinary arts; Foreign language; Forestry; General sciences; General studies; Geography; Geology; Gerontology; Health; History; Home economics; Human services/human resources; Humanities; Industrial relations; Industry and technology; Information technology; Journalism; Law; Law enforcement; Liberal arts; Library science; Marketing; Mathematics; Mechanics/machine trade; Medicine; Music; Nursing; Other vocational; Parks and recreation; Pharmacy; Philosophy; Physical education; Physics; Political science/international relations; Psychology; Public relations; Social sciences; Social work: Sociology; Special education; Statistics/biostatistics; Television/film;

Textiles/cloth; Theater arts; Theology; Urban and regional planning; Veterinary medicine; Visual arts/graphic design/ design and drafting; Other]

6. You selected 'other' for field of study. Please specify below:

[Text Box]

7. What is your **current employment status**?

[Full-time employee; Part-time employee; Self-employed or business owner; Unemployed and looking for work; Student; Not working and not looking for a job; Retiree]

8. Which category best describes your **main occupation**?

[Management, business and financial occupations; Professional and related occupations; Service occupations; Sales and related occupations; Office and administrative support occupations; Farming, fishing and forestry occupations; Construction and extraction occupations; Installation, maintenance and repair occupations; Production occupations; Transportation and material moving occupations; Armed forces; Other (Please specify)]

9. Even if you are not currently working, which category best describes your most recent main occupation? Check the one that applies.

10. Which of the following **sectors** are you currently employed in?

If you have multiple jobs, check the one that best corresponds to your main occupation.

[Agriculture, plantations, other rural sectors; Basic metal production; Chemical industries; Commerce; Construction; Education; Financial services, professional services; Food, drink, tobacco; Forestry, wood; Health services; Hotels, tourism, catering; Mining; Mechanical and electrical engineering; Media, culture, graphical; Oil and gas production, oil refining; Postal and telecommunications services; Public service; Shipping, ports, fisheries, inland waterways; Textiles, clothing, leather, footwear; Transport (including civil aviation, railways, road transport); Transport equipment manufacturing; Utilities (water, gas, electricity); Other (Please specify)]

11. Even if you are not currently working, in which sector did you last work?

If you had multiple jobs, check the one that best corresponds to your main latest occupation.

12. Do you work in the **gig economy**?

The gig economy is based on flexible, temporary or freelance jobs, often involving connecting with clients or customers through an online platform.

[Yes;No]

13. Please indicate your **marital status**.

[Single; Married; Legally separated or divorced; Widowed]

14. What is your **spouse's current employment status**?

[Same options as in the respondent's case]

15. At any time in **2022**, even for one month, did you or anyone in your household receive:

- Any **cash assistance** from a state or county welfare program such as welfare to work, TANF, general assistance, diversion payments, or refugee cash?
- An **Earned Income Tax Credit Break**?
- Any **unemployment insurance transfers**?

[Yes;No]

16. Are you covered by **Medicaid or Medical Assistance**?

[Yes;No]

17. Did you, or anyone in your household, receive **food stamps** or use a **food stamp benefit card** at any time in **2022**?

[Yes;No]

18. How certain or uncertain are you about your total household income over the next 12 months? Please use a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means Extremely uncertain and 10 Extremely certain.

[Slider]

19. On **economic policy** matters, where do you see yourself on the liberal/conservative spectrum?

[Very liberal; Liberal; Moderate; Conservative; Very conservative]

20. What do you consider to be your **political affiliation**, as of today?

[Republican; Democrat; Independent; Other (Please specify); Non-affiliated]

21. Did you vote in the **2020 presidential election**?

[Yes;No]

22. In the **2020 presidential election**, who did you vote for?

[Joe Biden; Donald Trump; Howie Hawkins; Jo Jorgensen; Other]

23. Even if you **did NOT vote**, please indicate the **candidate** that you would have voted for or who represented your views most closely.

[Joe Biden; Donald Trump; Howie Hawkins; Jo Jorgensen; Other]

A.4.3 Definition of inflation

1. Suppose that the price of a product you like is 100\$ today. If the annual inflation rate is 10%, what will be the price of the product in 1 year?

[Text Box]\$

2. Now instead suppose that the product you like costed 100\$ one year ago, and now it costs 101\$. What has been the inflation rate over the year?

[Text Box]%

3. *Text-box:* Now, we explain in more detail what we mean with **inflation rate**. Please pay attention to the text below, as you will need this information later.

The inflation rate measures how much prices in the economy rise from year to year. It is defined as the yearly growth of the general price level of goods and services.

For instance, an inflation rate of 10% means that, on average, prices for goods and services rise by 10% over 12 months. That is, a typical bundle of goods and services that costs 100\$ at the beginning of a year costs 110\$ at the end of that year.

If the inflation rate is negative, it is referred to as **deflation**. This means that the bundle of goods becomes less expensive from one year to the next.

4. Do you agree with the following statement?

”Inflation is a sort of units of measurement thing and little more: the dollar is a yardstick by which we measure value, and the length of this yardstick (value of the dollar) is changing through time. All we have to do is make sure we are taking full account of the length of the yardstick, and inflation will have little effect on us.”

