

Chapman Survey of American Fears, 2020-2021¹

WAVE 7 TOP 10 FEARS BY GENDER:

Summary: 9 out of the 10 top fears differ at a statistically significant level across genders. Of each of the top 10 fears, females were more likely to state that they were afraid.

Differences of Very Afraid and Afraid percentages amongst genders are shown below for the top 10 fears. Full cross-tabulation tables are included afterwards.

1. Corrupt Government Officials (80.2%)

Q21b

Chi-square=13.9 p=.084 Gamma=-.150

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 77.1%

Women: 83.2%

2. People I love Dying (57.0%) Q10d

Chi-square=24.0 p=.001 Gamma=-.165

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 54.1%

Women: 59.8%

3. Widespread Civil Unrest (56.9%) Q16n

Chi-square=30.5 p=.000 Gamma=-.220

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 50.9%

Women: 62.9%

4. A Loved One Contracting the
Coronavirus (COVID-19) (56.8%) Q28b

Chi-square=25.9 p=.001 Gamma=-.172

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 52.5%

Women: 60.4%

5. People I Love Becoming Seriously Ill

(56.4%) Q10b

Chi-square=19.81 p=.003 Gamma=-.189

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 50.8%

Women: 60.5%

6. A Pandemic or a Major Epidemic (55.4%)

Q16m

Chi-square=34.60 p=.000 Gamma= -.24

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 48%

Women: 62.7%

7. Economic/Financial Collapse (54.3%)

Q16I

Chi-square=14.51 p=.002 Gamma=-.183

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 49.5%

Women: 59.1%

8. Cyber-Terrorism (50.6%) Q15c

Chi-square=22.63 p = .001 Gamma = -.153

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 45.1%

¹ Because the survey was fielded at the start of 2021 (Jan 5th to 15th), we have used 2020/2021 in the title.

Women: 56.0%

9. Pollution of Oceans, Rivers, and Lakes
(50.2%) Q13c

Chi-square=27.57 p=.000 Gamma=-.140

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 44.9%

Women: 54.4%

10. Biological Warfare (49.1%) Q16r
Chi-square=42.82 p=.000 Gamma=-.243

Very Afraid or Afraid

Men: 43.1%

Women: 54.7%

	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
PSEX * Q21b. How afraid are you of the following: Corrupt government officials?	1035	100.0%	0	0.0%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q10d. How afraid are you of the following: People I love dying?	1033 ^a	99.8%	1.999	0.2%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q16n. How afraid are you of the following events: Widespread civil unrest?	1035 ^a	100.0%	0	0.0%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q28b. How afraid are you of the following: A loved one contracting the coronavirus (COVID-19)?	1036 ^a	100.0%	0	0.0%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q10b. How afraid are you of the following: People I love becoming seriously ill?	1034 ^a	99.9%	.999	0.1%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q16m. How afraid are you of the following events: A pandemic or a major epidemic?	1032 ^a	99.7%	2.999	0.3%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q16l. How afraid are you of the following events: Economic/financial collapse?	1035 ^a	100.0%	0	0.0%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q15c. How afraid are you of the following: Cyber-terrorism?	1035 ^a	100.0%	0	0.0%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q13c. How afraid are you of the following: Pollution of oceans, rivers and lakes?	1034 ^a	99.9%	.999	0.1%	1034.999	100.0%
PSEX * Q16r. How afraid are you of the following events: Biological warfare?	1035 ^a	100.0%	0	0.0%	1034.999	100.0%

a. Number of valid cases is different from the total count in the crosstabulation table because the cell counts have been rounded.

Crosstab

			Q10d. How afraid are you of the following: People I love dying?				
			Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	108	165	146	85	504
		% within PSEX	21.4%	32.7%	29.0%	16.9%	100.0%
	Female	Count	176	136	140	70	522
		% within PSEX	33.7%	26.1%	26.8%	13.4%	100.0%
	Other	Count	4	1	2	0	7
		% within PSEX	57.1%	14.3%	28.6%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	288	302	288	155	1033	
	% within PSEX	27.9%	29.2%	27.9%	15.0%	100.0%	

Crosstab

			Q21b. How afraid are you of the following: Corrupt government officials?					
			Web Blank	Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	2	201	189	84	30	506
		% within PSEX	0.4%	39.7%	37.4%	16.6%	5.9%	100.0%
	Female	Count	0	251	183	61	27	522
		% within PSEX	0.0%	48.1%	35.1%	11.7%	5.2%	100.0%
	Other	Count	0	5	2	0	0	7
		% within PSEX	0.0%	71.4%	28.6%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	2	457	374	145	57	1035	
	% within PSEX	0.2%	44.2%	36.1%	14.0%	5.5%	100.0%	

Crosstab

			Q16n. How afraid are you of the following events: Widespread civil unrest?				
			Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	105	152	171	77	505
		% within PSEX	20.8%	30.1%	33.9%	15.2%	100.0%
	Female	Count	168	161	152	42	523
		% within PSEX	32.1%	30.8%	29.1%	8.0%	100.0%
	Other	Count	0	3	4	0	7
		% within PSEX	0.0%	42.9%	57.1%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	273	316	327	119	1035	
	% within PSEX	26.4%	30.5%	31.6%	11.5%	100.0%	

Crosstab

Q28b. How afraid are you of the following: A loved one contracting the coronavirus (COVID-19)?

