



Manhattan Institute 2022 NYC Survey on Crime & Criminal Justice Issues
 Survey of N=800 adults in New York City
 Sample from Dynata general population panel
 Field Dates: March 17-22, 2022

LANDSCAPE: VIEWS ON LEADERS, PROBLEMS, AND CRIME

1. [Favorability Battery] How would you describe your opinion of the following individuals who have been in the news recently? [DISPLAY AS GRID, RANDOMIZE ITEMS] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-5, 5-1]

	1. Very Favorable	2. Somewhat Favorable	3. Heard of, No Opinion	4. Somewhat Unfavorable	5. Very Unfavorable	6. Never heard of				
			VERY/ SOME. FAV.	VERY/ SOME. UNFAV.	1. Very Fav.	2. Some. Fav.	3. Heard of, No Opinion	4. Some. Unfav.	5. Very Unfav.	6. Never heard of
1. Mayor Eric Adams			52%	22%	22%	29%	19%	12%	10%	7%
2. Governor Kathy Hochul			52%	21%	21%	31%	18%	11%	10%	9%
3. Police Commissioner Keechant Sewell			37%	13%	17%	20%	27%	9%	4%	24%
4. District Attorney Alvin Bragg			31%	18%	15%	16%	24%	7%	11%	27%

2. [Problems Battery] How much of a problem do you think each of the following are in New York City today? [DISPLAY AS GRID, RANDOMIZE ITEMS] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

	1. A very big problem	2. A somewhat big problem	3. Not much of a problem	4. Not a problem at all	5. Unsure		
	VERY/ SOME. BIG PROB.	NOT MUCH/ AT ALL	1. A very big problem	2. A some. big problem	3. Not much of a problem	4. Not a problem at all	5. Unsure
1. Crime	92%	5%	70%	22%	3%	2%	3%
2. Homelessness	89%	8%	69%	21%	5%	3%	3%
3. Mental illness	85%	10%	57%	28%	7%	3%	4%
4. Addiction and substance abuse	85%	10%	55%	30%	7%	3%	5%
5. Racism	78%	18%	51%	27%	12%	7%	4%
6. COVID-19	72%	25%	41%	30%	21%	4%	3%
7. Police conduct	67%	28%	34%	33%	17%	11%	5%
8. Availability of jobs	66%	28%	34%	32%	21%	7%	6%

3. [QCrimeDirection] Do you think crime in New York City is . . . ? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-5, 5-1]

INCREASING A LOT/SOME	76%
DECREASING A LOT/SOME	10%
1. Increasing a lot	45%
2. Increasing some	31%
3. Staying the same	10%
4. Decreasing some	6%
5. Decreasing a lot	4%
6. Unsure	3%

4. [Feel Safe Battery] Thinking about crime and public safety, how safe do you feel in the following situations? [DISPLAY AS GRID, RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

1. Very safe 2. Somewhat safe 3. Not that safe 4. Not safe at all 5. Unsure 6. Does not apply to me

	VERY/ SOME. SAFE	NOT THAT/ NOT AT ALL SAFE	1. Very safe	2. Some. safe	3. Not that safe	4. Not safe at all	5. Unsure	6. Does not apply to me
1. Walking in your neighborhood	63%	33%	22%	41%	20%	13%	4%	*%
2. Taking city buses	61%	32%	20%	41%	18%	13%	4%	4%
3. Taking the subway	36%	57%	12%	24%	25%	32%	3%	4%

VIEWS ON ADDRESSING CRIME/SAFETY AND PROGRESSIVE PROSECUTION

5. [QPolicePresence] Which would you prefer to see in New York City? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. A larger police presence than currently exists | 67% |
| 2. A smaller police presence than currently exists | 12% |
| 3. No change | 11% |
| 4. Unsure | 10% |

6. [QPolicePresN] Which would you prefer to see in your neighborhood? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. A larger police presence than currently exists | 59% |
| 2. A smaller police presence than currently exists | 13% |
| 3. No change | 20% |
| 4. Unsure | 8% |

7. [QPolicePolicy] Would you support or oppose the establishment of a new plainclothes police squad, known as Neighborhood Safety Teams, to combat gun violence in New York City?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT | 81% |
| STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE | 9% |
| 1. Strongly support | 51% |
| 2. Somewhat support | 31% |
| 3. Somewhat oppose | 6% |
| 4. Strongly oppose | 3% |
| 5. Unsure | 9% |

8. **[Affecting Safety] How do you think each of the following would affect public safety in New York City? [DISPLAY AS GRID, OVER 2 PAGES, RANDOMIZE ITEMS] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]**