[Strongly agree; Somewhat agree; Neither agree nor disagree; Somewhat disagree; Strongly disagree]

A.4.4 Information about Past Inflation and Inflation Expectations

1. How important is it for you to stay updated about **current and future inflation**?

[Extremely important; Very important; Somewhat important; Slightly important; Not important at all]

2. Has your attention towards inflation increased or decreased over the last two years?
[Increased a lot; Somewhat increased; Remained the same; Somewhat decreased; Decreased a lot]

3. Is the following one of your main sources of news about inflation?
[Yes/No]
[Social media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, TikTok), Online National newspapers (e.g., The New York Times, Financial Times, The Wall Street Journal), Print National newspapers (e.g., The New York Times, Financial Times, The Wall Street Journal), Local newspapers, Cable news networks (e.g., Fox News, CNN, MSNBC), Network television channels (e.g., ABC, PBS), Radio, Financial websites and apps (please specify), News apps (please specify), Other (please specify)]

4. Over the **last 12 months**, do you think there was **inflation, deflation, or roughly no change in prices** in the US?
[Inflation; Deflation; Roughly no change in prices]

5. What was the average rate of inflation in the US over the last 12 months in percent ?
[Text box]%

6. What was the average rate of deflation in the US over the last 12 months in percent ?
[Text box]%

7. What was the average rate of inflation or deflation in the US over the last 12 months in percent? Please enter a negative number if you think there was deflation.
[Text box]%

8. Over the **next 12 months**, do you think that there will be **inflation, deflation, or roughly no change in prices** in the US?
[Inflation; Deflation; Roughly no change in prices]

9. What do you expect the rate of inflation to be over the next 12 months in the US in percent?
[Text box]%

10. What do you expect the rate of deflation to be over the next 12 months in the US in percent?
[Text box]%

11. What do you expect the rate of inflation or deflation to be over the next 12 months in the US in percent? Please enter a negative number if you think there will be deflation.
[Text box]%

12. Which of these items experienced the most substantial inflation over the last year? [*Food; Gas; Rent; Utilities (such as heating and cooling expenses, or electricity)*]
13. When thinking about how inflation might increase in the future, which of the following sources influences your estimate the most? (Select only one)
[News reports; Official statistics; Recent price changes of my purchases; Advice from friends and family]

A.4.5 Attention Screen 2

- When a big news story breaks people often go online to get up-to-the-minute details on what is going on. We want to know which websites people trust to get this information. We also want to know if people are paying attention to the question. To show that you've read this much, please ignore the question and select ABC News and The Drudge Report as your two answers.

When there is a big news story, which is the one news website that you would visit first?
(Please only choose one)

New York Times website; Huffington post; Washington Post website; The Drudge Report; Fox News; ABC News website; The Associated Press (AP) website; Reuters website; National Public Radio (NPR) website

A.4.6 Personal impacts of inflation

A.4.7 Decision-maker questions

1. How much of the time do you personally **do the shopping** in your household?
[Always; Most of the time; Sometimes; Rarely; Never]
2. Which of the following best describes how financial decisions are made in your household?
[Someone else in my household makes all financial decisions; Someone else in my household makes most financial decisions; I share financial decisions equally with someone else in my household; I make most financial decisions myself; I make all financial decisions myself.]

A.4.8 Personal Impacts of Inflation: as a consumer

- Now, we are going to ask you some questions about how the recent rise in inflation has impacted your life.

1. Has your purchasing power (your real buying power) decreased or increased because of inflation? *[Decreased a lot; Decreased somewhat; Neither decreased nor increased; Increased somewhat; Increased a lot]*
2. In your opinion, how does **inflation** affect the **purchasing power** of consumers **if their salaries increase at the same rate as inflation**? Their purchasing power...
[Increases by a lot; Somewhat increases; Remains the same; Somewhat decreases; Decreases by a lot]
3. Comparison shopping involves examining the prices and qualities of the same product from different sellers to find the best deal. Has inflation made the comparison of prices across different sellers harder or easier for you?
[Much easier; Somewhat easier; Neither harder nor easier; Somewhat harder; Much harder]
4. How has the quality of goods you buy been affected by inflation?
[Decreased a lot; Somewhat decreased; Remained the same; Somewhat increased; Increased a lot]
5. “Shrinkflation” occurs when items shrink in size or quantity while the price remains the same or increases. It is also known as package downsizing.
In the last two years, would you say that **shrinkflation** has become less widespread than, as widespread as, or more widespread than before?
[Less widespread than before; As widespread as before; More widespread than before]

A.4.9 Personal Impacts of Inflation: as a worker

1. Did you change jobs in the last two years?
[Yes;No]
 - Branch: no change in job
2. Did you receive any wage or salary increase in the last two years?
[Yes;No]
3. Do you believe the increase in your wage was primarily because of your performance and career advancement, to offset recent price rises, or a combination of both factors?

