



***3Q 2023***

***Issues Programs Report***



### **Religious Programming**

**Joel Osteen** – *Sunday 10:00AM and 2:00AM*

God is doing amazing things through our television ministry. We are reaching over 100 million homes in the U.S. and tens of millions more in 100 nations. Lives are being changed, relationships are being restored and communities are being transformed by the power of God and the message of hope that is being broadcast through this ministry.

**Discovering The Jewish Jesus (with Rabbi Schneider)** – *Sunday 10:30 AM*

**Rabbi Schneider** imparts revelation of Jesus' Jewish heritage and His fulfillment of Messianic prophecy. Questions of how the Old and New Testaments tie together, and how Yeshua completes the unfolding plan of The Almighty Yahweh, are answered with exceptional clarity.



## BUZZR E/I Programming Descriptions

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### Aqua Kids

*Aqua Kids* is a weekly half-hour series that educates young people about ecology, wildlife, and science and how it relates to them. Viewers learn how eco-systems connect and what young people can do to make a positive difference in the world.

### Dragonfly TV

*Dragonfly TV* is a weekly half-hour science television series that highlights children doing projects with hands-on experience and demonstrates the practical applications of mathematics and science. It introduces young viewers to a variety of scientific disciplines and challenges them in critical thinking and problem solving skills, while providing valuable information to reach answers. Each episode is engaging, entertaining, and educational in structure, allowing children to investigate science on their own.

### Walking Wild

*Walking Wild* is a weekly half-hour reality series showcasing various wild animals at the world famous San Diego Zoo. The series focuses on the dedicated people who look after these spectacular critters. The program also gives teen viewers a unique, up-close examination of each wild animal. *Walking Wild* is a series intended to educate and inform viewers all about life in the animal kingdom.

### Wild Wonders

*Wild Wonders* is a weekly half-hour reality series allowing teen viewers to become familiar with various wild animals at the world famous San Diego Zoo. The series focuses on various critters and examines their differences. The program also provides important information about each animal's living habits and includes interviews with people who care for them. *Wild Wonders* is a series intended to educate and inform viewers all about life in the animal kingdom.



2016-2017 SEASON

## ME-TV NETWORK CHILDREN'S E/I PROGRAMMING

SERIES NAME	SYNOPSIS	RATINGS	TARGET AUDIENCE	E/I or NON
BEAKMAN'S WORLD	This live-action series based on the comic strip by Jok Church stars performance artist Paul Zaloom as the slightly nutty but never boring scientist who leads a journey of discovery while performing experiments that demonstrate how the world works. Topics are addressed with cutting-edge humor and state-of-the-art visuals that make learning fun. Joining Beakman in his quest are Josie (Alanna Ubach), his bright young apprentice, and an oversize, sarcastic rat named Lester (Mark Ritts).	TV-G	K13-16	E/I
BILL NYE, THE SCIENCE GUY	With 28 Emmys and a slew of other prestigious awards, Disney's resident way-cool scientist knows how to get kids fired up about science. From Earth science to complex discussions on genetics, Bill Nye's enthusiasm for all things science is contagious.	TV-G	K13-16	E/I
MYSTERY HUNTERS	Mystery Hunters explores some of the world's greatest myths and mysteries. Combining on-site reporting and exciting adventures, the Mystery Hunters uses science and reasoning to try to uncover the truth. The program teaches children how to gather facts, meet with experts, debunk common myths, and offer explanations for legends. 2006 Winner of a Parents' Choice Award, Mystery Hunters.	TV-G	K13-16	E/I
SAVED BY THE BELL	Saved By The Bell is a television series targeted to teens 13-16 years of age, which explores social themes and coping strategies through the daily school life of six teen-aged friends at Bayside High who help each other make the most of growing up in a complicated world. The multi-ethnic cast members serve as role models for young teen viewers as they deal with such issues as dealing with the death of a loved one, the right to say "no," the meaning of heroism, teenage alcohol use and other issues of particular concern to young teens.	TV-PG	K13-16	E/I



## ON THE HILL

FOX5 News on The Hill is a half hour live political show hosted by Tom Fitzgerald along with The Hill's Editor in Chief Bob Cusack. The show airs each Sunday at 8:30am. The hosts report and analyze the big headlines and stories from the campaign trail, along with political news from the White House and Capitol Hill.

### Episodes 3rd Quarter 2023:

- Sunday, Jul 2
- Sunday, Jul 9
- Sunday, Jul 16
- Sunday, Jul 23
- Sunday, Jul 30
- Sunday, Aug 6
- Sunday, Aug 13
- Sunday, Aug 20
- Sunday, Aug 27
- Sunday, Sept 3
- Sunday, Sept 10
- Sunday, Sept 17
- Sunday, Sept 24



## LIKE IT OR NOT

A new take on the news of the week is coming to FOX 5-- FOX 5's Like It Or Not. "FOX 5's Like It Or Not" will go beyond the headlines and provide edgy, controversial commentary, discussing the news of the week in politics, entertainment and pop culture.

"Buckle up! This isn't your typical traditional news program. It's provocative and intelligent and will present candid opinions and observations on a wide range of news of the day topics and issues," said FOX 5 Vice President and General Manager Patrick Paolini.

Program airs Monday – Friday 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. on WTTG.

From July 3 to Sept 29, 2023.



## **LION LUNCH HOUR**

An extension of the popular local produced news/access Show Like it or Not, Lion Lunch hour is filled with savory conversations with fox 5 personalities and amazing food and recipes.

Program airs Monday – Friday 11:00 – 12:00 p.m. on WTTG.

From July 3 to Sept 29, 2023.



