

## Early Warning Quarterly PR Pulse

Q2 2022 Inflation Impact

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#### **METHODOLOGY**



#### **METHODOLOGY:**

- Ten-minute online survey
- Quarterly tracking

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• Sample via EWS Online Research Panel



#### **POPULATION:**

- 450 interviews per quarter
- Mobile Majority ages 18-75, determined by U.S. Census data



#### **QUALIFYING CRITERIA**

- Ages 18 75 | Mix of race, gender, age, employment | Not employed in a sensitive industry
- Must have a checking or savings account

#### **KEY FINDINGS**

- Inflation has impacted shopping and spending habits and challenged the ability to save.
  - Nearly two-fifths (38%) of consumers have decreased unnecessary shopping due to inflation, and another 16% have eliminated it entirely.
  - Sixty-one percent of consumers find it difficult to save money due to the current inflation issues.
- The rise of gas prices due to inflation has had minimal impact on transportation habits.
  - Only 15% of consumers report a switch to carpooling or public transportation due to the increased cost of gas.
- The side-hustle/gig economy continues to grow as a result of the inflation impact.
  - Since inflation, 23% of consumers have started a side hustle, a small business, or an additional job, and another 32% have considered it.
- Most consumers report being financially stable, and not living paycheck to paycheck.
  - Most consumers (69%) do not typically run out of money between paychecks. However, one quarter (25%) of consumers report that they would not be able to cover an unexpected \$1,000 emergency expense.

#### INFLATION IMPACT: SPENDING AND TRANSPORTATION

Over half of consumers (54%) have either decreased or eliminated unnecessary shopping due to inflation. Sixtyone percent of consumers report that the current inflation issues make it more difficult for them to save money.



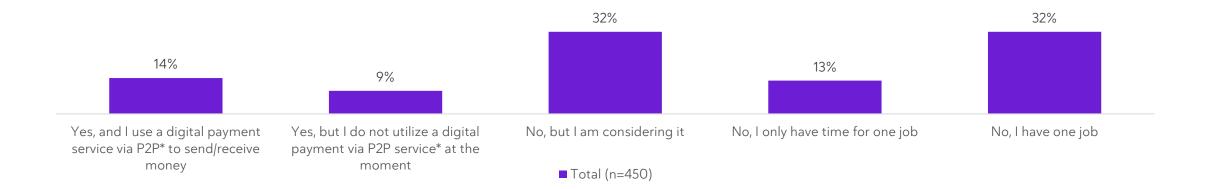
Source: Q11. Which of the following best describes how inflation has impacted your spending? (Please select one.) | Q12. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statement. (Please select one.) I find it more difficult to save money due to the current inflation issues. | Q13. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statement. (Please select one.) Because of high gas prices, I have begun to carpool, take public transportation, and/or walk.

#### **INFLATION IMPACT: INCOME**

Due to inflation, 56% of consumers are either considering or have started a side hustle, a small business, or an additional job in order to bring in extra income.

Which of the following best describes how inflation has impacted you?

Since inflation, I have started a side-hustle/small business or taken up another job to bring in extra income...

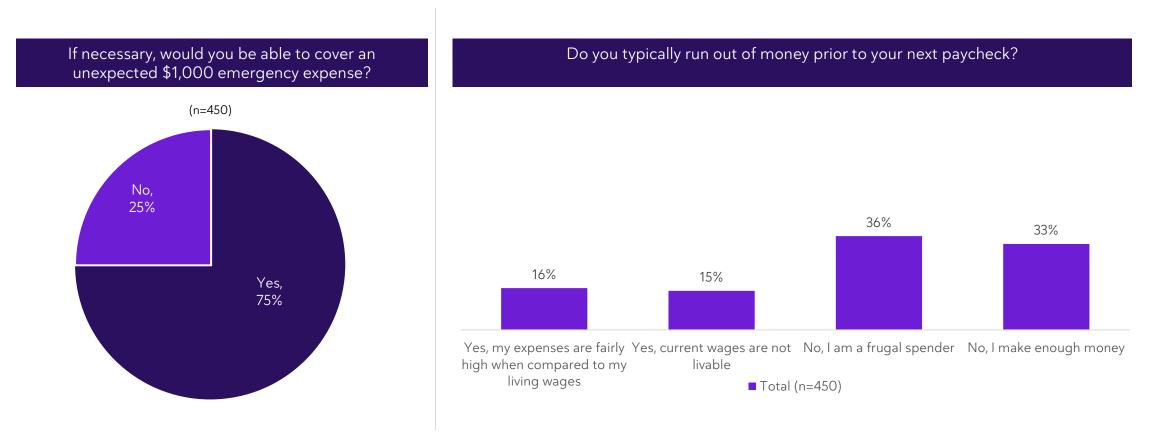


\*Zelle, Venmo, PayPal, etc.; Source: Q14. Which of the following best describes how inflation has impacted you? (Please select one).



#### INFLATION IMPACT: INCOME STABILITY

Three-in-four consumers can cover an unexpected \$1,000 emergency expense. Sixty-nine percent of consumers do not run out of money between paychecks, either due to frugal spending or making sufficient income.

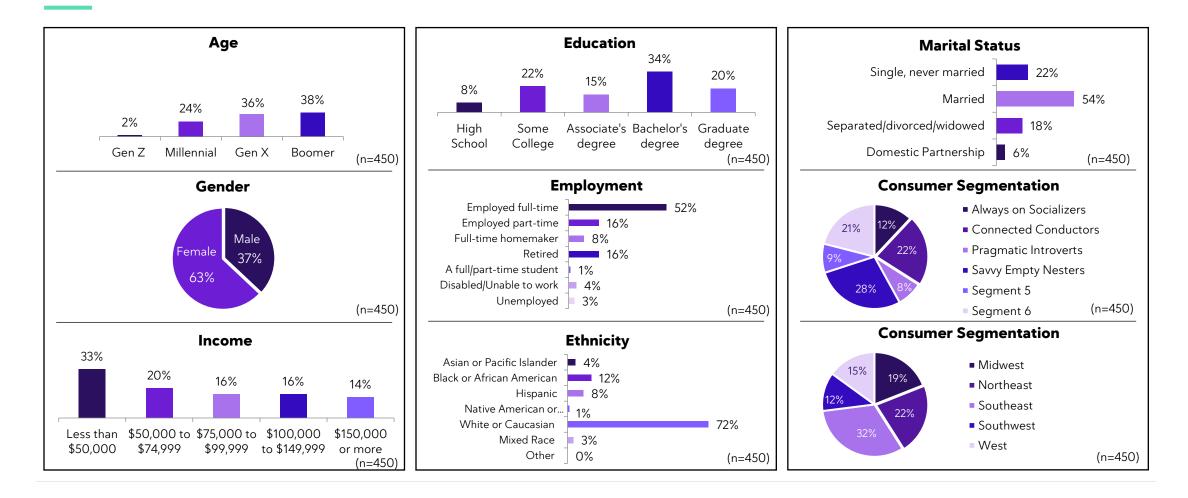


Source: Q15. If necessary, would you be able to cover an unexpected \$1,000 emergency expense? (Please select one). | Q16. Do you typically run out of money prior to your next paycheck? (Please select one).

# Appendix: Demographics

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## **DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE**



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