[Solely due to my performance and career progression; Solely to offset recent price increases; A combination of both factors]

- Branch: change in job

4. Did you receive any wage or salary increase in the last two years?

[Yes;No]

5. Was this change in wage or salary due to the job change?

[Yes;No]

6. Do you believe the increase in your wage was primarily because of your performance and career advancement, to offset recent price rises, or a combination of both factors?

[Solely due to my performance and career ; progression; Solely to offset recent price increases; A combination of both factors]

7. Is your wage/salary **indexed to inflation**? A wage is said to be indexed to inflation when it is automatically linked to price changes.

[Yes; No; I do not know]

8. Considering the impact of inflation, how concerned are you about your future earnings and employment status?

[Not concerned; Slightly concerned; Moderately concerned; Very concerned; Extremely concerned]

9. Imagine that next year the inflation rate unexpectedly doubles. How long would it probably take before your income has increased enough so that you can afford the same things as you do today? In other words, how long will it be before a full inflation correction in your income has taken place?

[Up to one month; Two to six months; Between seven months and one year; Two to three years; More than three years; I do not know]

10. Try to imagine how things would be different if we had not experienced the inflation we did over the last two years, so that prices of things you buy had not risen to the levels that we actually see today. How different do you think your income (the total dollars you earn

in a month) would be now, in comparison with your actual income now, if we had had no inflation?

[My income (in dollars per month) would be lower; My income (in dollars per month) would be the same; My income (in dollars per month) would be higher; Don't know]

11. When your pay goes up and prices go up by just as much due to inflation, how does this affect your feeling of satisfaction with your job?

[It increases; It remains unchanged; It decreases]

12. Considering the rate of inflation, do you feel that the wages of other people in the US are rising more quickly, less quickly, or at the same pace as your own wage?

[Much more quickly; Slightly more quickly; At the same pace; Slightly less quickly; Much less quickly]

13. How about the wages of higher-income people in the US? Do you feel that they are keeping up with inflation more quickly, less quickly, or at the same pace as your own wage?

[Much more quickly; Slightly more quickly; At the same pace; Slightly less quickly; Much less quickly]

14. How do you think the growth rate of wages and salaries for workers in the US compares to increases in prices?

[Prices increase much faster; Prices increase somewhat faster; Both increase at the same rate; Wages increase somewhat faster; Wages increase much faster]

15. Which of the following theories about the effects of inflation on wages or salary relates to your own experience and your own job the most?

"Inflation will increase my employer's profits as they can sell their products or services for more, but this won't affect my salary. My employer won't feel the need to increase my pay.";

"Due to inflation, companies compete more for workers, which could lead to my employer raising my salary to match better offers I might get from other companies.";

"A sense of fairness and proper behavior will cause my employer to raise my pay"

- We would now like to understand how you think companies react to inflation. Think about small businesses first.

16. When there is inflation, how many small businesses do you think increase their employees' wages in line with the increase in prices?

Almost none; A few; Many; Almost all

17. In your view, what is the main reason why small businesses choose to increase their employees' wages during periods of inflation?
[To preserve employees' purchasing power; To ensure fairness; To attract and retain talented workers; To make employees work harder; To maintain employee morale]
18. In your view, what is the main reason why small business choose **not** to increase their employees' wages during periods of inflation?
[To deal with uncertainty about the future; To control their costs and increase their profits; To push workers to work harder; Because they know that their employees have very few other options]
19. Now, think about **big companies** instead.
20. When there is inflation, how many big companies do you think increase their employees' wages in line with the increase in prices?
Almost none; A few; Many; Almost all
21. In your view, what is the main reason why big companies choose to increase their employees' wages during periods of inflation?
[To preserve employees' purchasing power; To ensure fairness; To attract and retain talented workers; To make employees work harder; To maintain employee morale]
22. In your view, what is the main reason why big companies choose **not** to increase their employees' wages during periods of inflation? *[To deal with uncertainty about the future; To control their costs and increase their profits; To push workers to work harder; Because they know that their employees have very few other options]*

A.4.10 Personal Impacts of Inflation: as an asset holder

1. How has the value of your financial assets (like stocks, bonds, real estate) been affected by inflation?
[Increased; Stayed the same; Decreased]
2. How have your savings been affected by inflation?
[Increased; Stayed the same; Decreased; Don't have any savings]
3. How has inflation changed the real value of your debt (the amount you owe in relation to the general cost of living and prices)?

[It has reduced the real value of my debt; It has had no effect on the real value of my debt; It has increased the real value of my debt; Do not have any debt]

4. How has inflation affected your ability to repay your debts and loans?

[Repayment is easier than before; Repayment is unaffected by inflation; Repayment is harder than before; Do not have any loans/debts]

A.4.11 Personal Impacts of Inflation: decision making and psychological

1. How has inflation affected your outlook on your future economic well-being?

[Very negatively; Somewhat negatively; Not affected; Somewhat positively; Very positively]

2. If inflation was lower than it is now, would you say that you would be less stressed, equally stressed, or more stressed than you are now?