## **DMV ZONE**

Marina Marraco and Contributor Joe Clair – Anchors

“LIVE from the FOX5 Newsroom. We are covering and talking about the issues and stories people are talking about in the DMV (District, Maryland and Virginia). Our anchors talk to contributors, guests, FOX5 reporters, digital team and producers to get their take and perspective on the news we are covering. Viewers weigh in on zoom, live talk backs and from our outdoor FOX5 Plaza. We also have a team of digital news site contributors from around the market who break stories before they get traction. There is little script and a whole lot of action in this original show.

Program airs Monday – Friday LIVE 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. on WTTG.

From July 3 to Sept 29, 2023.



WTTG/Channel 5

Program Information Report



*Fox 5 @ 4* *The First 5* – A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 4:00 – 4:30 am and covers news headlines, provides sports and weather information and gives updates on local news stories.

*Fox 5 Morning News at 4:30 am* – A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 4:30- 5:00am and covers local, national and international stories; weather, traffic and sports updates; interviews with local and political leaders.

*Fox 5 Morning News at 5* – A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 5:00- 6:00am and covers local, national and international stories; weather, traffic and sports updates; interviews with local and political leaders.

*Fox 5 Morning News at 6* – A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 6:00- 7:00am and covers local, national and international stories; weather, traffic and sports updates; interviews with local and political leaders.

*Fox 5 Morning News* – A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 7:00- 9:00am and covers local, national and international stories; weather, traffic and sports updates; interviews with local and political leaders.

*Fox 5 @ 4* - A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 4:00-5:00pm and covers news headlines, provides sports and weather information and gives updates on local news stories.

*Fox 5 News at 5* – A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 5:00-6:00pm and covers news headlines, provides sports and weather information and gives updates on local news stories.

*Fox 5 News at 6* – A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 6:00-6:30pm and covers news headlines, sports, weather and local news.

*5 @ 6:30pm*- A Monday through Friday rundown news program that airs from 6:30-7:00pm and covers news headlines, politics and local news.

*Fox 5 News at 10* – A daily one-hour news program that airs from 10:00-11:00pm featuring local, national and international news headlines as well as in depth local stories, investigative reports, sports and weather information.

*Fox 5 News at 11* – A Monday through Friday news program that airs from 11:00-11:30pm featuring local news, weather and sports.

*The Final 5* – A Monday through Friday program that airs 11:30 – 12:00 midnight featuring anchor Jim Lokay and his take on the daily current events.

*In The Courts* – A Sunday program that airs 11:30 – 1200 midnight featuring chief legal correspondent, Katie Barlow.

FOX 5's *In the Courts* takes viewers where cameras are rarely allowed. From headlines out of the United States Supreme Court to Netflix coming after you for password-sharing, host Katie Barlow breaks down the week's major legal stories. Since *In the Courts* launched on May 1, we have covered some of the biggest legal headlines in American history from the leaked-turned-

final Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade to the Johnny Depp trial to a criminal investigation involving the former president.

Katie explains complicated legal concepts -- like a geo-fence warrant used to nab a bank robber or zombie laws that can rise from the dead -- in an entertaining way in the show's most popular segment, "WTF!? Legal Jargon."

We've produced several special episodes on breaking news and delved deeper into important topics like cameras in the courtroom and why statewide elections matter in the courts.

Origination: Local

Issues addressed:

1. Crime
2. Local politics
3. National politics
4. Health
5. Education
6. Community
7. Housing
8. Transportation
9. Environment
10. Children

*Fox News Sunday* – A one-hour weekly program, airing Sundays from 9:00-10:00am that looks at the most pressing issues of the week from the White House, Congress and Capitol Hill, the Supreme Court and various government agencies and conducts interviews with political newsmakers. Origination: Network

# Second QUARTER

## FOX NEWS SUNDAY GUESTS

FOX NEWS SUNDAY / Quarter 3, 2023

**July 2, 2023**

**2024**

Fmr. Gov Nikki Haley (R-SC)

**Foreign policy/Economy:**

Rep. Jake Auchincloss (D-MA)

**July 9, 2023**

**Foreign Policy**

Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)

Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA)

**2024**

Fmr. Gov. Chris Christie (R-NJ)

**July 16, 2023**

**Foreign Policy:**

John Kirby

**Foreign Policy/Defense Cuts**

Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR)

**July 23, 2023**

**2024:**

Vivek Ramaswamy

**Economy:**

Jared Bernstein

**July 30, 2023**

**Trump Legal:**

Alina Habba

**Hunter Biden plea/Whistleblower hearings**

Rep. Nancy Mace (R-SC)

**2024**

Gov. Doug Burgum (R-ND)

**New Book:**

Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA)

**August 6, 2023**

**Trump Legal:**

John Lauro

Legal Panel: John Yoo and Andy McCarthy

**Hunter Biden/Trump indictment:**

Rep. Jake Auchincloss (D-MA)

Rep. Chip Roy (R-TX)

**August 13, 2023**

**Hunter Biden**

Jonathan Turley and Tom Dupree

**Afghanistan/Ukraine:**

Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)

Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA)

**August 20, 2023**

**2024**

Fmr. Gov. Nikki Halley

**Iowa State Fair/GOP**

Gov. Kim Reynolds

**August 27, 2023**

**Trump/GA Indictment**

Alina Habba

Jonathan Turley and Tom Dupree

**Third Party/2024**

Fmr. Senator Joe Lieberman (I-CT)

**September 3, 2023**

**2024**

VP Mike Pence

**Economy**

Jared Bernstein

**September 10, 2023**

**State of Education**

Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R-VA)

Becky Pringle

**Pollsters**

Celinda Lake and Kellyanne Conway

**September 17, 2023**

**Biden Impeachment Inquiry/Spending Fights**

Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY)

Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA)

**2024**

Vivek Ramaswamy

**September 24, 2023**

**Border**

Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX)

**2024**

Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)

**GOP Debate**

Ronna McDaniel

# **SAMPLE OF ISSUE RESPONSIVE NEWS PROGRAMMING**

## 3rd Quarter 2023

*Crime*  
*Sept 20, 2023*

### **DuVal HS student brutally killed while breaking up fight after school remembered at funeral service shot, 3 killed as gun violence erupts across Prince George's County**

By FOX 5 DC Digital Team  
Published September 20, 2023 8:35AM  
Updated 9:28AM  
News  
FOX 5 DC

Link: <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/duval-hs-student-brutally-killed-while-breaking-up-fight-after-school-remembered-at-funeral-service>

LANHAM, Md. - Family and friends are saying their last goodbyes to a DuVal High School student who was brutally murdered while trying to break up a fight after school earlier this month.

It was Monday, Sept. 11, and Jayda Medrano Moore was walking home from class along Palamar Drive in Lanham when she encountered a fight between two feuding groups.

Police say the 16-year-old tried to intervene when she was shot and killed by a 17-year-old student from nearby Flowers High School.

The suspected teen gunman was arrested several days later. He remains in jail after being denied bond at a hearing Monday.

William Porter, assistant state's attorney for Prince George's County, argued in support of the suspect remaining in jail without bond. "Our investigation was that this young girl was pistol-whipped, the gun was placed to her head. She was shot point-blank. We did not feel this was an

accident," Porter told reporters after the hearing. "We will be pursuing first-degree murder charges unless we see something different."

The funeral will be held Wednesday, Sept. 20 at Reid Temple A.M.E. Church on Glenn Dale Boulevard in Glenn Dale. The family says the viewing will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the service beginning shortly after at 11:30 a.m.

*Local Politics*  
*Sept 18, 2023*

## **Virginia Rep. Jennifer Wexton will not seek reelection after progressive supranuclear palsy diagnosis**

By **FOX 5 DC Digital Team**

Published **September 18, 2023 8:59AM**

Updated **10:41AM**

**News**

**FOX 5 DC**

Link: <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/virginia-rep-jennifer-wexton-will-not-seek-reelection-after-progressive-supranuclear-palsy-diagnosis>



*Virginia Rep. Jennifer Wexton will not seek reelection after progressive supranuclear palsy diagnosis*

Just months after Democratic Rep. Jennifer Wexton of Virginia vowed to continue her work in Congress after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, the congresswoman revealed she would not seek reelection after doctors modified her diagnosis to progressive supranuclear palsy.

**WASHINGTON** - Just months after Democratic Rep. Jennifer Wexton of Virginia vowed to continue her work in Congress after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, the congresswoman revealed she would not seek reelection after doctors modified her diagnosis to progressive supranuclear palsy.



Wexton, 55, is serving her third term in Congress. She said she will serve the remainder of her term.

Progressive supranuclear palsy is a brain disorder that can cause serious problems with walking, balance, and eye movements. It is one of a family of neurological conditions called atypical parkinsonism and belongs to the category of frontotemporal disorders. PSP is often misdiagnosed as Parkinson's disease, Wexton said.

After her initial diagnosis in April, Wexton said the illness had primarily affected her speech and how her mouth moves. She said she spoke more quickly, and the disease has affected how she walks and keeps her balance.



Congress woman elect Jennifer Wexton speaks to supporters after winning the Virginia-10 district congressional election, beating incumbent Barbera Comstock (R-VA), at her election watch party in Dulles, Virginia on November 6, 2018. (Photo by ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS / AFP) (Photo credit should read ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS/AFP via Getty Images)

Here is her statement announcing her modified diagnosis and retirement plans:

"When I shared with the world my diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease a few months ago, I knew that the road ahead would have its challenges, and I've worked hard to navigate those challenges through consistent treatments and therapies. But I wasn't making the progress to manage my symptoms that I had hoped, and I noticed the women in my Parkinson's support group weren't having the same experience that I was. I sought out additional medical opinions and testing, and my doctors modified my diagnosis to Progressive Supra-nuclear Palsy – a kind of 'Parkinson's on steroids.'

"I've always believed that honesty is the most important value in public service, so I want to be honest with you now – this new diagnosis is a tough one. There is no 'getting better' with PSP. I'll continue treatment options to manage my symptoms, but they don't work as well with my condition as they do for Parkinson's.

"I'm heartbroken to have to give up something I have loved after so many years of serving my community. But taking into consideration the prognosis for my health over the coming years, I have made the decision not to seek reelection once my term is complete and instead spend my valued time with Andrew, our boys, and my friends and loved ones.

"When I made the decision to run for Congress, this was clearly not the way I anticipated it coming to a close — but then again, pretty much nothing about my time serving here has quite been typical or as expected. I will forever cherish the people from our communities and all around the country I've come to know, the challenges we've faced together, and the ways both big and small that my team and I have made a difference in the lives of our neighbors.

While my time in Congress will soon come to a close, I'm just as confident and committed as ever to keep up the work that got me into this fight in

the first place for my remaining time in office – to help build the future we want for our children. I am truly humbled by the trust Virginians have placed in me, and I look forward to continuing to serve the people of our district."

*National Politics*  
*Sept 28, 2023*

## **Government Shutdown: What does it mean, who does it affect and how long could it last?**

By **STEPHEN GROVES** Associated Press

Published **September 28, 2023 9:49AM**

Updated **9:53AM**

News

**FOX 5 DC**

Link: <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/government-shutdown-what-does-it-mean-who-does-it-affect-and-how-long-could-it-last>



*Government Shutdown: What does it mean, who does it affect and how long could it last?*

The federal government is just days away from a shutdown that will disrupt many services, squeeze workers and roil politics as Republicans in the House, fueled by hard-right demands, force a confrontation over federal spending.

