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New Poll of Miami Residents Shows Cost of Living Forcing Locals to Work Extra Jobs Young People in Miami Are Hurting, Others Considering Moving Out

BOSTON — While many people outside of Miami see it as an oasis blessed with beautiful weather, chic restaurants, great nightlife, and no state income tax, an exclusive Suffolk University/WSVN-TV CityView survey of Miami residents shows a city being choked off by unmanageable costs, with its young people looking to work extra jobs just to make ends meet.

A whopping 76% of Miami residents say that Florida’s cost of living is not manageable. This finding cut across every demographic tracked in the poll, including political party, gender, age, race, LGBTQ+ households, and every income category.

“It’s not often that a poll shows this much consistency across demographics,” said David Paleologos, director of the Suffolk University Political Research Center. “In particular, young people and low-income Miami residents are hurting more than any other demographic.”

Among those making less than \$75,000 per year, 51% said they are considering getting a second source of income just to pay their mortgage or rent, a finding that suggests that only wealthy Miami residents can survive and thrive without reducing their quality of life by working an extra job.

An even higher 57% of residents ages 18-34 years said they are considering getting a second source of income just to pay their mortgage or rent, and nearly half (47%) of people ages 25-34 are considering moving out of Florida due to the high cost of homes and rentals.

Paleologos noted that it will be challenging for Miami “to maintain its vibrancy and appeal if there is a mass exodus of young people.”

When all residents were asked to rate Miami as a place to live, a majority (54%) described it as excellent/good, while 45% scored it as fair/poor. Among younger residents, the numbers flipped to 46% excellent/good and 53% fair/poor.

By 51%-28%, Miami residents said inflation/the economy is worse under the Biden presidency than the Trump presidency. Among those 18-34 years, 62% said inflation/the economy is worse under Biden, while 16% said worse under Trump.

History of CityView

In 2021, SUPRC launched its groundbreaking CityView project, a first-of-its-kind series of public opinion polls focused on some of America's largest cities, conducted in partnership with *USA TODAY* and major regional media outlets like WSVN-TV in Miami.

CityView polls investigate how urban residents feel about their overall quality of life and the top issues their cities are facing. In addition to Miami, SUPRC has conducted CityView polls in Seattle, Dallas, Louisville, Oklahoma City, Los Angeles, Detroit, and Milwaukee.

Methodology

This survey of 500 residents of the city of Miami was conducted July 10-15, and is based on live telephone interviews of adults 18 years of age or older, residing in all five districts in the city. Quota and demographic information—including region, race, and age—were determined from census and American Community Survey data. Surveys were administered in English and Spanish. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is +/- 4.4 percentage points. All surveys may be subject to other sources of error, including but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Poll students Emily Dempsey and Lauren Hyder contributed to the successful execution of this research. Marginals and full cross-tabulation data are posted on the [Suffolk University Political Research Center](#) website. For more information, contact David Paleologos at 781-290-9310, dpaleologos@suffolk.edu.

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