[Less stressed; Equally stressed; More stressed]

3. Was the following a cause for feeling more stressed? (randomize-order)

[Yes;No]

- Having difficulties paying my bills or credit card balance
- Being unable to afford essentials such as food, fuel, or heating
- Worrying about paying my rent
- Worrying about paying my mortgage
- Worrying about losses on my investment
- Having to cut down on holidays, entertainment, and going out
- Worrying about how to afford my children's education **if has children**

4. Among the causes for feeling stressed, which one is the most important one? (carry forward)

- Having difficulties paying my bills or credit card balance
- Being unable to afford essentials such as food, fuel, or heating
- Worrying about paying my rent
- Worrying about paying my mortgage
- Worrying about losses on my investment
- Having to cut down on holidays, entertainment, and going out
- Worrying about how to afford my children's education **if has children**

A.4.12 Personal responses to inflation

A.4.13 Actual reactions to higher inflation since the beginning of the Pandemic

We will now ask you a series of questions about how you have reacted in light of the rise in inflation over the last two years.

- In the following questions, we are asking you about changes in your spending that you made because of inflation. We are not interested in things you would have done regardless of inflation, only in what you did differently because of inflation.

1. Did you increase or reduce the **quantity** of items you purchase because of inflation?
[Reduced a lot; reduced somewhat; Neither reduced nor increased; increased somewhat; increased a lot]
2. How much of your shopping has shifted to lower-priced, lower-quality goods due to inflation?
[None of it; A small portion; About half; Most of it; All of it]
3. Did you delay or accelerate the purchase of **non-essential** goods and services because of inflation?
[Accelerated all purchases; Accelerated some purchases; Did not change the timing of purchases; Delayed some purchases; Delayed all purchases]
4. Did you delay or accelerate the purchase of **essential** goods and services because of inflation?
[Accelerated all purchases; Accelerated some purchases; Did not change the timing of purchases; Delayed some purchases; Delayed all purchases]
5. Which essential goods and services did you delay purchasing?
[text box]
 - In the following questions, we are asking you about changes in your work situation that you made because of inflation. We are not interested in things you would have done regardless of inflation, only in what you did differently because of inflation.
6. Did you ask for a pay increase because of inflation?
[Yes; No]
7. Did you receive the pay increase you asked for?
[Yes; No]

8. Did you look for an **additional** job or work opportunity because of inflation?
[Yes; No]
9. Did you find the additional job or work opportunity you looked for?
[Yes; No]
10. Did you increase or decrease hours worked because of inflation?
[Increased a lot; Somewhat increased; Neither increased nor decreased; Somewhat decreased; Decreased a lot]
11. Did you switch to a higher-paying job because of inflation?
[Yes; No]
- In the following questions, we are asking you about changes to your assets that you made because of inflation. We are not interested in things you would have done regardless of inflation, only in what you did differently because of inflation.
12. Have you been saving more or less because of inflation?
[A lot more; Somewhat more; The same; Somewhat less; A lot less]
13. Have you increased or decreased the share of your savings that you keep in cash (as opposed to invested in other financial assets) because of inflation?
[Increased a lot; Increased somewhat; Neither increased nor reduced; Reduced somewhat; Reduced a lot]
14. Did you buy or sell financial assets because of inflation?
[Bought assets; Neither bought nor sold assets; Sold assets]
15. Did you borrow more or less money because of inflation?
[Borrowed more; Borrowed the same; Borrowed less; I do not have any borrowing]
16. Did you repay your loans slower or faster than before because of inflation?
[Repaid faster than before; Repaid at the same rate as before; Repaid slower than before; I do not have any loan]
17. Did you switch to a different type of mortgage because of inflation?
[Yes, from variable-rate to fixed-rate; Yes, from fixed-rate to variable-rate; No, I did not switch to a different mortgage type; I do not have any mortgage]
18. Has it been easier or more difficult for you to repay your regular bills because of inflation?
[Much more difficult; Somewhat more difficult; About the same; Somewhat easier; Much easier]

A.4.14 Reactions to higher expected inflation

1. Would you change your spending in advance if you expected prices to increase in a year?
[Yes, right away; Yes, close to the time when prices increase; No]
2. Right away, would you start increasing or decreasing your spending?
[Increase a lot; Somewhat increase; Somewhat decrease; Decrease a lot]
3. Close to the time when prices increase, would you start increasing or decreasing your spending?
[Increase a lot; Somewhat increase; Somewhat decrease; Decrease a lot]

A.4.15 Policy Views

A.4.16 Priority of inflation

1. How important is price stability as an objective of US economic policy?
[Not important at all; somewhat important; very important]
2. Would you still agree that inflation is a national priority if the type of inflation being prevented caused incomes to rise at the same rate as prices, so that the inflation would have no effect on living standards?
[Yes;No]
3. Now, we are going to list some widely debated **economic policy issues** in the US. Could you please **rank** them depending on how much you think they should be a **national priority**?
 - Price stability
 - Low unemployment
 - High economic growth
 - Investments in national defense
 - Stability of the financial system
4. Now, we are going to list some widely debated **civic and social policy issues** in the US. Could you please **rank** them depending on how much you think they should be a **national priority**?
 - Inflation
 - Gun rights