WASHINGTON - The federal government is just days away from a shutdown that will disrupt many services, squeeze workers and roil politics as Republicans in the House, fueled by hard-right demands, force a confrontation over federal spending.

While some government entities will be exempt — Social Security checks, for example, will still go out — other functions will be severely curtailed.

Federal agencies will stop all actions deemed non-essential, and millions of federal employees, including members of the military, won't receive paychecks.

A look at what's ahead if the government shuts down on Sunday.

#### WHAT IS A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN?

A shutdown happens when Congress fails to pass some type of funding legislation that is signed into law by the president. Lawmakers are supposed to pass 12 different spending bills to fund agencies across the government, but the process is time-consuming. They often resort to passing a temporary extension, called a continuing resolution or CR, to allow the government to keep operating.

When no funding legislation is enacted, federal agencies have to stop all nonessential work and will not send paychecks as long as the shutdown lasts.

Although employees deemed essential to public safety such as air traffic controllers and law enforcement officers still have to report to work, other federal employees are furloughed. Under a 2019 law, those same workers are slated to receive backpay once the funding impasse is resolved.

#### WHEN WOULD A SHUTDOWN BEGIN AND HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Government funding expires Oct. 1, the start of the federal budget year. A shutdown will effectively begin at 12:01 a.m. Sunday if Congress is unable to pass a funding plan that the president signs into law.

It is impossible to predict how long a shutdown would last. The Democratic-held Senate and Republican-controlled House are working on vastly different plans to avert a shutdown, and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy is struggling to win any support from hard-right conservatives to keep the government open.

Many are bracing for a stoppage that could last weeks.

#### WHO DOES A SHUTDOWN AFFECT?

Millions of federal workers face delayed paychecks when the government shuts down, including many of the roughly 2 million military personnel and more than 2 million civilian workers across the nation.

Nearly 60% of federal workers are stationed in the Department of Defense, Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security.

While all of the military's active-duty troops and reservists would continue to work, more than half of the Department of Defense's civilian workforce, which is roughly 440,000 people, would be furloughed.

Across federal agencies, workers are stationed in all 50 states and have direct interaction with taxpayers — from Transportation Security Administration agents who operate security at airports to Postal Service workers who deliver mail.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg has said new training for air traffic controllers will be halted and another 1,000 controllers in the midst of training will be furloughed. Even a shutdown that lasts a few days will mean the department won't hit its hiring and staffing targets for next year, he said.

"Imagine the pressure that a controller is already under every time they take their position at work, and then imagine the added stress of coming to that job from a household with a family that can no longer count on that paycheck," Buttigieg said.

Beyond federal workers, a shutdown could have far-reaching effects on government services. People applying for government services like clinical trials, firearm permits and passports could see delays.

Some federal offices will also have to close or face shortened hours during a shutdown.

Businesses closely connected to the federal government, such as federal contractors or tourist services around national parks, could see disruptions and downturns. The travel sector could lose \$140 million daily in a shutdown, according to the U.S. Travel Industry Association.

Lawmakers also warn that a shutdown could rattle financial markets. Goldman Sachs has estimated that a shutdown would reduce economic growth by 0.2% every week it lasted, but growth would then bounce back after the government reopens.

Others say the disruption in government services has far-reaching impacts because it shakes confidence in the government to fulfill its basic duties. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce warned, "A well-functioning economy requires a functioning government."

#### WHAT ABOUT COURT CASES, THE WORK OF CONGRESS AND PRESIDENTIAL PAY?

The president and members of Congress will continue to work and get paid. However, any members of their staff who are not deemed essential will be furloughed.

The Supreme Court, which begins its new term Monday, would be unaffected by a short shutdown because it can draw on a pot of money provided by court fees, including charges for filing lawsuits and other documents, court spokeswoman Patricia McCabe said.

The rest of the federal judiciary also would operate normally for at least the first two weeks of October, said Peter Kaplan, a spokesman for the judiciary.

Even in a longer shutdown, the entire judiciary would not shut down, and decisions about what activities would continue would be made by each court around the country. The justices and all federal judges would continue to be paid because of the constitutional prohibition on reducing judges' pay during their tenure, according to the Congressional Research Service.

Notably, funding for the three special counsels appointed by Attorney General Merrick Garland would not be affected by a government shutdown because they are paid for through a permanent, indefinite appropriation, an area that's been exempted from shutdowns in the past.

That means the two federal cases against Donald Trump, the former president, as well as the case against Hunter Biden, the son of President Joe Biden, would not be interrupted. Trump has demanded that Republicans defund the prosecutions against him as a condition of funding the government, declaring it their "last chance" to act.

#### HAS THIS HAPPENED BEFORE?

Prior to the 1980s, lapses in government funding did not result in government operations significantly shuttering. But then-U.S. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti, in a series of legal opinions in 1980 and 1981, argued that government agencies cannot legally operate during a funding gap.

Federal officials have since operated under an understanding they can make exemptions for functions that are "essential" for public safety and constitutional duties.

Since 1976, there have been 22 funding gaps, with 10 of them leading to workers being furloughed. But most of the significant shutdowns have taken place since Bill Clinton's presidency, when then-Speaker Newt Gingrich and his conservative House majority demanded budget cuts.



