

The Chapman Survey of American Fears, Wave 8

The Complete List of Fears, 2022

The following is a complete list of all fears addressed by the Chapman University Survey of American Fears Wave 8 (2022), ranked by the percent of Americans who reported being afraid or very afraid. They have been sorted alphabetically.

Complete List of Fears (2022)	% of Very Afraid or Afraid
1. Abduction/Kidnapping	30.2
2. Air pollution	47.3
3. Animals (dogs, rats, etc.)	6.5
4. Antifa	27.1
5. Becoming seriously ill	41.7
6. Being hit by a drunk driver	39.1
7. Being unemployed	43.9
8. Biological warfare	51.5
9. Black Lives Matter (BLM)	16.4
10. Blood	5.8
11. Break-ins	35.9
12. Catching influenza (the seasonal flu)	13.3
13. Catching the coronavirus (COVID-19)	22.9
14. Climate change impacting where I live	39.1
15. Computers replacing people in the workforce	27.6
16. Corporate tracking of personal data	47.6
17. Corrupt government officials	62.1
18. Credit card fraud	39.9
19. Cyber-terrorism	49.3

20. Deep lakes and oceans	28.7
21. Devastating blizzard/Winter storm	26.1
22. Devastating drought	35.1
23. Devastating earthquake	31.1
24. Devastating flood	31.0
25. Devastating hurricane	31.1
26. Devastating natural disaster where I live	37.5
27. Devastating tornado	32.7
28. Devastating wildfire	30.9
29. Dying	29.0
30. Economic/financial collapse	53.7
31. Extinction of plant and animal species	47.2
32. Financial fraud (such as a Ponzi Scheme, embezzlement, etc.)	24.3
33. Flying	12.4
34. Gang violence	30.2
35. Germs	14.5
36. Ghosts	8.1
37. Global warming and climate change	47.4
38. Government restrictions on firearms and ammunition	35.0
39. Government tracking of personal data	45.2
40. Government use of drones within the U.S.	26.2
41. Heights	30.6
42. High medical bills	44.1
43. Identity theft	45.1
44. Illegal immigration	28.4
45. Immigrants	6.5

46. Insects/arachnids (spiders, bees. etc.)	23.8
47. Iran using nuclear weapons	47.0
48. Large volcanic eruption	17.5
49. Left wing extremists	30.8
50. Mugging	30.3
51. Murder by a stranger	30.9
52. Murder by someone you know	21.6
53. Muslims	6.6
54. Needles	12.3
55. New pandemic or a major epidemic	42.4
56. North Korea using nuclear weapons	50.6
57. Not being able to pay off college debt of myself or a family member	43.0
58. Not having enough money for the future	53.7
59. Not having enough money to pay my rent or mortgage	43.4
60. Nuclear accident/meltdown	44.3
61. Oil spills	39.2
62. People I love becoming seriously ill	60.2
63. People I love dying	58.1
64. Police brutality	28.4
65. Pollution of drinking water	54.5
66. Pollution of oceans, rivers, and lakes	52.5
67. Public Speaking	34.0
68. Racial/hate crime	29.9
69. Random/mass shooting	39.8
70. Reptiles (snakes, lizards, etc.)	27.2
71. Right wing extremists	35.8

72. Russia using nuclear weapons	59.6
73. Sexual assault by a stranger	30.0
74. Sexual assault by someone you know	22.2
75. Sharks	29.6
76. Small, enclosed spaces	21.7
77. Stalking	23.0
78. Strangers	14.0
79. Technology that I don't understand	18.7
80. Terrorism	41.4
81. Terrorist attack	49.1
82. The collapse of the electrical grid	44.0
83. Theft of property	34.5
84. The Proud Boys	34.0
85. The U.S. becoming involved in another world war	56.0
86. Violent overthrow of the U.S. government	35.6
87. Walking alone at night	23.1
88. Whites no longer being the majority in the U.S.	10.0
89. White supremacists	38.2
90. Widespread civil unrest	45.3
91. Widespread voter fraud	36.3
92. Zombies	10.6