- Access to abortion
- Civil rights
- Access to education
- Affordable healthcare

A.4.17 Inflation and politics

1. Do you think that high inflation increases or decreases **social cohesion**? *[Increases cohesion a lot; Somewhat increases cohesion; Has no impact on cohesion; Somewhat decreases cohesion; Decreases cohesion a lot]*
2. Do you think that high inflation hurts or improves the US' **international reputation**? *[Improves reputation a lot; Somewhat improves reputation; Has no impact on reputation; Somewhat hurts reputation; Hurts reputation a lot]*
3. Do you think that high inflation increases or decreases **political stability**? *[Increases political stability a lot; Somewhat increases political stability; Has no impact on political stability; Somewhat decreases political stability; Decreases political stability a lot]*

A.4.18 Inflation and unemployment

1. Do you think that **inflation and unemployment** are strongly related, weakly related, or unrelated? *[Strongly related; Weakly related; Unrelated]*
2. How would you describe the relation between inflation and unemployment? *[When inflation is higher, unemployment is also higher; When inflation is higher, unemployment is lower]*
3. You said that when inflation is higher, unemployment is also higher. Why do you think that's the case? *[Text Box]*
4. You said that when inflation is higher, unemployment is lower. Why do you think that's the case? *[Text Box]*
5. Which of the following is closest to your views about what the government should do when it comes to **inflation and unemployment**?

- Maintain low unemployment at all costs
- Give priority to unemployment but be mindful about inflation
- Give equal priority to inflation and unemployment
- Give priority to inflation but be mindful of unemployment
- Maintain low inflation at all costs

A.4.19 Inflation and other economic variables

1. In your view, how often does high inflation indicate a poor state of the economy?
[Always; Often; Sometimes; Rarely; Never]
2. When inflation increases what do you think generally happens to US exports?
[Exports increase; Exports are unaffected; Exports decrease]

A.4.20 Economic Information about the Household

1. Do you and your household own any **real estate properties**?
[Yes; No]
2. Please provide an estimate of the total value of your real estate properties (the amount you would receive if you were to sell them today).
[\$0-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; \$300,000-\$499,000; \$500,000-\$749,999; \$750,000-\$999,999; \$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999; \$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999; \$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999; +\$3,000,000]
3. Do you hold any **mortgages** on your real estate properties?
[Yes; No]
4. Are these mortgages **fixed-rate mortgages, capped-variable mortgages, or variable-rate mortgages**?
[All fixed-rate; All capped-variable-rate; All variable-rate; A mix of the previous three]
5. Please provide an estimate of the outstanding amount of mortgages on your real estate properties. In other words, if you had to fully repay the rest of your mortgage today, how much would you have to pay? Note that we are only interested in the outstanding principal, not including interests, fees, etc.
[\$0-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]

6. Do you have any **outstanding loans (including student loans)**?
[Yes; No]
7. Are these **fixed-rate loans, capped-variable loans, or variable-rate loans**?
[All fixed-rate; all capped-variable-rate; all variable-rate; a mix of the previous three]
8. Please provide an estimate of the outstanding amount of these loan(s). In other words, if you had to fully repay the rest of your loan(s) today, how much would you have to pay? Note that we are only interested in the outstanding principal, not including interests, fees, etc.
[\$0-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]
9. Do you and your household have any **checking accounts** or other **short-term savings** (savings/money market accounts, brokerage accounts or shares in money market mutual funds)?
[Yes; No]
10. Please provide an estimate of the total amount of money in your current or short-term savings account(s).
[\$0-\$999; \$1,000-\$2,999; \$3,000-\$4,999; \$5,000-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; \$20,000-\$29,999; \$30,000-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]
11. Do you and your household own any **certificates of deposit**?
[Yes; No]
12. Please provide an estimate of the total amount of money currently held in your certificates of deposit.
[\$0-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; \$20,000-\$29,999; \$30,000-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]
13. Do you and your household own shares of **mutual funds, ETFs (exchange-traded funds), or hedge funds, government bonds, municipal tax-exempt bonds, stocks, or corporate bonds**?
[Yes; No]
14. Please provide an estimate of the total value of these assets.
[\$0-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; \$20,000-\$29,999; \$30,000-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]

15. Do you and your household have any **credit cards**?

[Yes; No]

16. Do you have any outstanding balance on your credit card(s) that you plan not to repay in the current billing period and to roll over into the future?

[Yes; No]

17. Please provide an estimate of the total outstanding balance on your household's credit card(s). Note that the total credit card outstanding balance is the amount of credit card debt that you plan not to repay in the current billing period and instead will roll over into the next period, after paying your most recent monthly bill(s).

[\$0-\$999; \$1,000-\$2,999; \$3,000-\$4,999; \$5,000-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; \$20,000-\$29,999; \$30,000-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]

A.4.21 Feedback and Debrief

1. Please feel free to give us any **feedback** or impression regarding this survey.

[Text box]

2. Thank you for your participation in our research study.

To end the survey, please click on the arrow at the bottom right of the page as if you were answering a question.