The longest government shutdown happened between 2018 and 2019 when then-President Trump and congressional Democrats entered a standoff over his demand for funding for a border wall. The disruption lasted 35 days, through the holiday season, but was also only a partial government shutdown because Congress had passed some appropriations bills to fund parts of the government.

#### WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO END A SHUTDOWN?

It's the responsibility of Congress to fund the government. The House and Senate have to agree to fund the government in some way, and the president has to sign the legislation into law.

The two sides are deeply entrenched and nowhere near reaching a deal to avert a shutdown.

But if the shutdown lasts for weeks, pressure will build to end the impasse, particularly if active-duty military members miss pay dates on Oct. 13 or Nov. 1. If the wider public starts seeing disruptions in air travel or border security as workers go unpaid, it will further goad Congress to act.

Congress often relies on a so-called continuing resolution, or CR, to provide stopgap money to open government offices at current levels as budget talks are underway. Money for pressing national priorities, such as emergency assistance for victims of natural disasters, is often attached to a short-term bill.

But hardline Republicans say any temporary bill is a non-starter for them. They are pushing to keep the government shut down until Congress negotiates all 12 bills that fund the government, which is historically a laborious undertaking that isn't resolved until December, at the earliest.

Trump, who is Biden's top rival heading into the 2024 election, is urging on the Republican hardliners.

If they are successful, the shutdown could last weeks, perhaps even longer.

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Associated Press writers Lolita Baldor, Mark Sherman, Fatima Hussein, Lindsay Whitehurst, Josh Boak, Kevin Freking and Lisa Mascaro contributed to this report.

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*Community*  
*Sept 27, 2023*

## **New home sales tumble in August amid rising mortgage rates**

By **Megan Henney**

Published **September 27, 2023 4:40PM**

**Real Estate**

**FOX Business**

Link: <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/new-home-sales-tumble-august-rising-mortgage-rates>



*Housing Market: What's new with mortgage rates*

What is the current state of the housing market? Lawrence Yun with the National Association of Realtors joined LiveNOW from FOX's Josh Breslow to discuss the latest.

Sales of new U.S. homes unexpectedly dropped in August as a spike in [mortgage rates](#) weighed heavily on consumer demand.

New single-family home purchases plummeted 8.7% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 675,000 units, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday. Economists surveyed by Refinitiv expected new

home sales – which account for a small percentage of total sales – to come in at a rate of 700,000 units.

Sales remain up about 5.8% from the same time one year ago.

"The pace of new home construction is slowing, but there is still a large backlog of homes in the funnel that should continue making their way to the market in the coming months, giving more opportunities for home buyers to jump on the new construction train," said Nicole Bachaud, Zillow senior economist.



The Federal Reserve's aggressive interest-rate hike campaign sent mortgage rates soaring above 7% last year for the first time in nearly two decades. (David Paul Morris/Bloomberg via Getty Images / Getty Images)

At the current pace of sales, it would take roughly 7.8 months to exhaust the inventory of existing homes. Experts view a pace of six to seven months as a healthy level.

The decline in sales indicates that a resurgence in mortgage rates is pushing many would-be buyers out of the market. That slowdown in demand contributed to a decline in prices last month.

The median price for a new home fell to \$430,000 from \$436,700 the previous month. Still, that remains far higher than the typical pre-pandemic level.

### MORTGAGE CALCULATOR: SEE HOW MUCH HIGHER RATES COULD COST YOU

The [Federal Reserve's](#) aggressive interest-rate hike campaign sent mortgage rates soaring above 7% last year for the first time in nearly two decades, cooling the red-hot housing market.

Rates on the popular [30-year fixed mortgage](#) are currently hovering around 7.19%, according to Freddie Mac, well above the 6.29% rate recorded one year ago and the pre-pandemic average of 3.9%.



Homes in Rocklin, California, on Dec. 6, 2022. (David Paul Morris/Bloomberg via / Getty Images)

With rates slow to retreat, sellers who locked in a low mortgage rate before the pandemic have been reluctant to sell and buy another house at a steeper borrowing price.

The lack of inventory has weighed on [existing home sales](#), in particular.

Sales of previously owned homes slid 0.7% in August from the previous month to an annual rate of 4.04 million units, according to data released last week by the National Association of Realtors (NAR).

**RELATED: Existing home sales fall for 5th month as supply crunch worsens**

On an annual basis, existing home sales are down 15.3% when compared with August 2022.

"All of the momentum for the housing market early in 2023 has evaporated in the face of rising mortgage rates," said Ben Ayers, Nationwide chief economist. "Overall demand for single-family homes has cratered as the burden of a mortgage payment climbs to unsustainable levels."

*[For updates on this story, visit FOXBusiness.com.](https://www.foxbusiness.com)*



*Health*  
*Sept 14, 2023*

## **Maryland reports first 2023 human case of West Nile virus**

By **FOX 5 DC Digital Team**  
Published **September 14, 2023**  
News  
**FOX 5 DC**

**Link:** <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/maryland-reports-first-2023-human-case-of-west-nile-virus>



*Maryland reports first 2023 human case of West Nile virus*

Maryland health officials have reported the first 2023 human case of West Nile virus in the state.

ANNAPOLIS, Md. - [Maryland](#) health officials have reported the first 2023 human case of [West Nile virus](#) in the state.

The first case of the year was reported in an adult living in the Eastern Shore region who tested positive.

Officials say the patient is recovering from the infection.

West Nile is transmitted to humans via infected mosquitoes that have fed on birds that have the virus. Officials say in rare instances, the virus may be spread from person to person through organ donation, blood transfusion, breastfeeding or from pregnant mother to fetus.

The disease affects the nervous system, health officials say. As many as 80 percent of people who are infected will not display any signs of illness. People who are older than 50, or who have underlying health conditions, could become seriously ill.

