

The Chapman Survey of American Fears, Wave 9 The Complete List of Fears, 2023

The following is a complete list of all fears addressed by the Chapman University Survey of American Fears Wave 9 (2023), ranked by the percent of Americans who reported being afraid or very afraid. They have been sorted alphabetically.

Complete List of Fear (2023)	% of Very Afraid or Afraid
Abduction/kidnapping	21.5
Air pollution	40.9
Animals (dogs, rats, etc.)	6
Antifa	20.3
Becoming seriously ill	35
Being hit by a drunk driver	36.8
Being unemployed	24.9
Biological warfare	49.5
Black Lives Matter (BLM)	13.4
Blood	7.7
Break-ins	30.4
Catching influenza (the seasonal fluid)	12.1
Catching the coronavirus (COVID-19)	16.5
China spying on the US	45.7
China stealing US technology	44.1
China's economy overtaking the US economy	40
China's influence abroad reducing US power in the world	40.7
Climate change impacting where I live	32.8
Computers replacing people in the workforce	31.6
Corporate tracking of personal data	45.1
Corrupt government officials	60.1
Credit card fraud	35
Cyber-terrorism	49.3
Deep lakes and oceans	26.6
Devastating blizzard/Winter storm	25.6
Devastating drought	32.8
Devastating earthquaking	27.9
Devastating flood	27.3

Devastating hurricane	26.5
Devastating natural disaster where I live	32.3
Devastating tornado	30.1
Devastating wildfire	28.2
Dying	26.2
Economic/financial collapse	54.7
Extinction of Plant and animal species	43.3
Financial fraud (such as a Ponzi scheme, embezzlement, etc.)	24.9
Flying	16.2
Gang violence	26.5
Germs	15.1
Ghosts	10.3
Global warming and climate change	43.6
Government restrictions on firearms and ammunition	33.5
Government tracking of personal data	43.6
Government use of drones within the U.S.	27.1
Heights	33.2
High medical bills	42.2
Identity theft	38.9
Illegal immigration	30.1
Immigrants	8.9
Insects/arachnids (spiders, bees, etc.)	25.3
Iran using nuclear weapons	45.3
Large volcanic eruption	15.7
Left wing extremists	27.6
Military conflict between the United States and China	45.3
Mugging	25.1
Murder by a stranger	25.8
Murder by someone you know	17.9
Muslims	7.5
Needles	12.7
New pandemic or a major epidemic	33.1
North Korea using nuclear weapons	47.6
Not being able to pay off the college debt of myself or a family member	15.8
Not having enough money for the future	48

Not having enough money to pay my rent or mortgage	33.6
Nuclear accident/meltdown	40
Oil spills	35.7
People I love becoming seriously ill	50.6
People I love dying	50.4
Police brutality	28.1
Pollution of drinking water	50
Pollution of oceans, rivers, and lakes	47.8
Public speaking	28.7
Racial/hate crime	27.2
Random/mass shooting	42.9
Reptiles (snakes, lizards, etc.)	25.9
Right wing extremists	31.6
Russia using nuclear weapons	52.5
Sexual assault by a stranger	26
Sexual assault by someone you know	19.8
Sharks	30.1
Small, enclosed spaces	20.8
Stalking	20.2
Strangers	13.6
Technology that I don't understand	16.5
Terrorism	36.6
Terrorist attack	45.2
The collapse of the electric grid	44.1
The outcome of the next presidential election	43.1
The Proud Boys	27.1
The US becoming involved in another world war	52.3
Theft of property	28.5
Violent overthrow of the U.S. government	31.9
Walking alone at night	25.4
White supremacists	36.5
Whites no longer being the majority in the US	12.1
Widespread civil unrest	40.6
Widespread voter fraud	30.3