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### Can You Guess What Percentage Of Americans Are Having Trouble Paying Their Grocery Bills?

8-10 minutes





For the first time in decades, the cost of food has become a major issue in America. If rapidly rising food prices are not a problem for you, then you should be very thankful, because most of the country is really hurting right now. The cost of food has been going up much faster than our paychecks have throughout

2022, and this week Walmart CEO Doug McMillion publicly admitted that double-digit price increases for packaged foods "are going to be with us for a while". This is a crisis that isn't going away, and as you will see below, it appears that things will get even worse in 2023.

But even though I am constantly writing about our deteriorating economic conditions, even I was absolutely stunned by the results of a new survey <u>that</u> was just released...

More than two-thirds of Americans are having a hard time affording groceries as food costs continue to soar, according to new data. Retail technology platform Swiftly reported Wednesday that 69% of shoppers say they are struggling to pay their grocery bills after months of persistently sky-high inflation,

and 83% currently rely on some form of coupons or loyalty program to put food on the table, according to its True Cost of a Grocery Shop survey. If this poll is accurate, that means that almost 70 percent of all Americans are having trouble paying their grocery bills right now.

That is crazy!

Unfortunately, food prices are only going to go higher because global food supplies

# just keep getting tighter and tighter.

For example, the USDA is projecting that the upcoming orange harvest in Florida will be the smallest <u>since 1943</u>...

Orange juice futures squeezed to a near-record high ahead of another US Department of Agriculture's crop report on Friday that will likely show tight global supplies will persist well into the new year.

USDA's next report will provide

an estimate for Florida's 2022-23 harvest. Figures will add to October's downbeat report, which showed that Florida would only produce 28 million boxes (each box is 90 pounds) for the current season, down 32% from the prior year. This season is expected to be the lowest harvest since 1943. Meanwhile, Fox Business is <u>reporting</u> that our endless national baby formula shortage "keeps getting worse"...

The baby formula shortage keeps getting worse. One parent from Keystone, Florida, said it's been "crazy" – especially for parents in need of a popular hypoallergenic and lactose-free formula. "We have been getting less powder, Nutramigen. So, whatever I have, I'm kind of like, can I just feed him less? But then it's like, you can't feed a child less because that's not fair to them," mother Ellie

Johnston told FOX Business. On my website, *<u>The Economic</u>* <u>Collapse Blog</u>, I have been documenting countless other reasons why global food supplies will keep getting tighter in the months ahead. Make sure to bookmark the site and check it several times a week for the latest updates. As Americans on the bottom levels of the economic pyramid become increasingly desperate, we are seeing a

# very alarming spike in retail theft.

During a recent appearance on CNBC, Walmart CEO Doug McMillion was asked <u>about</u> what his stores are seeing...

Walmart stores across the U.S. are grappling with an uptick in shoplifting that could lead to higher prices and closed stores if the problem persists, Walmart CEO Doug McMillon said Tuesday.

"Theft is an issue. It's higher

than what it has historically been," he told CNBC's "Squawk Box."

"We've got safety measures, security measures that we've put in place by store location. I think local law enforcement being staffed and being a good partner is part of that equation, and that's normally how we approach it," McMillon said.

That certainly doesn't sound good.

And McMillion went on to say

that some Walmart stores could eventually be closed if high levels of retail theft persist...

"If that's not corrected over time, prices will be higher, and/or stores will close," McMillon said.

- I have bad news for him.
- This isn't going to be corrected.
- In fact, things are only going to get worse in this country.
- For years, I have been warning

that food would become such a target for thieves that armed guards would be needed. Unfortunately, that time has now arrived...

A Philadelphia gas station owner fed up with incessant crime threatening his employees and customers hired heavily armed security guards to watch over his business.

Neil Patel, operator of a Karco gas station at Broad and

Clearfield streets in North Philadelphia, recruited Pennsylvania S.I.T.E Agents clad with Kevlar vest and AR-15s or shotguns.

In many parts of Philadelphia, the criminals are the ones that are in control, and so that is why this gas station owner feels compelled to hire <u>his own</u> <u>private security force</u>...

"They are forcing us to hire the security, high-level security, state level," Patel told FOX 29.

'We are tired of this nonsense; robbery, drug trafficking, hanging around, gangs." The final straw for Patel came after he said his business was vandalized by young people and an ATM machine was stolen. His car was also a casualty of crime around the area.

Of course this sort of environment can now be found in major urban areas all over the nation. Organized retail crime has become a multi-billion dollar business, and if it is far worse this year than it was last year. In an article <u>that he just posted</u>, Mike Adams did a great job of summarizing where things currently stand...

The key phrase in all this is **organized retail crime**. This isn't merely spontaneous, simple shoplifting, it's a whole new type of large-scale theft where teams of thieves are prepped and coordinated to hit a retail establishment and clean out its most valuable items in seconds. The stolen goods are then sold on Ebay, Amazon and other online marketplaces, or delivered to local buyers in exchange for cash.

According to the National Retail Federation, organized retail crime has skyrocketed by 26.5% in 2022, year over year. It now costs retailers over **\$100** 

#### billion per year in losses.

Our country is starting to come apart at the seams all around us.

I am sorry if that statement offends you, but it is true. Crime is out of control, predators are roaming the streets, and the population is becoming increasingly desperate as the cost of living spirals out of control. Sadly, things are only going to

### get worse during the months that are ahead of us. \*\*\*It is finally here! Michael's new book entitled "End Times" is now available in paperback and for the Kindle on Amazon.\*\*\*





About the Author: My name is Michael and my brand new book entitled "End Times" is now available on Amazon.com. In addition to my new book I have written six other books that are available on Amazon.com including <u>"7 Year</u> <u>Apocalypse</u>", <u>"Lost Prophecies</u> Of The Future Of <u>America</u>", <u>"The Beginning Of</u>

### The End", and <u>"Living A Life</u> That Really Matters". (#CommissionsEarned) When

you purchase any of these books you help to support the work that I am doing, and one way that you can really help is by <u>sending copies as gifts</u> to family and friends. Time is short, and I need help getting these warnings into the hands of as many people as possible. I have published thousands of articles on The

Economic Collapse Blog, End Of The American Dream and The Most Important News, and the articles that I publish on those sites are republished on dozens of other prominent websites all over the globe. I always freely and happily allow others to republish my articles on their own websites, but I also ask that they include this "About the Author" section with each article. The material contained

in this article is for general information purposes only, and readers should consult licensed professionals before making any legal, business, financial or health decisions. encourage you to follow me on social media on Facebook and Twitter, and any way that you can share these articles with others is definitely a great help. These are such troubled times, and people need hope. John 3:16

tells us about the hope that God has given us through Jesus Christ: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." If you have not already done so, I strongly urge you to invite Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior today.