Some people who do develop illness may experience mild symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, skin rash, and swollen lymph glands. The symptoms may last a few days or as long as several weeks.



### *Human case of West Nile Virus reported in Maryland*

Maryland health officials announced today that a person has tested positive for West Nile virus. It's the first confirmed human case of the virus in the state this year.

"We are in the season when the West Nile virus can spread in Maryland," said Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services Dr. Niles Kalyanaraman in a statement. "We urge people to be vigilant and take steps to avoid



infection and eliminate standing pools of water where mosquitoes can breed. Our teams are continuing to monitor mosquito activity across the state."

West Nile virus was detected in the United States for the first time in 1999.

A single confirmed case in the state was identified 2020. Four cases were identified in 2021. One infection was identified in 2022.

More information about West Nile can be found [online](#).

*Housing*  
*Sept 21, 2023*

## **Homeowners face rising insurance rates as climate change makes wildfires, storms more common**

By Ken Sweet

Published September 21, 2023

Real Estate

Associated Press

Link: <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/homeowners-rising-insurance-rates-climate-change-wildfires-storms-more-common>



*More interest rate hikes ahead*

LiveNOW from FOX | Raw & unfiltered news

A growing number of Americans are finding it difficult to afford insurance on their homes, a problem only expected to worsen because insurers and lawmakers have underestimated the impact of climate change, a new report says.

A report from [First Street Foundation](#) released Wednesday says states such as California, Florida and Louisiana, which are prone to wildfires and

damaging storms and flooding, are likely to see the most dramatic increases in premiums. But the fire that destroyed the Hawaiian community of [Lahaina](#) on Aug. 8, as well as the [historic flooding](#) that happened in Vermont and Maine in July, are examples of events that could drive up insurance costs for homeowners in other states.

"If you're not worried, you're not paying attention," said California Sen. Bill Dodd, whose district includes the wine-country counties devastated by the LNU Complex fires in 2020.

First Street estimates, factoring climate models into the financial risk of properties in its report, that roughly 39 million properties — roughly a quarter of all homes in the country — are being underpriced for the climate risk to insure those properties.

*Transportation*  
*Sept 29, 2023*

## **Metro service suspended between Potomac Yard, National Airport after reports of possible derailment**

By **FOX 5 DC Digital Team**  
Published **September 29, 2023 11:41AM**  
Updated **12:49PM**  
News  
**FOX 5 DC**

**Link:** <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/metro-suspends-service-along-blue-yellow-lines-to-investigate-possible-train-derailment>



WASHINGTON - Metro officials say rail service has been suspended between Potomac Yard and National Airport after reports of a possible train derailment.

The incident was reported around 11:30 a.m.

Approximately 50 riders on the train have been transferred shuttles to continue their trip. Shuttle buses are operating between the two stations to connect to additional service.



**Metro service suspended between Potomac Yard and National Airport after reports of possible derailment**

No injuries have been reported.

This is a developing story. Stay with us for updates.



**Stephanie Ramirez**  
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Here's the view below from [@Reagan\\_Airport](#) [@wmata](#)  
[@fox5dc](#)



 **Metro Forward** @wmata

Replying to @wmata

Update: Approximately 50 customers on the derailed train have been transferred via shuttle to another train to continue their trip. #wmata

12:19 PM · Sep 29, 2023







**Metro Forward** · Sep 29, 2023



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Update: Approximately 50 customers on the derailed train have been transferred via shuttle to another train to continue their trip. [#wmata](#)



**Metro Forward**

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Update: Trains are operating in 2 segments: (1) Franconia/Huntington to Potomac Yard & (2) Largo/Mt Vernon Sq to National Airport. For shuttle buses at Potomac Yard, exit through the North Pavilion and board shuttles at Bus Bay D. [#wmata](#)

12:20 PM · Sep 29, 2023



11



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*Education*  
*June 5, 2023*

## **School bus drivers raising youth violence concerns in Prince George's County**

By **Bob Barnard**

Published September 25, 2023 9:55AM

Updated 12:39PM

News

FOX 5 DC

Link: <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/school-bus-drivers-raising-youth-violence-concerns-in-prince-georges-county>



*School bus drivers raising youth violence concerns in Prince George's County*

School bus drivers in Prince George's County are raising their own concerns about safety as youth violence continues to rise.

OXON HILL, Md. - School bus drivers in [Prince George's County](https://www.fox5dc.com/news/school-bus-drivers-raising-youth-violence-concerns-in-prince-georges-county) are raising their own concerns about safety as youth violence continues to rise.

Last week, union members for the District's bus system met with the school board demanding immediate action amid several reports of students using drugs and bringing guns onto buses.



Martin Diggs, the union's president, spoke with FOX 5, as reports of students smoking, drinking and having sex on buses grew.

"I really feel for a lot of our employees," Diggs said. "There's some serious concern."

"After driving for 20 years, many bus drivers have reported a lot of these incidents happening on the buses for years. And we feel as though that a lot of things that we're saying, a lot of these problem, are actually falling on deaf ears," he continued.

"Are there things that are being done in order to try to make a change. Yes," Diggs said. "But many times we feel as though they are after the fact, and they're really not effective."

*Environment*  
*April 17, 2023*

## **After summer's extreme weather, more people view climate change as a culprit, poll finds**

By Tammy Webber and Linley Sanders  
Published September 25, 2023 9:58AM  
Severe Weather  
Associated Press

Link: <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/summer-extreme-weather-climate-change-poll>



People cool off by the water in the Williamsburg neighborhood in Brooklyn on a hot summer evening on a day with a heat advisory as temperatures in New York reached up into the 90's on September 05, 2023 in New York City. (Photo by Spencer Platt/Getty Images)

Kathleen Maxwell has lived in Phoenix for more than 20 years, but this summer was the first time she felt fear, as daily high temperatures soared to 110 degrees or hotter and kept it up for a record-shattering 31 consecutive days.

