ECONOMIC ANXIETY

WORLD worldchannel.org Brave. New. Real.

SOARING STUDENT LOAN DEBT AND HOUSING COSTS have left Americans feeling more anxious about their financial health than ever—and that could spell disaster for the economy and equality.

Discuss the issue on social media with WORLD Channel using the hashtag **#MyEconomicAnxiety.**

FACTS

- Student loan debt has reached $1.5 trillion nationally, doubling since the Great Recession ▸SOURCE
- 70 percent of college students graduate with a significant amount of loans, $37,172 on average ▸SOURCE
- The homeownership rate fell to 63 percent in 2016—the lowest rate in half a century ▸SOURCE
- Americans owe a total of $9.14 trillion in mortgages loans, $184,417 on average ▸SOURCE
- Since 1960, renters' median earnings have gone up 5 percent while rents have spiked 61 percent; homeowners earn 50 percent more while home prices have gone up 112 percent ▸SOURCE

HOW HIGH IS YOUR ECONOMIC ANXIETY?

Answer these self check-in questions and add up the points in red for your overall score.

Do you have student loans?
1 No **2** Yes

How much student loan debt do you have?
1 $0 – $20K **2** $20K – $50K **3** $50K +

Do you spend more than 30% of your income on housing?
1 No **2** Yes

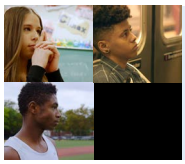
How would you describe your overall debt level?
1 Low **2** Moderate **3** High

How financially secure do you feel?
1 Very secure **2** Somewhat **3** Very insecure

Scoring:
5 points ——— **13** points
low anxiety *high anxiety*

TUNE IN

Watch America Reframed on WORLD Channel for the human stories behind economic anxiety.



JAN 8, 2019 – Personal Statement
Three H.S. teens from Brooklyn fight to defy the odds for themselves and their classmates.

JAN 22, 2019 – Pyne Poynt
A New Jersey resident leads a charge to reclaim Pyne Poynt Park for the community's youth.

JAN 29, 2019 – Detroit 48202
Exploring the rise, demise and contested resurgence of Detroit, America's "motor city."

ARTICLES

- The New Housing Crisis: Shut Out of the Market
  NPR, 2018
- How Student Debt Can Ruin Homebuying Dreams
  New York Times, 2018
- It's official. Most Americans are currently in debt.
  USA Today, 2018
- How the Deck Is Stacked: The Cost of College Debt
  FRONTLINE, 2016
- Strategies for When You're Starting Out Saddled with Student Debt NPR, 2016

More at https://worldchannel.org/collection/my-economic-anxiety

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