			Web Blank	Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	1	124	141	157	82	505
		% within PSEX	0.2%	24.6%	27.9%	31.1%	16.2%	100.0%
	Female	Count	0	189	127	132	75	523
		% within PSEX	0.0%	36.1%	24.3%	25.2%	14.3%	100.0%
	Other	Count	0	6	2	0	0	8
		% within PSEX	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total		Count	1	319	270	289	157	1036
		% within PSEX	0.1%	30.8%	26.1%	27.9%	15.2%	100.0%

Crosstab

Q10b. How afraid are you of the following: People I love becoming seriously ill?

			Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	117	139	169	79	504
		% within PSEX	23.2%	27.6%	33.5%	15.7%	100.0%
	Female	Count	163	157	148	55	523
		% within PSEX	31.2%	30.0%	28.3%	10.5%	100.0%
	Other	Count	4	3	0	0	7
		% within PSEX	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	284	299	317	134	1034	
	% within PSEX	27.5%	28.9%	30.7%	13.0%	100.0%	

Crosstab

Q16m. How afraid are you of the following events: A pandemic or a major epidemic?

			Web Blank	Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	1	100	142	165	96	504
		% within PSEX	0.2%	19.8%	28.2%	32.7%	19.0%	100.0%
	Female	Count	0	169	158	132	63	522
		% within PSEX	0.0%	32.4%	30.3%	25.3%	12.1%	100.0%
	Other	Count	0	3	0	3	0	6
		% within PSEX	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total		Count	1	272	300	300	159	1032
		% within PSEX	0.1%	26.4%	29.1%	29.1%	15.4%	100.0%

Crosstab

			Q16l. How afraid are you of the following events: Economic/financial collapse?					
			Web Blank	Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	1	101	149	175	79	505
		% within PSEX	0.2%	20.0%	29.5%	34.7%	15.6%	100.0%
	Female	Count	0	152	157	168	46	523
		% within PSEX	0.0%	29.1%	30.0%	32.1%	8.8%	100.0%
	Other	Count	0	3	0	2	2	7
		% within PSEX	0.0%	42.9%	0.0%	28.6%	28.6%	100.0%
Total		Count	1	256	306	345	127	1035
		% within PSEX	0.1%	24.7%	29.6%	33.3%	12.3%	100.0%

Crosstab

			Q13c. How afraid are you of the following: Pollution of oceans, rivers and lakes?				
			Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	93	134	182	96	505
		% within PSEX	18.4%	26.5%	36.0%	19.0%	100.0%
	Female	Count	127	157	151	87	522
		% within PSEX	24.3%	30.1%	28.9%	16.7%	100.0%
	Other	Count	0	7	0	0	7
		% within PSEX	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total		Count	220	298	333	183	1034
		% within PSEX	21.3%	28.8%	32.2%	17.7%	100.0%

Crosstab

			Q16r. How afraid are you of the following events: Biological warfare?					
			Web Blank	Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	1	86	132	169	117	505
		% within PSEX	0.2%	17.0%	26.1%	33.5%	23.2%	100.0%
	Female	Count	0	169	117	162	75	523
		% within PSEX	0.0%	32.3%	22.4%	31.0%	14.3%	100.0%
	Other	Count	0	1	4	2	0	7
		% within PSEX	0.0%	14.3%	57.1%	28.6%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	1	256	253	333	192	1035	
	% within PSEX	0.1%	24.7%	24.4%	32.2%	18.6%	100.0%	

Crosstab

			Q15c. How afraid are you of the following: Cyber-terrorism?				
			Very Afraid	Afraid	Slightly Afraid	Not Afraid	Total
PSEX	Male	Count	80	148	197	80	505
		% within PSEX	15.8%	29.3%	39.0%	15.8%	100.0%
	Female	Count	122	171	150	80	523
		% within PSEX	23.3%	32.7%	28.7%	15.3%	100.0%
	Other	Count	3	0	4	0	7
		% within PSEX	42.9%	0.0%	57.1%	0.0%	100.0%
Total		Count	205	319	351	160	1035
		% within PSEX	19.8%	30.8%	33.9%	15.5%	100.0%