"It's always been really hot here, but nothing like this past summer," said Maxwell, 50, who last week opened her windows for the first time since

March and walked her dog outdoors for the first time since May. "I was seriously scared. Like, what if this doesn't end and this is how it's going to be?"

Maxwell blames climate change, and she's not alone.

**RELATED:** [This summer was a global record breaker for highest heat ever calculated, meteorologists say](#)

New polling from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research indicates that extreme weather, including a summer that brought dangerous heat for much of the United States, is bolstering Americans' belief that they've personally felt the impact of climate change.

About 9 in 10 Americans (87%) say they have experienced at least one extreme weather event in the past five years — including drought, extreme heat, severe storms, wildfires or flooding — up from 79% who said that just a few months ago in April. And about three-quarters of those believe climate change is at least partly to blame.

In total, 64% of U.S. adults say both that they've recently experienced extreme weather and that they believe it was caused at least partially by climate change, up from 54% in April. And about 65% say climate change will have or already has had a major impact in their lifetime.

**RELATED:** [Heat wave sitting over much of US Southwest, on track to break records](#)  
This summer's heat might be a big factor: About three-quarters of Americans (74%) say they've been affected by extremely hot weather or extreme heat waves in the last five years, up from 55% in April — and of those, 92% said they've had that experience just in the past few months.

This summer was the hottest ever measured in the Northern Hemisphere, according to the World Meteorological Organization and the European climate service Copernicus.

Millions of Americans also were affected by the worst wildfire season in Canada's history, which sent choking smoke into parts of the U.S. About six in 10 U.S. adults say haze or smoke from the wildfires affected them "a lot" (15%) or "a little" (48%) in recent months.

And around the world, extreme heat, storms, flooding and wildfires have affected tens of millions of people this year, with scientists saying climate change has made such events more likely and intense.

RELATED: [Summer heat is the 'No. 1 weather-related killer,' doctor warns](#)  
Anthony Leiserowitz, director of the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, said researchers there have conducted twice-yearly surveys of Americans for 15 years, but it wasn't until 2016 that they saw an indication that people's experience with extreme weather was affecting their views about climate change. "And the signal has been getting stronger and stronger year by year as these conditions continue to get worse and worse," he said.

But he also believes that media coverage of climate change has changed dramatically, and that the public is interpreting information in a more scientific way than they did even a decade ago.

Seventy-six-year-old Bruce Alvord, of Hagerstown, Maryland, said it wasn't unusual to experience days with a 112-degree heat index this summer, and health conditions mean that "heat really bothers me because it's restricted what I can do."

Even so, the retired government worker doesn't believe in human-caused climate change; he recalls stories from his grandparents about bad weather, and thinks the climate is fluctuating on its own.

"The way the way I look at it is I think it's a bunch of powerful politicians and lobbying groups that ... have their agenda," said Alvord, a Republican who sees no need to change his own habits or for the government to do

more. "I drive a Chrysler 300 (with a V8 engine). I use premium gas. I get 15 miles a gallon. I don't give a damn."

The AP-NORC poll found significant differences between Democrats and Republicans. Among those who have experienced extreme weather, Democrats (93%) are more certain that climate change was a cause, compared to just half of Republicans (48%).

About 9 in 10 Democrats say climate change is happening, with nearly all of the remaining Democrats being unsure about whether climate change is happening (5%), rather than outright rejecting it. Republicans are split: 49% say climate change is happening, but 26% say it's not and an additional 25% are unsure. Overall, 74% of Americans say climate change is happening, largely unchanged from April.

Republican Ronald Livingston, 70, of Clute, Texas, said he's not sure if human activity is causing climate change, "but I know something is going on because we have been sweating our butts off."

The retired history teacher said it didn't rain for several months this year, killing his grass and drying up a slough on his property where he sometimes fishes. It was so hot — with 45 days of 100 degrees or more — that he could barely go outside, and he struggled to grow a garden. He also believes that hurricanes are getting stronger.

And after this summer, he's keeping an open mind about climate change.

"It worries me to the extent that I don't think we can go two or three more years of this," Livingston said.

Jeremiah Bohr, an associate professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh who studies climate change communication, said scientific evidence "is not going to change the minds that haven't already

been changed." But people might be swayed if people or institutions they already trust become convinced and spread the word, Bohr said.

After a brutal summer, Maxwell, the Phoenix resident, said she hopes more Americans will accept that climate change is happening and that people are making it worse, and support measures to slow it.

"It seems very, very obvious to me, with all of the extreme weather and the hurricanes and flooding," said Maxwell. "I just can't imagine that people wouldn't."

