

2023 Summer Intern Survey

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Each year, our summer analysts and associates bring fresh perspectives to Goldman Sachs, and we are keen to know how they view the world. We asked them to share their thoughts on everything from the impact of AI to how they invest and even their views on *Barbie* and *Oppenheimer*.

This year, approximately 2,000 interns shared their perspectives via our annual survey, representing all of the regions in which the firm operates.

Class of 2023: By the Numbers

- ~2.9K interns
- 80+ languages
- 500+ schools
- 50+ offices
- 90+ nationalities

Money Talks

53% believe a recession is on the horizon, down from 86% in 2022

When they spend

- 61% prefer to shop in person
- 39% go online

At checkout our interns will most likely use

- 44% Virtual wallet, e.g., Apple Pay
- 27% Physical credit or debit card
- 25% Cash app, e.g., Venmo
- 4% Cash

54% are invested

46% are not invested at all

Their top two investments remain the same since 2021

- 44% Stocks
- 27% ETFs

Respondents could choose multiple options

Buying small: When purchasing from independent, small businesses, they typically spend on

- 35% Food or groceries
- 27% Clothing
- 15% Home décor

Top 3 choices

Our interns prefer to pay upfront

83% say they never use “Buy Now, Pay Later” installment loans

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AI in Focus

81% believe AI will have a net positive impact on society
86% say they use AI tools in their personal lives

They most frequently use AI tools in their personal lives to

32% Do research

31% Support their writing

10% Check code

9% Complete classwork, i.e., They are learning about AI in school

1% Track finances

Top 5 choices

Plugged In

When reaching out to friends, they use

36% iMessage/SMS

29% WhatsApp

20% Phone/Audio call

7% FaceTime/Video call

3% Instagram

Top 5 choices

When it comes to voicemails...

65% Sometimes useful

30% Avoid at all costs

5% Use regularly

Instagram is the most popular app for viewing (62%) and posting (77%) content

Youtube (43%) is the second favorite for viewing

LinkedIn (30%) is the second favorite for posting

Respondents could choose 2 options

77% believe curated newsletters help to cut through the noise to focus on what's important

48% regularly listen to one or more podcasts

When our interns want the truth, their top choices include

39% Turn to friends or family

36% Turn to digital news outlets

8% Turn to social media or online forums

On the Job

Last year, 99% of our interns said relationships are best formed in person

This year's interns believe in person work is "very important" for

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87% Forming spontaneous connections

87% Receiving coaching/training from those around them

75% Meeting as a team or with their manager

Top 3 choices ranked as "Very Important" on a scale from "Very Important" to "Not Important"

36% plan to retire between the ages of 55-56

30% expect to keep working as long as they can

Top 2 choices

Ideally, they plan to stay in their first job for 2 to 5 years (62%) or 5 to 10 years (20%)

Top 2 choices

They will stay in a job based on

1. What they do day-to-day (34%)

2. With whom they work (19%)

3. Shared values with employer (12%)

4. Advancement (12%)

5. Salary (11%)

6. Work/life balance (11%)

7. Benefits and wellness offerings (1%)

Ranked on a scale from "Most Essential" to "Least Essential"

When collaborating at work with colleagues, they prefer to

34% Meet in person

22% E-mail

18% Use a team chatroom

16% Instant message

8% Video conference

2% Phone call

The Game of Life

56% The majority have met/expect to meet their significant other in person, instead of via mutual acquaintances (24%) or an app (6%)

When thinking about where to live, most are driven by their job (77%), followed by proximity to work (62%) and cost of living (61%)

Top 3 choices

Respondents could choose multiple options

In the future, they expect to

89% Get married/establish a formal relationship

86% Buy a home

66% Have a pet

57% Raise children

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55% believe happiness looks like the freedom to relocate at any time, while 45% think it means being able to put down roots, e.g., as a homeowner

Mental Health Matters

When it comes to their wellbeing, they shared their essentials

55% Relationships with family or friends

19% Sleep

11% Walks and exercise

5% Taking time off

5% Meditation

4% Eating healthy foods

Top 6 choices ranked on a scale from "Most Essential" to "Least Essential"

They feel most comfortable talking about their mental health with their friends (91%), followed by at home (82%) and at school (63%)

Top 3 choices selected from a menu of options from which respondents selected "yes"

65% leverage digital tools such as "Do Not Disturb" or "Time Limit," to disconnect

Over the Next 10 Years

Our interns believe the following will have the most pronounced global impact

34% Artificial intelligence

30% Climate change

18% Geopolitical tensions

7% Resource scarcity

6% Widening wealth gap

6% A global health crisis

Top 6 choices

57% The majority predict the technology sector will prove to be the most disruptive, followed by

16% Media and communications

11% Healthcare

8% Government services

4% Industrials

2% Transportation

1% Retail

Top 7 choices

While the majority of interns remain uncertain (51%) about the results of the 2024 US presidential election, 32% believe President Biden will be succeeded by the Republican candidate, and 17% believe he will be reelected

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After Hours

Wanderlust abounds: 86% of interns say they are interested in solo travel

Returning to the box office

85% said they watched a movie in theaters in the past year

Ahead of their theatrical releases, 90% said they had plans to view *Barbie* and/or *Oppenheimer*

56% Both films

23% Just *Oppenheimer*

11% Just *Barbie*

92% enable subtitles when watching video content, e.g., TV shows and films

When it comes to ticket prices for concerts and special events

63% believe they should be fixed, based on where the seat is located in the venue

37% believe they should be dynamic, based on demand

This or That

33% Home body vs. **67% World traveler**

42% Selfie vs. **58% Ask a stranger (to take the photo)**

45% Coffee vs. **55% Juice/Smoothie**

82% Intimate gathering vs. 18% Large celebration

52% Butter vs. 48% Olive oil

76% Emojis vs. 24% No emojis (when texting a friend)

80% Do it myself vs. 20% Digital assistant

71% Three meals a day vs. 29% Snacking throughout

35% Style vs. **65% Comfort**