We would like to discuss with you in more detail the study you just participated in and to explain exactly what we were trying to study.

Before we tell you about all the goals of this study, however, we want to explain why it is necessary in some kinds of studies not to tell people all about the purpose of the study before they begin. As you may know, scientific methods sometimes require that participants in research studies not be given complete information about the research until after the study is completed. Although we cannot always tell you everything before you begin your participation, we do want to tell you everything when the study is completed.

We do not always tell people everything at the beginning of a study because we do not want to influence their responses. If we tell people what the purpose of the study is and what we predict about how they will react, then their reactions would not be a good indication of how they would react in everyday situations.

This study had three main goals: understand how you reason **about inflation**; understand why you **dislike inflation**; finally, we also wanted to study how inflation can impact or has impacted your life.

You may have been asked your views on inflation before being asked about the perceived impacts and reactions to inflation. The order of these two blocks is randomized to see whether thinking about the costs of inflation affects your policy preferences.

If other people get to know the true purpose of the study, it might affect how they answer questions, so we are asking you not to share the information we just shared.

We hope you enjoyed your experience, and we hope you learned something today. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us on the email provided in the consent form (social.economics.research2020@gmail.com).

Do you have any other questions or comments about anything you did today or anything we've talked about? Thank you again for your participation.

A.5 Full questionnaire Survey B: [link here](#)

A.5.1 Introduction, background questions, and screening

A.5.1.1 Consent

1. This is a survey for academic research purposes. It will take approximately **25 minutes to complete**.

The purpose of this non-partisan survey is to understand how you think about economic policies in the US. To this end, we will ask you questions about your household's circumstances and about some hypothetical policy scenarios.

You will be **compensated** for this interview conditional **upon completing** the survey **and passing our survey quality checks**, which use sophisticated statistical control methods to detect incoherent and rushed responses. Responding without adequate effort may result in your response being flagged for low quality and you may not receive your payment. Please note that it is very important for the success of our research that you answer honestly and read the questions very carefully before answering.

You should know the following: You may not be told everything. As part of this research design, you may not be told about the purpose or procedures of this research. However, the

purpose or procedures of the research will be fully disclosed to you following your participation.

Whether or not you participate is up to you. Your **participation** is completely **voluntary**. You can choose not to take part. You can agree to take part and later change your mind. Your decision will not be held against you. Your refusal to participate will not result in any consequences or any loss of benefits that you are otherwise entitled to receive. You can ask all the questions you want before you decide.

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt you, contact the research team at social.economics.research2020@gmail.com.

All of the answers you provide will remain **anonymous** and be treated with absolute **confidentiality**. The data are only used for research purposes. Anonymous data collected from this study will be publicly available in an online repository.

Do you agree to participate to the survey?

[No, I do not agree to participate; Yes, I agree to participate]

A.5.1.2 Pre-screening background questions

1. What is your **gender**?

[Male; Female; Other (Please Specify)]

2. What is your **age**?

[From 17 or younger to 66 or older]

3. Do you currently live in the U.S.?

[Yes; No]

4. In which area of the U.S. do you live?

[Northeast; South; Midwest; West]

5. How would you describe your **ethnicity/race**?

[White; African American/Black; Hispanic/Latino; Asian/Asian American; Mixed race; Other (please specify)]

6. What was your **total household income** from all sources in **2022, before taxes and other deductions**?

Total household income is defined as the sum of: wages, salary and tips, business / self-employment / farm income and loss, taxable interest and dividends, taxable social security benefits, alimony payments you receive, capital gains and losses, rental / schedule K1 income and losses, unemployment compensation, taxable amount from pensions and individual retirement arrangements, taxable state refunds, other income not exempted from the income tax.

[15 non-overlapping brackets from \$0-\$9,999 to \$200,000+]

A.5.1.3 Attention Screen

1. *Captcha*
2. This is a question to check whether you are still paying attention and reading the questions carefully. Please select both “Somewhat unfair” and “Very fair” to move forward.

[Very unfair; Somewhat unfair; Somewhat fair; Very fair]

A.5.2 Demographics

1. Were you **born in the United States**?
[Yes;No]
2. Which **ZIP code** do you currently live in?
[Text box]
3. How many **children** do you currently have?
[I do not have children; 1; 2; 3; 4; 5 or more]
4. Which category best describes your **highest level of education**?
[Primary education or less; Som High School; High School degree/GED; Some College; 2-year College Degree; 4-year College-Degree; Master’s Degree; Doctoral Degree; Professional Degree (JD, MD, MBA)]
5. What is/was your field of study in college? If multiple degrees apply, please select the field corresponding to your last degree.
[Accounting/bookkeeping; Administrative science/public administration; Advertising; Agriculture/horticulture; Allied health; Anthropology; Architecture; Art; Aviation/aeronautics; Biology; Business administration; Chemistry; Child/human/family development; Comm. disorders; Communications/speech; Computer science; Counseling; Criminology/criminal