*Associated Press climate and environmental coverage receives support from several private foundations. See more about AP's climate initiative here. The AP is solely responsible for all content.*

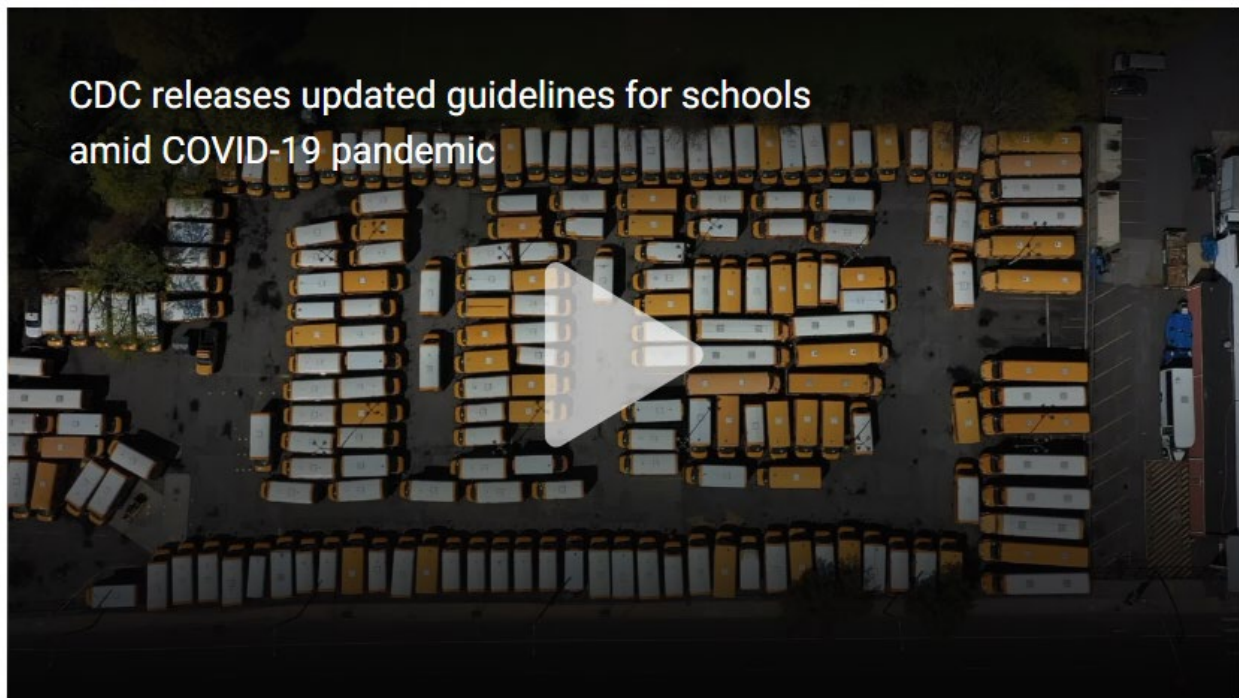
*The poll of 1,146 adults was conducted Sept. 7-11, 2023, using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.9 percentage points.*

*Children*  
*Aug 10, 2023*

## **Nearly 100,000 children tested positive for COVID-19 over last 2 weeks in July**

By **Kelly Taylor Hayes**  
Published **August 10, 2020**  
Updated **3:38PM**  
News  
**FOX TV Digital Team**

**Link:** <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/nearly-100000-children-tested-positive-for-covid-19-over-last-2-weeks-in-july>



*CDC releases updated guidelines for schools amid COVID-19 pandemic*

In areas with minimal or moderate spread, the CDC recommends social distancing, masks and increased sanitation.

ITASCA, Ill. - Nearly 100,000 children in the United States tested positive for the novel coronavirus during the final two weeks of July, according to [a new report](#) from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Children's Hospital Association.



The report said that 97,078 new child cases of COVID-19 were reported between July 16-30, which marked a 40% increase in known new child cases in the U.S. within that time frame. About 7 in 10 of those new cases were reported in states across the South and West, regions that experienced a sharp spike in new cases during the months of June and July following decisions to reopen bars and other businesses.



A file image shows a parent and her children picking up personal belongings at Freedom Preparatory Academy on May 18, 2020 in Provo, Utah. (Photo by George Frey/Getty Images)

The age ranges for children in the report varied by state. Utah and Florida defined children as those up to age 14, while Alabama reported children as individuals up to age 24. Most states classified children as younger than 19.

As of July 30, there were nearly 339,000 total child COVID-19 cases reported in the U.S., which represented only 8.8% of the total number of cases nationally, according to the report. At least 86 children have died from COVID-19 since May.



RELATED: [CDC releases updated guidelines calling the reopening of schools 'critically important'](#)

Studies suggest that young children don't spread the virus as much as adults, while kids aged 10 and up may transmit it as easily as adults. Children are also considered less likely to have serious symptoms. But experts say [more conclusive proof is needed](#) on what role children play in the pandemic.

The report comes amid ongoing questions and discussion among parents and education officials on whether to reopen schools, which were largely closed in the spring to help curb the spread of the virus.

RELATED: [US surpasses 5 million COVID-19 cases, according to Johns Hopkins](#)

The Trump administration has pushed for schools to fully reopen with in-person instruction, while some public health experts and educators have voiced concerns over the ability for districts to handle potential outbreaks. Many have also noted the risk that reopening amid the pandemic poses risks for teachers and other school staff.

[Three Arizona summer school teachers](#) who followed CDC guidelines while teaching in the same classroom recently contracted the virus, and one of them died.

Across the country, cities have implemented a patchwork of open and closed classroom plans in attempts to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami and Houston all announced they would start the school year with students learning remotely. But plenty of other districts are planning to welcome students back into the classroom with new health protocols in place.

RELATED: [Gov. Cuomo says all schools in New York can reopen](#)

Meanwhile, teachers unions are demanding clearer health protocols, saying that school buildings should reopen only in areas with lower virus rates. One of the nation's largest teachers union said it would authorize its members to strike if their schools plan to reopen without proper safety

measures — such as masks, updated ventilation systems and physical distancing.

The U.S. leads the world in confirmed virus cases, with more than 5 million, and has recorded 163,100 deaths, according to data compiled Aug. 10 [by Johns Hopkins](#).

RELATED: [National teacher union supports striking if it's unsafe to return to school](#)

*This story was reported from Cincinnati.*