1. Would make New York City SAFER 2. Would not affect public safety in New York City 3. Would make New York City LESS SAFE 4. Unsure

	1. Would make New York City SAFER	2. Would not affect public safety in New York City	3. Would make New York City LESS SAFE	4. Unsure
1. Providing more services and treatment options for mental illness	71%	13%	8%	9%
2. Having police patrol more	70%	13%	8%	10%
3. Giving harsher sentences to repeat offenders	66%	14%	9%	10%
4. Offering education or job training programs for low-level criminal offenders	56%	23%	7%	14%
5. Opening sites where people can use drugs under the supervision of medical staff	33%	18%	28%	21%
6. Reducing sentences for non-violent crimes	28%	27%	28%	17%
7. Releasing offenders pre-trial unless they are unlikely to appear for their hearing	22%	16%	46%	16%
8. Reducing sentences for most crimes, other than a few very serious crimes like murder	19%	19%	46%	16%
9. Reducing the NYPD's budget	18%	20%	51%	11%

9. **[QMentalApproach] Which of the following statements comes closest to your view on involuntary psychiatric treatment for individuals with serious mental illness?**

Involuntary psychiatric treatment for an individual with serious mental illness is . . . [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]

1. Justified when an individual may be a threat to themselves or others, even if they have not yet harmed anyone	45%
2. Justified only if an individual has harmed or attempted to harm themselves or others	31%
3. Never justified, regardless of the circumstances	12%
4. Unsure	11%

10. [Misdemeanors Battery] Now, changing topics slightly . . .

Do you think New York City should or should not prosecute misdemeanors for the following criminal offenses? [DISPLAY AS GRID, RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

1. Should prosecute 2. Should not prosecute 3. Unsure

	1. Should prosecute	2. Should not prosecute	3. Unsure
1. Resisting arrest	65%	18%	17%
2. Shoplifting	64%	22%	15%
3. Subway fare evasion	48%	37%	15%
4. Prostitution, if consensual	37%	46%	16%
5. Marijuana possession	35%	53%	12%

11. [QFareTradeOff] Which of the following do you agree with more, even if neither is exactly right?

Policing and prosecuting subway fare evasion . . . [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Makes the subway system safer because it can deter people from committing more serious crimes and allow police to check for illegal weapons | 54% |
| 2. Doesn't really make the subway system safer, and can be harmful to people with lower incomes and people of color | 34% |
| 3. Unsure | 12% |

12. [QJailTime] Do you support or oppose a proposal for New York City prosecutors to only seek prison time for the most serious crimes like murder, not for other criminal offenses?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT | 47% |
| STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE | 41% |
| 1. Strongly support | 25% |
| 2. Somewhat support | 22% |
| 3. Somewhat oppose | 17% |
| 4. Strongly oppose | 24% |
| 5. Unsure | 12% |

13. [Jail Time Battery] How do you think New York City prosecutors should handle the following crimes? [DISPLAY AS GRID, RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	1. Should seek jail or prison time for this crime	2. Should generally not seek jail or prison time, but instead fines or other punishments	3. Should not focus on prosecuting this at all	4. Unsure
		2. Should generally not seek jail or prison time, but instead fines or other punishments	3. Should not focus on prosecuting this at all	4. Unsure
1. Aggravated assault on a child	78%	10%	5%	6%
2. Attempting to cause serious physical injury with a dangerous object	77%	13%	3%	6%
3. Stalking in the second degree, including when a stalker has made threats involving a weapon	74%	14%	3%	9%
4. Gun possession on school grounds	71%	18%	3%	7%
5. Rioting that results in physical injury or substantial property destruction	65%	22%	5%	8%
6. Gun possession when no other crime has been committed	50%	35%	6%	9%

14. [QMaxSentence] Do you support or oppose a proposal that would cap the maximum prison sentence a New York City prosecutor could seek at 20 years with rare exceptions?

STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	51%
STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	28%
1. Strongly support	27%
2. Somewhat support	24%
3. Somewhat oppose	15%
4. Strongly oppose	13%
5. Unsure	21%

15. [QLessIsMore] Do you support or oppose the Less Is More Act, which bans the use of jail sentences for “technical” parole violations, such as breaking curfew, a positive drug test, or generally failing to obey conditions of release?

STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	57%
STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	27%
1. Strongly support	26%
2. Somewhat support	31%
3. Somewhat oppose	15%
4. Strongly oppose	12%
5. Unsure	17%

16. [QAge25] In general, when do you think prosecutors in New York City should begin treating criminal offenders as adults? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. When they turn 18 years old | 72% |
| 2. When they turn 25 years old | 18% |
| 3. Unsure | 11% |

17. [QPreTrialNonV / QPreTrialV] When an individual is charged with a [SPLIT SAMPLE – RANDOM HALF SAMPLE: non-violent, violent] crime, which of the following do you think should happen while they wait for their trial? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

- | | Non-violent
(n=384) | Violent
(n=416) |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. They should be held in jail until their trial | 19% | 46% |
| 2. They should be released only if they pay bail money as a guarantee that they will show up to court for their trial | 34% | 19% |
| 3. They should be released without having to pay bail money, but should be subject to supervision (e g , routine check-ins or ankle monitoring) until their trial | 32% | 17% |
| 4. They should be released without having to pay bail money and should not be subject to any supervision | 10% | 9% |
| 5. Unsure | 6% | 9% |

VIEWS ON BAIL REFORM

18. [QNYLawBail] New York passed a law eliminating monetary bail for people facing misdemeanor and non-violent felony charges.

Do you think this law is . . . ? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Good for New York | 45% |
| 2. Bad for New York | 34% |
| 3. Unsure | 21% |

19. [QAdamsProp] New York City Mayor Eric Adams has asked the state legislature to modify its bail reform law to allow judges to hold someone in jail before trial if the judge believes the person poses a threat to the community. Do you support or oppose this change?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT | 81% |
| STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE | 9% |
| 1. Strongly support | 56% |
| 2. Somewhat support | 25% |
| 3. Somewhat oppose | 7% |
| 4. Strongly oppose | 2% |
| 5. Unsure | 10% |

VIEWS ON RIKERS

20. [QRikersChange] Which of the following do you think New York City should do with regards to Rikers Island? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Keep the jails on Rikers Island the way they are now | 20% |
| 2. Rebuild the jail facilities on Rikers Island | 42% |
| 3. Shut down the jails on Rikers Island and replace them with smaller jails in each borough | 22% |
| 4. Unsure | 16% |

21. [QJailCapacity] The average daily population of New York City's jails was 7,365 inmates in 2019, and 5,721 in early 2020. Replacing Rikers Island with borough-based jails would reduce the jail system's maximum capacity to 3,300 inmates.

Would you support or oppose reducing the jail system's maximum capacity to 3,300 inmates under a borough-based jail system?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT | 52% |
| STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE | 29% |
| 1. Strongly support | 25% |
| 2. Somewhat support | 27% |
| 3. Somewhat oppose | 12% |
| 4. Strongly oppose | 16% |
| 5. Unsure | 19% |

DEMOGRAPHICS MODULE

Finally, we have a few questions for demographic purposes.

22. [QParty] Regardless of how you typically vote, would you say you consider yourself a ... ?

[RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-5, 5-1]

STRONG/NOT VERY STRONG REPUBLICAN	15%
STRONG/NOT VERY STRONG DEMOCRAT	57%
1. Strong Republican	10%
2. Not very strong Republican	5%
3. Independent	22%
4. Not very strong Democrat	19%
5. Strong Democrat	38%
6. A member of another party	1%
7. Unsure	5%

23. [QPartyLean] Which of the following statements would you say best describes you?

[RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

	(n=219)
TOTAL VOTES FOR REPUBLICANS	14%
TOTAL VOTES FOR DEMOCRATS	22%
1. I almost always vote for Republican candidates	6%
2. I vote for Republicans more often than I vote for Democrats	8%
3. I vote for Democrats more often than I vote for Republicans	16%
4. I almost always vote for Democratic candidates	6%
5. I vote equally for Democrats and Republicans	21%
6. Unsure	42%

[PARTY CONSOLIDATED [QParty + QPartyLean]

1. Total Republican+Republican- leaning Independents	19%
2. Total Democratic+Democratic- leaning Independents	63%
3. Total Independent	6%
4. Total Member of Another Party	1%
5. Unsure	11%

24. [QIdeology] Regardless of how you typically vote, would you say you consider yourself to be...? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-5, 5-1]

VERY/SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	22%
VERY/SOMEWHAT LIBERAL	36%
1. Very conservative	12%
2. Somewhat conservative	10%
3. Moderate	36%
4. Somewhat liberal	16%
5. Very liberal	19%
6. Unsure	7%

25. [QSocial] Which social media platforms or apps do you use? [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-10]

1. Facebook	70%
2. Instagram	53%
3. YouTube	67%
4. Snapchat	26%
5. Reddit	20%
6. Pinterest	23%
7. LinkedIn	25%
8. WhatsApp	40%
9. Twitter	39%
10. TikTok	34%
11. Something else (Please specify)	1%
12. None of these	6%

26. [QEmployment] What is your current employment status?