justice; Dance; Dentistry; Economics; Education; Educational administration; Electronics; Engineering; English; Environmental science/ecology; Ethnic studies; Fashion; Finance; Fine arts; Food science/nutrition/culinary arts; Foreign language; Forestry; General sciences; General studies; Geography; Geology; Gerontology; Health; History; Home economics; Human services/human resources; Humanities; Industrial relations; Industry and technology; Information technology; Journalism; Law; Law enforcement; Liberal arts; Library science; Marketing; Mathematics; Mechanics/machine trade; Medicine; Music; Nursing; Other vocational; Parks and recreation; Pharmacy; Philosophy; Physical education; Physics; Political science/international relations; Psychology; Public relations; Social sciences; Social work: Sociology; Special education; Statistics/biostatistics; Television/film; Textiles/cloth; Theater arts; Theology; Urban and regional planning; Veterinary medicine; Visual arts/graphic design/ design and drafting; Other]

6. You selected 'other' for field of study. Please specify below:

[Text Box]

7. What is your **current employment status**?

[Full-time employee; Part-time employee; Self-employed or business owner; Unemployed and looking for work; Student; Not working and not looking for a job; Retiree]

8. Which category best describes your **main occupation**?

[Management, business and financial occupations; Professional and related occupations; Service occupations; Sales and related occupations; Office and administrative support occupations; Farming, fishing and forestry occupations; Construction and extraction occupations; Installation, maintenance and repair occupations; Production occupations; Transportation and material moving occupations; Armed forces; Other (Please specify)]

9. Even if you are not currently working, which category best describes your most recent main occupation? Check the one that applies.

10. Which of the following **sectors** are you currently employed in?

If you have multiple jobs, check the one that best corresponds to your main occupation.

[Agriculture, plantations, other rural sectors; Basic metal production; Chemical industries; Commerce; Construction; Education; Financial services, professional services; Food, drink, tobacco; Forestry, wood; Health services; Hotels, tourism, catering; Mining; Mechanical and electrical engineering; Media, culture, graphical; Oil and gas production, oil refining; Postal and telecommunications services; Public service; Shipping, ports, fisheries, inland

waterways; Textiles, clothing, leather, footwear; Transport (including civil aviation, railways, road transport); Transport equipment manufacturing; Utilities (water, gas, electricity); Other (Please specify)]

11. Even if you are not currently working, in which sector did you last work?

If you had multiple jobs, check the one that best corresponds to your main latest occupation.

12. Do you work in the **gig economy**?

The gig economy is based on flexible, temporary or freelance jobs, often involving connecting with clients or customers through an online platform.

[Yes;No]

13. Please indicate your **marital status**.

[Single; Married; Legally separated or divorced; Widowed]

14. What is your **spouse's** current **employment status**?

[Same options as in the respondent's case]

15. How certain or uncertain are you about your total household income over the next 12 months? Please use a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means Extremely certain and 10 Extremely uncertain.

[Slider]

16. On **economic policy** matters, where do you see yourself on the liberal/conservative spectrum?

[Very liberal; Liberal; Moderate; Conservative; Very conservative]

17. What do you consider to be your **political affiliation**, as of today?

[Republican; Democrat; Independent; Other (Please specify); Non-affiliated]

18. Did you vote in the **2020 presidential election**?

[Yes;No]

19. In the **2020 presidential election**, who did you vote for?

[Joe Biden; Donald Trump; Howie Hawkins; Jo Jorgensen; Other]

20. Even if you **did NOT vote**, please indicate the **candidate** that you would have voted for or who represented your views most closely.

[Joe Biden; Donald Trump; Howie Hawkins; Jo Jorgensen; Other]

A.5.3 General understanding of inflation

We will now ask you up to ten open-ended questions, where we ask that you please write your answers in an empty text-entry field. Please take your time to answer and try to write a few sentences in each case to express your opinion.

1. How would you define “**inflation**” in your own words?
[Text Box]
2. When you hear or see news stories about inflation, do you personally find these stories interesting?
[Yes, very interesting; Yes, somewhat interesting; No, not interesting at all]
3. Some people think that news about inflation is boring and technical stuff that they can’t relate to. Can you explain to them why they should find it interesting? *[text box]*
4. Do you have worries that if inflation rises too high, then something really bad might happen?
[Yes, very much; Yes, somewhat; No or no opinion]
5. What are you worried might happen?
[Textbox]
6. When inflation gets very high, what do you think is the reason?
[text box]
7. What do you think could be the positive effects of inflation, if any, on people’s economic and financial situation?
[Text box]

A.5.4 Inflation as a yardstick

1. Do you agree with the following statement? ”Inflation is a sort of units of measurement thing and little more: the dollar is a yardstick by which we measure value, and the length of this yardstick (value of the dollar) is changing through time. All we have to do is make sure we are taking full account of the length of the yardstick, and inflation will have little effect on us.”
[Strongly agree; Somewhat agree; Neither agree nor disagree; Somewhat disagree; Strongly disagree]

A.5.5 Personal impacts of inflation

A.5.5.1 Broad impact question

1. What were the **most important impacts** of **inflation** on **your life**?

[Text Box]

A.5.5.2 Personal feelings

2. What feelings do you typically experience when you hear news reports about 'rising inflation'?

[Text Box]

3. When you went to the store and saw that prices were higher, did you feel a little angry?

[Yes, often; Yes, sometimes; No, never]

4. Who do you tend to feel angry at?

[text box]

5. Why do you tend to feel angry?

[text box]

6. Think about how much your income (measured in dollars per month) went up (or down) in the past five years. What do you think are the most important factors that account for the change in your income? (Please try to list all the relevant factors that apply to you)

[Textbox]

A.5.6 Economic Information about the Household

1. Do you and your household own any **real estate properties**?

[Yes; No]

2. Please provide an estimate of the total value of your real estate properties (the amount you would receive if you were to sell them today).

[\$0-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; \$300,000-\$499,000; \$500,000-\$749,999; \$750,000-\$999,999; \$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999; \$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999; \$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999; +\$3,000,000]

3. Do you hold any **mortgages** on your real estate properties?

[Yes; No]

4. Are these mortgages **fixed-rate mortgages, capped-variable mortgages, or variable-rate mortgages**?

[All fixed-rate; All capped-variable-rate; All variable-rate; A mix of the previous three]

5. Please provide an estimate of the outstanding amount of mortgages on your real estate properties. In other words, if you had to fully repay the rest of your mortgage today, how much would you have to pay? Note that we are only interested in the outstanding principal, not including interests, fees, etc.

[\$0-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]

6. Do you have any **outstanding loans (including student loans)**?

[Yes; No]

7. Are these **fixed-rate loans, capped-variable loans, or variable-rate loans**?

[All fixed-rate; all capped-variable-rate; all variable-rate; a mix of the previous three]

8. Please provide an estimate of the outstanding amount of these loan(s). In other words, if you had to fully repay the rest of your loan(s) today, how much would you have to pay? Note that we are only interested in the outstanding principal, not including interests, fees, etc.

[\$0-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]

9. Do you and your household have any **checking accounts** or other **short-term savings** (savings/money market accounts, brokerage accounts or shares in money market mutual funds)?

[Yes; No]

10. Please provide an estimate of the total amount of money in your current or short-term savings account(s).

[\$0-\$999; \$1,000-\$2,999; \$3,000-\$4,999; \$5,000-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; \$20,000-\$29,999; \$30,000-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]

11. Do you and your household own any **certificates of deposit**?

[Yes; No]

12. Please provide an estimate of the total amount of money currently held in your certificates of deposit.

[\$0-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; \$20,000-\$29,999; \$30,000-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]

13. Do you and your household own shares of **mutual funds, ETFs (exchange-traded funds), or hedge funds, government bonds, municipal tax-exempt bonds, stocks, or corporate bonds**?
[Yes; No]
14. Please provide an estimate of the total value of these assets.
[\$0-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; \$20,000-\$29,999; \$30,000-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]
15. Do you and your household have any **credit cards**?
[Yes; No]
16. Do you have any outstanding balance on your credit card(s) that you plan not to repay in the current billing period and to roll over into the future?
[Yes; No]
17. Please provide an estimate of the total outstanding balance on your household's credit card(s). Note that the total credit card outstanding balance is the amount of credit card debt that you plan not to repay in the current billing period and instead will roll over into the next period, after paying your most recent monthly bill(s).
[\$0-\$999; \$1,000-\$2,999; \$3,000-\$4,999; \$5,000-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; \$20,000-\$29,999; \$30,000-\$49,999; \$50,000-\$99,000; \$100,000-\$149,999; \$150,000-\$199,000; \$200,000-\$299,000; +\$300,000]

A.5.7 Feedback and Debrief

1. Please feel free to give us any **feedback** or impression regarding this survey.
[Text box]

2. Thank you for your participation in our research study.

To end the survey, please click on the arrow at the bottom right of the page as if you were answering a question.

We would like to discuss with you in more detail the study you just participated in and to explain exactly what we were trying to study.

Before we tell you about all the goals of this study, however, we want to explain why it is necessary in some kinds of studies not to tell people all about the purpose of the study before they begin. As you may know, scientific methods sometimes require that participants in research studies not be given complete information about the research until after the

study is completed. Although we cannot always tell you everything before you begin your participation, we do want to tell you everything when the study is completed.

We do not always tell people everything at the beginning of a study because we do not want to influence their responses. If we tell people what the purpose of the study is and what we predict about how they will react, then their reactions would not be a good indication of how they would react in everyday situations.

This study had three main goals: understand how you reason **about inflation**; understand why you **dislike inflation**; finally, we also wanted to study how inflation can impact or has impacted your life.

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We hope you enjoyed your experience, and we hope you learned something today. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us on the email provided in the consent form (social.economics.research2020@gmail.com).

Do you have any other questions or comments about anything you did today or anything we've talked about? Thank you again for your participation.