1. Employed full-time	42%
2. Employed part-time	9%
3. Freelance, contract, or temporary work	3%
4. Unemployed and looking for work	12%
5. Stay-at-home parent or caregiver	4%
6. Full-time student	3%
7. Retired	20%
8. Something else	4%
9. Prefer not to say	4%

27. [QIncome] Which range includes your annual household income?

1. Less than \$30,000 per year	28%
2. \$30,000 to \$49,999 per year	16%
3. \$50,000 to \$74,999 per year	18%
4. \$75,000 to \$125,000 per year	17%
5. More than \$125,000 per year	15%
6. Prefer not to say	6%

28. [QMarital] What is your current marital status?

1. Single, never married	43%
2. Married	41%
3. Separated	3%
4. Divorced	6%
5. Widowed	5%
6. Prefer not to say	2%

29. [QKids] Do you currently have children under the age of 18 in your home?

1. Yes	31%
2. No	68%
3. Prefer not to say	1%

30. [QReligionNew] What is your present religion, if any? [RANDOMIZE 1-11]

1. Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, etc)	14%
2. Roman Catholic	29%
3. Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or LDS)	1%
4. Orthodox (such as Greek, Russian, or some other Orthodox church)	1%
5. Just Christian	11%
6. Jewish	5%
7. Muslim	4%
8. Buddhist	3%
9. Hindu	1%
10. Atheist	4%
11. Agnostic	4%
12. Something else (Please specify)	2%
13. Nothing in particular	21%

IF PROTESTANT, ROMAN CATHOLIC, MORMON, ORTHODOX, OR JUST CHRISTIAN (QReligion=1-5), ASK:

31. [QBornAgain] Would you describe yourself as a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

	(n=439)
1. Yes, born-again or evangelical Christian	42%
2. No, not born-again or evangelical Christian	49%
3. Unsure	9%

ASK ALL:

32. [QChurch] How often do you attend a religious service?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. At least once a week | 27% |
| 2. Once or twice a month | 7% |
| 3. A few times a year | 14% |
| 4. Usually just for religious holidays | 14% |
| 5. Never | 32% |
| 6. Prefer not to say | 7% |

SCREENERS AND INITIAL DEMOGRAPHICS (ASKED AT BEGINNING OF SURVEY)

[QAge] What is your age? [DROP-DOWN UNDER 18-100+, TERMINATE IF UNDER 18]

- | | | |
|----|-------|-----|
| 1. | 18-29 | 22% |
| 2. | 30-39 | 20% |
| 3. | 40-49 | 16% |
| 4. | 50-64 | 23% |
| 5. | 65+ | 19% |

[QState] Which state do you live in? [DROP-DOWN WITH 50 STATES, TERMINATE IF NOT NEW YORK]

- | | | |
|----|----------|------|
| 1. | New York | 100% |
|----|----------|------|

[QCity] Do you live in New York City, or somewhere else? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | | |
|----|----------------|-------------|
| 1. | New York City | 100% |
| 2. | Somewhere else | TERMINATE - |

[QBorough] In which borough do you live? [RANDOMIZE 1-5]

- | | | |
|----|---------------|-------------|
| 1. | The Bronx | 16% |
| 2. | Brooklyn | 30% |
| 3. | Manhattan | 21% |
| 4. | Queens | 27% |
| 5. | Staten Island | 6% |
| 6. | None of these | TERMINATE - |

[QIndustry] Do you or does anyone in your household work in any of the following industries? [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-7]

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------|
| 1. | Technology | 5% |
| 2. | Sales | 6% |
| 3. | Healthcare or the pharmaceutical industry | 9% |
| 4. | Journalism or the media | TERMINATE - |
| 5. | Food service or the restaurant industry | 5% |
| 6. | Market research | TERMINATE - |
| 7. | Public relations | TERMINATE - |
| 8. | None of these | 78% |

[QGender] Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in some other way? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | | |
|----|----------------|-----|
| 1. | Man | 47% |
| 2. | Woman | 53% |
| 3. | Some other way | *% |

[QRace] What is your race or ethnicity? [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-6]

1. White	39%
2. Black or African American	25%
3. Hispanic or Latino	28%
4. Asian	16%
5. Native American or Alaska Native	1%
6. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*%

RACE (Recoded groups based on QRace responses)

1. White, non-Hispanic	33%
2. Black or African American, non-Hispanic	22%
3. Hispanic or Latino	28%
4. Asian or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	15%
5. Other or 2+ races, non-Hispanic	3%

[QEducation] What is the highest level of education you have completed?

1. High school or less	40%
2. Some college	13%
3. Associate degree	9%
4. Bachelor's degree	23%
5. Graduate degree	15%
6. Prefer not to say	1%